Cán the Buddy Bench help students socialize and recycle at your school?

Sammie Vance, now a fourth grader at Haley Elementary School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, heard So-

dexo, a food services and facilities management company committed to driving positive outcomes for the environment, individuals and communities we serve, is recognizing Sammie for her valiant efforts in the Sodexo Performance Zone program.

Sodexo's Performance Zone gives much deserved recognition to the students and groups who are benefiting their schools and communities

by exhibiting outstanding acts of service, academics and athletics, while inspiring others. Honorees receive \$500 and have their story featured in over 750 middle schools across the country.

about the Buddy Bench and decided her school needed one. A Buddy Bench, made from 400 pounds of

plastic, encourages and prompts social interaction among students on the playground. To 'activate' the buddy bench power, a student simply takes a seat and smiles!

Wishing she had a Buddy Bench at times, Sammie created an illustration to depict the concept. She also added her own spin to the idea by collecting plastic bottle caps. Sammie started promoting the idea at school and not only collected enough caps to produce three benches at her school but also donate to schools in her area. Buddy Benches have had good results at elementary schools with teachers helping to bring buddies together.



So Happy Version 2 is Available for Students and Parents to Download

So Happy is an easy-to-use menu and nutrition app that allows parents and students to see all ingredients and allergens in every meal served in their school cafeteria on a weekly basis. The app is ideal for menu planning, with pre-order functionality available in the new school year. Secondary students will be able to pre-order their meals a week in advance, they'll spend less time in line and more time enjoying their lunch.

1. Student and Parent App Connection:

Why So Happy?

Allows parents to review nutrition information, including calories and carb counts and recommend menu items to students. The app gives school nurses con-

venient access to nutrition information to better assist students with special dietary needs.



- Activity Component: Students can log their daily activity allowing parents to compare calories consumed to calories burned.
- 3. Food and Nutrition Education: News streams are built into the parent app with information about promotions, current events, recipes and other resources.
- 4. Gamification: Students can earn points (earned by logging food and activity) and build characters within the app.





All Staff Breakfast



Average Daily Participation: September 2017 vs September 2018

