



Make an *Impact*

**Lunch Pals = The Business of Mentoring**

### **What is Lunch Pals?**

Lunch Pals is a lunch time mentoring program where businesses, community organizations and individuals are paired with a school to provide students with the additional presence of caring adults.

### **Who are the students and how are they identified?**

Each student is identified by school personnel as a child who could especially benefit from a mentoring relationship. Sometimes they are facing social, family and/or academic challenges, or are just in a point in their lives where they will especially benefit from an additional positive and encouraging adult who spends time with them.

### **Do parents or guardians know their students have mentors?**

Parents/guardians are informed by school personnel to assure they're in favor of their student having this opportunity.

### **How and when does mentoring happen?**

Each mentor meets one-to-one with their assigned student for 30 minutes during the student's lunch time on a designated day each week. Mentors only meeting with students on school grounds when school is in session.

### **What is the process to get started?**

- *Orientation and Application*  
A 90-minute mentor orientation is held at one of the many mentor workshop sites, participants complete the volunteer application and supply a copy of a government issued legal ID. A Level I background check is run by Pinellas County Schools at no cost to you.
- *School Is identified*  
Pinellas County schools matches the company/organization/individual with a nearby school.
- *Placement*  
The school's Family & Community Liaison will pair the mentor with a student and set a mutually agreed upon day of the week and time for the student and mentor to meet.
- *First Visit*  
The Family & Community Liaison will orient the mentor to all procedures, including signing in and out at the school's front office, recording volunteer hours, where and how to meet with the student, and facilitate a first meeting with the student.

### **What are the ongoing procedures?**

- Once established, the expectation is that the volunteers are committed to meet with their students on the scheduled day and time each week for the school year.

- If a volunteer cannot attend on the scheduled day, they can contact the Family & Community Liaison and if possible, arrange to meet with their student on a different day that week. (It is understood that there may be an occasion when the volunteer will miss a meeting.)

***What kind of feedback and results will mentors receive?***

- Periodic newsletters and reports on how the program is progressing will be emailed to provide updates, tips and resources.

***What are the benefits of involvement?***

- *Making a Difference*  
As a community member, you are making a lasting and impactful contribution to youth who need us most. The school and public at large recognize mentors as active contributors to the community, taking positive action.
- *Impacting Productivity and Satisfaction*  
Community members already involved find that Lunch Pals serves as a way to bring our community together towards accomplishing a shared purpose.

***We are here to help*** – Keosha Simmons and Ron Diner can be contacted any time with questions, or please visit [lunchpals.org](http://lunchpals.org)

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***Vision:*** 100% Student Success – ***Mission:*** Every child has someone who cares.

***Lunch Pals is a partnership between Pinellas County Schools, Raymond James, and more than 130 business and community organizations.***