

# LUNCH BUDDY NEWSLETTER

June 2026

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As the end of the school year approaches, we realize we cannot say thank you enough! This program would not be possible without the dedication of our amazing team of mentors.

The patience, understanding, and caring you each show to your student is priceless. Often coming when it is needed the most, your kindness will carry forward in ways we can only dream about. The future will be just a bit brighter for many, thanks to your dedication.

Be sure to recharge this summer and take good care of yourself. We look forward to connecting again with each of you in September.

Warm Regards,  
Victoria, Tarikah, and Julie

## This Edition

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## A Special Thank You!

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Our June Mentor Celebration and lunches throughout the school year would not be possible without the generous support of these organizations!



Lake  
Washington  
**Schools  
Foundation**



Workplace  
Matching Donations



## September Welcome Back Mentor Hour

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Fall will be here before we know it. When the school year begins in September, returning to your role as a Lunch Buddy is a wonderful opportunity to reestablish connection, provide consistency, and help your student feel

supported. After a summer apart, even strong relationships may need a gentle reset.

We are planning to kick off the new school year with an early September Mentor Hour. The focus of this gathering will be **Reconnecting with Your Lunch Buddy After Summer Break**. This will also be a great time to reconnect with other mentors and share ideas. And of course, we'll provide snacks. **Watch your email in August for an invitation.**

## Mentor Surveys

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We are committed to continuous improvement, and your feedback plays a vital role in helping us grow. Please take a few moments to complete our Annual Mentor Survey and share your experiences and suggestions.

👉 Complete the survey here: [Survey Link](#)

Have questions or want to learn more? We're happy to help — please reach out anytime!

## Reminders

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### Workplace Matching

We're grateful workplace matching programs are on many mentor's minds. Here is the information again for your reference. We know Microsoft, Google, Samsung, Coca-Cola, ADP, Honda, Amazon, Prudential, Gates Foundation, Ameriprise Financial, Nordstrom, Zillow, Nintendo, AT & T, Adobe, and Starbucks all use Benevity (they work with hundreds of companies, so this is a good place to see if your company has a program). Bank of America, Boeing, and State Farm Insurance use Cybergrants.

- Because of Microsoft's giving match program, employees are empowered to do more for the causes they care about. Key features of their US Employee Giving Program include:
  - Dollar-for-dollar match limit of \$15,000 maximum per employee, per calendar year
  - Volunteer time matched at \$25 per hour
  - Purchase and donate items from the Microsoft Store (microsoft.com) or a company store
- ***It's important to make sure you specify the LINKS Lunch Buddy Program when you are looking in Benevity.***

To find out about your company's workplace giving program, talk to your Human Resources Department. Please do let us know so we can share with others. Thank you so much for asking how to have your company match your Lunch Buddy Mentor hours. Your donations help buy new games, arts & crafts, and other supplies for school lunch buddy programs.

## Gift Giving

Many of you have asked if you can give your Lunch Buddy a year-end gift. Below is our guidance that is stated in the Lunch Buddy Mentor Manual. In general, giving gifts to students is not encouraged. If it is important to you, you should:

Ask the School Site Coordinator

- Some families do not wish for their children to receive gifts
- The coordinator needs to check on any listed allergies, if the gift is food

If the School Site Coordinator gives you permission, the gift needs to be of nominal value (less than \$5). Your friendship and the time you share are the most generous gifts you could ever give!

## Dates to Remember

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Aug 31	First Day of School
Aug 31-Sept 2	Half—Day Conferences
Sept 3	First Day of School – Kindergarten
Sept 7	No School – Labor Day
Sept 9	Wednesday Early Release Begins

School coordinators will be reaching out in early September to schedule a day that works best for you to visit your buddy for the new school year. You are welcome to contact your school coordinator at any time to share your availability and preferred visit day (see contact information below). We

look forward to supporting you as you prepare to reconnect and begin another great year together!

## School Contact Information

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School Name	School Phone #	School Site Coordinator	Email Address
<b>Baker Elementary</b> 9595 Eastridge Drive NE, Redmond 98053	425-936-2790	Moriah Oster	moster@lwsd.org
<b>Barton Elementary</b> 12101 172nd Ave NE, Redmond 98052	425-936-2480	Jody Hagler	jhagler@lwsd.org
<b>Bell Elementary</b> 11212 NE 112th St., Kirkland 98033	425-936-2510	Brenda Yin Erika Langley	<a href="mailto:byin@lwsd.org">byin@lwsd.org</a> <a href="mailto:elangley@lwsd.org">elangley@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Einstein Elementary</b> 18025 NE 116th Street, Redmond 98052	425-936-2540	Renee Cunningham	<a href="mailto:rcunningham@lwsd.org">rcunningham@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Franklin Elementary</b> 12434 NE 60th Street, Kirkland 98033	425-936-2550	Stacey O'Brien	<a href="mailto:staobrien@lwsd.org">staobrien@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Keller Elementary</b> 13820 - 108th Avenue NE, Kirkland 98034	425-936-2580	Ashleigh Stuckey	<a href="mailto:astuckey@lwsd.org">astuckey@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Lakeview Elementary</b> 10400 – NE 68 <sup>th</sup> ST, Kirkland 98033	425-936-2600	Debus Frey Hayley Peters	<a href="mailto:dfrey@lwsd.org">dfrey@lwsd.org</a> <a href="mailto:hpeters@lwsd.org">hpeters@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Mann Elementary</b> 17001 NE 104th St., Redmond, 98052	425-936-2610	Susan Conwell	<a href="mailto:sconwell@lwsd.org">sconwell@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Mead Elementary</b> 1725 - 216th Ave NE, Sammamish 98074	425-936-2630	Melissa Heye	<a href="mailto:mhey@lwsd.org">mhey@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Muir Elementary</b> 14012 - 132nd Ave NE, Kirkland 98034	425-936-2640	Gail Anderson	<a href="mailto:ganderson@lwsd.org">ganderson@lwsd.org</a>

<b>Redmond Elementary</b> 16800 NE 80th Street, Redmond 98052	425-936- 2660	Marina Rozey	<a href="mailto:mrozey@lwsd.org">mrozey@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Rush Elementary</b> 6101 - 152nd Ave NE, Redmond 98052	425-936- 2690	Lloyd Byram	<a href="mailto:lbyram@lwsd.org">lbyram@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Sandburg Elementary</b> 12801 - 84th Ave NE, Kirkland 98034	425-936- 2700	Tracy Measham	<a href="mailto:tmeasham@lwsd.org">tmeasham@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Smith Elementary</b> 23305 NE 14th Street, Sammamish 98074	425-936- 2710	Kellie Eaton	<a href="mailto:keaton@lwsd.org">keaton@lwsd.org</a>
<b>Twain Elementary</b> 9525 - 130th Ave NE, Kirkland 98033	425-936- 2730	Denise Dewalt	<a href="mailto:ddewalt@lwsd.org">ddewalt@lwsd.org</a>