

## Mentoring Tips

**Be patient**— Building trust takes

time. A young person may not show it at first, but your help may be just what they needed.

**Try to understand a child's**

**viewpoint**— Even if you don't share

his or her point of view trying to appreciate it shows you care.

**Be there**— Just the sound of your

concerned voice can make a big difference in the life of a child.

**Be honest**— Kids know adults aren't

perfect. If you make mistakes, admit

it. Say you're sorry. It's a skill a

child may only learn from you.



W I L L A R D R - I I  
S C H O O L S

Sarah Baumgardner  
Counselor  
4151 W. Division  
Springfield, MO 65802  
Phone: 417-862-6308  
Fax: 417-862-4266  
E-mail: [sbaumgar@willard.k12.mo.us](mailto:sbaumgar@willard.k12.mo.us)

TO THE WORLD YOU MAY BE ONE PERSON, BUT  
TO ONE PERSON YOU MAY BE THE WORLD.  
-- ANONYMOUS --

## Lunch Buddy Program



Telephone:  
**417-862-6308**

W I L L A R D R - I I S C H O O L S

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## Lunch Buddy Program

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The Lunch Buddy Program is a mentoring program to provide a child an ongoing relationship with a caring adult. Children who are currently experiencing changes at home, difficulty at school or those who need a positive role model in their lives are referred by their teachers, counselors and/or school administrators. It is not to teach academics, it is to have fun with your Buddy, display adult behavior, be a good role model and a friend. The benefits of the program to the kids are numerous. The schools report that youth with lunch buddies have improved attendance, grades, and have less disciplinary problems. Adult volunteers report a sense of giving back to the community and to a child that needs them.

### **The program is simple...**

Adult volunteers commit to having lunch with a student twice a month. After lunch there is time to read a book, play on

the playground, put a puzzle together, or just talk.

*The one-on-one relationship between buddies often makes a profound difference in a child's life.*

## **How can you become a lunch buddy?**

1. Once you decide to become a lunch buddy contact Willard South Elementary to obtain registration and criminal background check information
2. Return your forms back to the office via fax, mail, or email.
3. Once your forms have been received by our offices, we will be in contact with you if we need any additional information and to get you matched with your lunch buddy at Willard South Elementary.

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## **Lunch Buddy F.A.Q.'s**

### **What do I do if I have to miss a day?**

Contact the Willard South office and let them know you cannot be there so that the school is prepared and the student can be properly informed.

### **Do I pay for my own lunch?**

School lunch will be provided for you or you may bring your own lunch from home.

### **May I bring in a lunch for my buddy?**

Yes! Please keep in mind that any goodies brought and given to the student must be store bought. Homemade items are not allowed.

### **Are gifts appropriate?**

Each family is different. If parents grant permission then you may do so. Please speak to the Counselor before bringing a gift.

### **What should I talk about?**

Ask your buddy about his/her family, pets, favorite subjects in school, or favorite activities. Talk about your family as well. Discuss hobbies, sports, and music. Share pictures and talk about your job or where you went to school. **Be a good listener.**