



Make an Impact

Lunch Pals 2020-2021 End of Year Report

Vision – 100% student success

Mission – Every child has someone who cares

Goals:

- Continue to increase the number of students with a Lunch Pal.
- Provide an exceptional experience for Lunch Pals and students

Lunch Pals Program

Pinellas County Schools' lunch time mentoring program, Lunch Pals, recruits participation from staff of businesses, corporations, community organizations, community members. Lunch Pals' participants are paired with students who can benefit from the presence of a caring adult. The students of Lunch Pals are often facing social, emotional or academic challenges, who could benefit from a mentoring relationship. The role of Lunch Pals is to support a child's social and emotional development that can lead to academic gains, and improved school involvement and attendance. While Lunch Pals began primarily focusing on students in elementary schools, the program has now expanded to serve students in middle schools and high schools.

This is Lunch Pals sixth school year serving students. Mentoring aligns with the district's vision of 100% student success. In support of that mission, Lunch Pals is making an impactful contribution to our youth who need us most. The school district recognizes that these positive relationships benefit not only the students, but also the families, the mentors and the community.

In addition, businesses and community organizations understand that Lunch Pals unite employees with a shared purpose to motivate, encourage, and create an atmosphere of collaboration.



I like having a mentor because I can tell her what's going on in my life. She listens and cares about me. – Student, Oakhurst Elementary

Prior to Covid-19, Lunch Pals met face-to-face with their mentee weekly for 30 minutes. This year, Lunch Pals was virtual. Pursuant to the **2021-2022 Goals**, Lunch Pals will be offered both in person and virtual.

This was a very challenging year for students, school staff, and mentors that resulted in a reduction of mentors and student sessions. Although many of our mentors participated in virtual mentoring, there were many who decided to wait until we could return face-to-face.

Identified Barriers:

- Lack of equipment – computers, webcams, and headphones
- Lack of staff
- School space for social distancing
- Reduction of mentors

We appreciate and acknowledge that the transition to virtual mentoring has been unique and challenging. The Lunch Pals program has worked diligently to provide a safe virtual platform as well as workshops to support mentors on the Zoom platform and provided engaging activities and resources for students and mentors.

	2015-16 School Year	2016-17 School Year	2017-18 School Year	2018-19 School Year	2019-20 School Year	2020-21 School Year
# of Business & Org. Participants	33	51	61	130	130	130
# of Schools	51	81	99	99	116	114
# of Students	<u>284</u>	<u>707</u>	<u>1,002</u>	1,509	1811	1100

Lunch Pals’ Relevance

How has Lunch Pals been able to continue to make an important contribution to help children succeed, albeit in smaller numbers this past school year?

- Lunch Pals is making a significant impact on students and this is recognized by participants and PCS Staff.
- Lunch Pals is making a significant impact on the participants.
- The Lunch Pals commitment is only 30 minutes, once a week (this year virtually.)
- Lunch Pals have been partnered with a convenient school.
- There is no cost to participate.
- Training is provided; including conversation starters and other resource materials to assure the experience is easy and fun.
- Businesses and community organizations are benefiting from their staffs and members participation.
- Enhanced interpersonal, communication, and leadership skills.
- More engaged staff as a result of an appreciation for employers providing the opportunity to participate and give back.



I was going to transition to another student but felt like I might be abandoning this mentee, when I told her I'd be following her to middle school she got so excited and said I'd be her first friend at her new school. Made my heart happy and confirmed I made the right decision. – Mentor, North Shore Elementary

Impact Data

Mentors, students, parents, and integral school personnel were surveyed to help measure the impact of Lunch Pals.

The 2020-2021 school year survey results from survey responses.

- 88% of students want to continue having a Lunch Pal
- 98% of teachers agree that students have benefitted from participating in Lunch Pals
- 94% of parents felt that their child benefitted from having a mentor through Lunch Pals.
- 98% of Lunch Pals mentors would recommend being a Lunch Pals to friends and family.

2020/2021 Mentor Survey Result Responses

It has helped me to feel more engaged in the community during a time of social distancing. – Mentor, North Shore Elementary

It has helped me concentrate on something other than work, and watching the students grow both physically and psychologically is very rewarding. – Mentor, Mount Vernon Elementary

I like it because it's nice to talk to someone other than your friends and when you first meet them you know nothing but once you get to know them it's a lot more interesting. – Student, High Point Elementary

Having a mentor changed my life. It helped being myself. It is like a part of my life. I love having a mentor. – Student, Morgan Fitzgerald Middle School

I liked having someone to talk to about both academics and my personal life. She always helped me figure out solutions and to help me with both academic and personal issues. She always makes sure to schedule me in and meet with me. – Student, Lakewood High School



The students looked forward to meeting with their mentors. It made them feel special and improved their attitudes. They never had to be reminded to go meet with them, because they looked forward to it. – Teacher, Oakhurst Elementary

This program has benefited the students by building their self-confidence & self-esteem. It provided a stable consistent adult I think they really enjoyed this program and looked forward to it every week. – Teacher, Plumb Elementary

Business and Community Organization Participants

Lunch Pals community support continues to grow as the impact of Lunch Pals gains momentum throughout Pinellas County Schools. Each organization plays a vital role in supporting students through Lunch Pals. This investment by the community will pay dividends for generations.



Business and Community Organizations that have participated in Lunch Pals

- 360 United Anona Multi-Site
- AAR Composites
- Ajax Building Corp
- Alliance for a Healthier Generation
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- American Strategic Insurance (ASI/Progressive)
- Anona United Methodist Church
- Anthem
- Bay Area Legal Services, INC
- BayCare
- Bayfront Health St. Petersburg
- Berkshire Hathaway Realty
- BigSea
- Blessed Trinity
- Blue Ticket Consulting
- BMC Software, Inc
- Boys and Girls Club of the Suncoast
- Cale America INC
- Calvary Chapel Clearwater
- Calvary Chapel St Petersburg (Calvary Chapel Pinellas Park)
- Calvary Church Clearwater (Calvary Baptist McMullen Booth
- Catalina Marketing Corp.
- Ceridian
- Chase
- City of Clearwater
- City of Gulfport
- City of Largo
- City of Madeira Beach
- City of Oldsmar
- City of Pinellas Park
- City of Safety Harbor
- City of St. Petersburg
- Community United Methodist
- Cox Media Group
- Cross Bridge Church
- Digital Marcom, LLC
- Domingos Law
- Duke Energy
- Eckerd College
- Eckerd Youth Alternatives

Franklin Templeton	Pinellas County Administrator Office
Friends of Woodlawn Elementary	Pinellas County Government
First Presbyterian Church	Pinellas County Health Dept.
First United Methodist	Pinellas County Schools
First United Methodist Church	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
FIS Global	Pinellas County Urban League
Friends of North Shore Elementary School	Pinellas Park Fire Department
GTE Financial	Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League
Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services	Power Design
Harvard Jolly Architecture	Public Defender 6th Judicial Court
Heels of Success	Raymond James
Highland Lakes Community Association	Raytheon
Home Point Financial Corporation	RCS Pinellas
Honeywell	Reinforced Structures, Inc.
Innisbrook	Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.)
Jabil	Retired Pinellas County Teachers Assoc.
James B. Sanderlin Family Center	Sanderlin Family Center
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital	Sembler
Johnson, Pope, Bokor, Ruppel & Burns, LLP	Seniors in Service
Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County	Signature Flight Support
Keller Williams Realty, Seminole	Silver Airways
Kiwanis Club of Dunedin	Sixth Judicial Circuit
KnowBe4	Spectrum/Bright House
Kobie Marketing	St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
L-3 Technologies	St. Nicholas Cathedral
Lampert's Therapy Group	St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Law Office of Bobby L. Reynolds P.A.	St. Pete Seminole Campus
Leaven Law	St. Petersburg Bar Association
Lipply Real Estate	St. Petersburg College
Masterson, Hoag & Smith, P.A.	St. Petersburg Police Dept.
Men or Yesterday, Today and the Future	St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Morgan Stanley	State Attorney 6th Judicial Court
Mount Olive AME Church	Stetson University College of Law
MUFG Union Bank	Sunshine State Economic Dev. Corp.
Naomi Titus 2 Covenant Alliance (NT2CA)	Tampa Bay Rays
National Aviation Academy	Tampa Bay Times
Nielsen	Tarpon Methodist Church
NOAA	Tarpon Springs Police
North Western Mutual	Teamwork Commerce
Oakhurst United Methodist Church	Tech Data
Our Savior Lutheran Church	The Poynter Institute
Palm Harbor Fire and Rescue	Thomas Kirszenstein Licensed Florida Realtor
Palm Harbor Rotary	Town of Kenneth City
Palm Harbor United Methodist Church (Palm Harbor UMC)	Transamerica
PARC	Ultimate Medical Academy

Unity Church St. Petersburg
University of South Florida - St. Petersburg
University of Tampa
US Air Force
US Army

US Marines
US Navy
USAA
USCG Air Station
Word of Life Church

2021-2022 Lunch Pal Goals

The goal for 2021-2022 is to reach 2,000 students with a Lunch Pal.

Lunch Pals will offer participants the option of in-school and virtual mentoring. Lunch is still 30 minutes. The program provides weekly curriculum of topics and activities that Lunch Pals can share with their students.

2021/2022 plan to achieve the goal:

- Recruit additional area companies and community organizations to become Lunch Pals Partners. There is no cost to participate, just a willingness to distribute information about Lunch Pals to their staff.
- Motivate Lunch Pals Partners to encourage additional employees to become Lunch Pals.
- Increase recruitment efforts of individuals, by expanded awareness and understanding, continuing with the Lunch Pals campaign theme “*Change your lunch plans. Change a child’s life.*”
- Lunch Pals website - lunchpals.org - has been significantly enhanced including meaningful videos and useful resources.
- Enhanced media presence.
- Motivate current Lunch Pals to encourage friends to join.

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Lunch Pals

Learn more/join us at lunchpals.org



RAYMOND JAMES

A partnership between Pinellas County Schools and Raymond James, with participation from more than 130 businesses and community organizations