



UNITED WAY
Northeastern
Minnesota

**LUNCH
BUDDIES**

**2023-2024
PROGRAM RESULTS**

34 

**Students Matched
With Mentors**

10 

**Schools
Partnering**

Cherry School • Falls Elementary • Keewatin Elementary
Laurentian Elementary • Merritt Elementary • Mesabi East School
North Star Elementary • Northeast Range School
Parkview Elementary • Vaughan-Steffensrud Elementary

Serving students from:
Aurora, Babbitt, Cherry, Chisholm, International Falls, Eveleth, Gilbert, Keewatin,
Mountain Iron, Nashwauk, Virginia, and the surrounding communities

**Mentees felt
cared for**

100%
of students
said yes

94%
of mentors
saw this

100%
of teachers
saw this

100%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this



**Happier
students**

100%
of students
said yes

97%
of mentors
saw this

97%
of teachers
saw this

100%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this



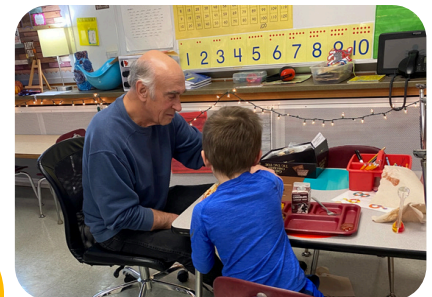
**Improved
attitude about
school**

94%
of students
said yes

77%
of mentors
saw this

93%
of teachers
saw this

100%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this



**Improved self
esteem**

100%
of students
said yes

94%
of mentors
saw this

93%
of teachers
saw this

100%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this



**Improved
listening skills**

90%
of students
said yes

94%
of mentors
saw this

85%
of teachers
saw this

100%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this

**Improvement
handling
frustration**

100%
of mentors
saw this

85%
of teachers
saw this

88%
of parents/
caregivers
saw this



UNITED WAY
Northeastern
Minnesota

**BUDDY
BACKPACKS**

LEARN MORE:

218-254-3329 • info@unitedwaymemn.org

608 East Drive, Chisholm MN 55719 • www.unitedwaymemn.org



UNITED WAY
Northeastern
Minnesota

**LUNCH
BUDDIES**

**2023-2024
PROGRAM FEEDBACK**



Students say...

“[My mentor] is kind.”

“Love my Lunch Buddy.”

“It’s so fun!”

“She always makes me happy.”

“I like hanging out and telling stories.”



Mentors say...

“I can tell his home life is a bit unstable, only because mine was as well, and I can see a lot of myself in him.”

“He seems genuinely excited to see me each week, and we had fun playing games together.”

“At the beginning of Lunch Buddies, she was quiet and a little withdrawn. She is now fun and full of energy.”



Schools say...

“The more adults we can include in kids’ lives, the better!”

“Kids discovered new things about themselves and things they had in common with their mentors.”

“He loves attention and how to negatively get it; this taught him that he can get positive attention just for being himself.”



Parents & caregivers say...

“I could tell he felt special having someone talk with him about his days.”

“She talks about her Lunch Buddy all the time.”

“He struggles with wanting to go to school. On days he had Lunch Buddies he looks forward to going and is excited to spend time with his Lunch Buddy.”



UNITED WAY
Northeastern
Minnesota

**BUDDY
BACKPACKS**

LEARN MORE:

218-254-3329 • info@unitedwaymemn.org

608 East Drive, Chisholm MN 55719 • www.unitedwaynemn.org