

Creative School Fund-raising Ideas

Things to do:

- Gift wrapping, such as gift wrapping for donations at bookstore during holidays
- Fun runs; Walk-a-thon (pre-kindergarten: each child gets sponsorship for each lap walked – up to 8 laps/\$1 per lap); Bike-a-thon; Jump-rope-a-thon; Sled-a-thon
- 3-on-3 basketball tournament (charge a team \$40 for entrance; local businesses donate prizes)
- Car wash (pre-sell tickets as gifts, ask for pledges per car in advance, operate a food stand with coffee, bagels and juice)
- “Chuck a puck at the rink” (A hockey team plays this game between the 2nd and 3rd periods of the hockey game. Each puck is numbered and sold for \$1. Everyone throws them on the ice and the one closest to the center gets half of the money sold.)
- Singing telegrams
- Talent shows/recital/lip-sync contest (local businesses donate items for raffle)
- Read-a-thon; Spelling bees; Science fairs
- Carnivals (Halloween, Easter)
- Dances (kids, father/daughter, family, Sadie Hawkins)
- Bowling night/bowl-a-thon
- Skate night/skate-a-thon
- Raffles (teachers do a silly activity)
- Magic show
- Family/glamour portraits
- Penny wars (pennies +1 point, nickels +5, quarters +25, team with most points wins)
- Raffle (movie passes, theme bags, theme baskets assembled by students). Check your local laws governing raffles.
- T-shirts/caps
- Students volunteer for odd jobs to raise money, end of “work” day dinner and dance held for volunteers
- School event planners (includes all school event dates).

Things that involve the community:

- Catering (district food service department caters events)
- Workshop/class
- Conference
- Treasure hunt/scavenger hunt
- Tennis/horseshoe competition
- Recycling cans/bottles/paper/Christmas trees
- Golf tournament
- Rent-a-teen-helper (rake leaves, water gardens, mow lawns, wash dog)
- Auction or money jars for students to place money in (teacher does something for kids at set increments, e.g. dress as a cheerleader, do cheers, act out a scene from a play)
- Dinner fund-raiser with a live or silent auction (goods, services and talents)
- Community job fair (charge an exhibit fee)
- Bricks with engraved donor names
- Candles/crafts/books/plant sales
- Halloween insurance (\$1 insurance sold for guaranteed cleanup the day after Halloween. Usually minimal clean ups and volunteers tipped.)
- Sell seat cushions at sporting events (sell advertisements on cushions for local businesses)
- School clothing or rummage sale
- Bingo nights (parents with kids in sports or involved in organizations man the tables)

For more information contact:

California Project LEAN

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Ideas excerpted from Shasta County Public Health Department

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