

Healthy Fundraising Ideas

Fundraising is an excellent experience for students to learn the value of community service as well as earning money for a worthy cause. The experience can be made even more rewarding by encouraging healthy habits by including physical activity. Listed below are ways students can fundraise while promoting healthy lifestyles and learning valuable business skills. Be sure to check district policy before starting a fundraiser.

Activities & Events

5 mile run/walk	Flea Market	Rent-a-band, rent-a-choir, or rent-a-music group
Adult Spelling Bee	Fun runs	Rent-a-teen or rent-a-kid
Art show	Game night	SAT practice test
Auctions	Garage sells	Scavenger hunt
Basketball tournament	Gift Wrapping	Science Fairs
Bike-a-thons	Golf tournament	Singing telegrams
Bingo night	Guessing games	Skating night
Bowling night	Haunted house	Sled-a-thons
Car washes	Hiking Trip	Spell-a-thon
Carnival	Hoop-a-thons	Spelling bees
Celebrity Basketball Game	Jog-a-thon	Sports camps or clinics
Chess, checkers or other tournaments	Jump rope for heart	Spring yard work
Concerts	Jump-rope-a-thon	Talent shows
Craft sales	Karaoke competition	Teacher/Student sports Competition
Dance-a-thon	Magic show	Tennis, horseshoes or other sport tournament
Dances	Math-a-thon	Treasure hunt
Dinner fund raiser	Musical chairs	Walk-a-thons
Faculty Follies Talent Show	Penny war	White Elephant auction
Family portraits	Plays and musicals	Workshops or classes
Father-Daughter Dance	Read-a-thon	
Festivals	Recycle ink cartridges	
	Recycling drive	

There are many ways students and parent organizations can raise money. For example: A "No Bake" Bake Sale (from the Reach Every Child/Horace Mann web site, by Alan Haskvitz), is easy, all profit, and parents appreciate it. First, create a list of baked goods and write cards with the item name and price, for example, "Carrot Cake, \$5." The parent selects this baked item NOT to make and sends \$5 instead. You respond with a note thanking them for the carrot cake. Offer a variety of baked goods from "Mud Pies" to "Twin Rivers Angel Food Cake." The students can name the items and research how much they would cost to make, so it is educational as well.

Send the list home and have parents decide what NOT to make. You can also send the list to others in the community. Obviously, it is all pure profit and pure fun, especially the "Oops I Burned the Turnovers" which usually go for \$10 and the \$15 pan of "Brown Knees." And the best part is, think how many calories aren't consumed!"

Things to Sell

Besides the activities listed above, there are many non-food items that students can sell.

Bead jewelry in school colors	Foot and hand warmers for sports events	Pet treats
Balloons or balloon bouquets	Giant coloring books	Picnic baskets
Brick or tile for a school walkway	Gift basket auction	Rent a special parking space
Bumper stickers	Gift certificates - donated	SAT practice test
Buttons/Pins	Gift wrap	School spirit gear
Calendars designed by students	Graduation day flowers/balloons at	School stationary and pencils
Cook books with kid recipes	Greeting cards designed by students	Sell donated books, CD's, DVD's
Coupon books	Holiday craft fair - sell booths	Spring seeds/bulbs
Earthquake kits	Holiday gift shop for kids	Stadium pillows and seats
Emergency kits for cars	Holiday wreaths	Student artwork
Family portraits	License plate holders	Student/Teacher art events
Farmers market with donated produce	Memorials	Temp tattoos of school mascot
First aid kits	Mistletoe/Trees	Tickets to school sport events
Flowers/vegetable plants grown from seed	School newsletter ads	Face Painting

Auctions, live or silent, of donated goods and services are always fun. Popular items for elementary school auctions include field trips for 3 or 4 children to the zoo, a nature hike led by a favorite teacher; the opportunity for a child to be Principal for a Day (2 hours plus lunch with the Principal is usually enough for most kids); for adults, seats at a 12-person dinner party hosted by a school family and featuring an elaborate menu.

Donations and Scrip

- If your school has only one volunteer to organize fundraising, this is the place to start. Check out the links below and sign your school up for all of them. These programs require participants to sign up, but most can be done online. Once registered, a donation is automatically made to the school every time the participant shops. There is no added cost to the participant; the donation is paid entirely by the merchant. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, teachers can all support the school at no cost to themselves by registering with these programs.
- **Escrip**-Supporters register grocery loyalty (like Safeway), debit and credit cards, and participating merchants will make contributions to your chosen group, based on your purchases made. Paperwork-free, the purchases are tracked and available online. Sign up at www.eScrip.com
- **Schoolpop**-Register at this site and your school will automatically get a donation every time you shop at hundreds of online merchants, like L.L.Bean, Barnes & Noble, Expedia, Kmart, Macy's, Nordstrom's. Works for many catalogs and stores too.
<http://www.schoolpop.com/cgi/welcome/cgi>
- **Target**- The Target School Fundraising Program makes a donation to your school every time you shop with a Target Visa or Guest card
(http://target.com/target_group/schools/search_school.jhtml)

- **Office Depot-** Sign your school up for the "5% Back to Schools" program, and families who buy their back to school supplies at Office Depot can simply give the name of the school to the cashier and 5% of their purchase price will be rebated to the school.
<http://www.community.officedepot.com/local.asp>
- **Corporate Donations-** Many corporations, such as Boise (Office Max), Levi Strauss, Charles Schwab, Starbucks, Macy's, Radio Shack, Wells Fargo, and Bank of America will match employee contributions to schools. Some companies such as The Gap and Starbucks will make a cash donation to a school for volunteer hours worked by a parent. Remind parents to check with their employer to see if such benefits are available. Macy's hosts Benefit Shopping Days. Schools participate by selling tickets that give customers a discount on Macy's purchases during the event. Schools keep 100% of their ticket sale proceeds and get an additional donation through in-store ticket redemption. Macy's Hotline: 1-800-287-7426
- **Benefit Events** – Some stores and restaurants will allow your school to sponsor a day or evening benefit. The school publicizes the event and distributes flyers; customers bring the flyer with them and a portion of their purchase is donated to the school. Try Borders for book shopping, or Chevy's or Fresh Choice for dinner. (<http://www.bordersgroupinc.com/community/local.htm>) (<http://www.chevys.com/frameset.html>) (<http://www.freshchoice.com/fundraising.html>)

Macy's hosts Benefit Shopping Days; schools participate by selling tickets that give customers a discount on Macy's purchases during the event. Schools keep 100% of their ticket sale proceeds and get an additional donation through in-store ticket redemption. For more information, please call Macy's Community Relations Hotline:1-800-287-7426

- **Scrip-** Many stores sell scrip. These are gift certificates which your school can buy at the reduced price (usually about 8-10% off face value) and then resell at full face value. Stores which sell scrip include Macy's, J C Penney, Mervyns', Payless Shoe Source and Fresh Choice
- **ChicoBag-** Be eco-friendly and efficient with your fundraisers. The ChicoBag is a compact, eco-friendly, reusable grocery or utility bag that comes with its own case. A 50% profit can be made at a selling price of \$5 each.

Earth Friendly Fundraisers

If you are looking for a high profit fundraiser that enhances educational curriculum and promotes earth friendly behavior throughout the community. Try the following recycling suggestions:

- **Smencils-** Gourmet scented pencils made from recycled newspapers. It's fundraising with a purpose: "Saving trees...one pencil at a time." <http://smencils.com/>
- **Funding Factory-** Get paid for collecting used printer cartridges and cell phones! Free fundraising kit. <http://www.fundingfactory.com/>
- **EcoPhones-** recycling fundraiser pays up to \$300 per item for cell phones, ink jets, DVDs, laptops, MP3 players, video game boxes, digital cameras & picture frames, GPS devices. <http://www.ecophones.com/>
- **Empties4Cash-**get up to \$4 for empty inkjet cartridges, 100% profit. <http://www.empties4cash.com/>

- Cartridges for Kids- Recycle empty inkjet, laser, fax, and copier cartridges.
<http://www.cartridgesforkids.com/>
- Recycle Rewards- Earn funding by collecting used printer cartridges and cell phones. Free shipping, supplies, promotional tools, and online accounting. <http://www.rrewards.com/>
- Recycle-Free - Specializing in recycling of plastic inkjet cartridges for schools.
<http://recyclefree.com/>
- TradingConnection – Easy printer cartridge recycle program.
<http://tradingconnectionusa.com/>
- Friendship Used Clothing Collection, LLC – A great way to serve your community while raising funds for your organization. <http://www.friendshipusedclothing.com/>
- Epromos-Fundraising promotional products, some recycled and organic available at:
http://www.epromos.com/use-fundraising/_/N-13931
- Fundraising Green- "MyGreenSpark", A fundraising coupon book to green up your
<http://www.greenschools.net/section.php?id=47>

School Spirit

Here are some great ideas and items to print your school mascot on to support your school teams

Backpacks	School Logo Stationary
Band CD's or tapes	School flags
Bumper stickers	School supplies
Coffee mugs	Scrip
Flowers that are the school colors	Sports equipment
Grad gifts for sale at the event	Stadium blankets
Gym clothes/bags	Student Directories
Hats/Head bands	Stuffed school mascot toys
Key chains	Teacher gifts
License plate frames	Tickets to school events
Newsletter ad space	T-shirts/Jackets
Pins/Stickers	Water bottles

Creative Ideas

- Ghoulish Fashion show - Have students bring in their favorite Halloween costumes to model in a fashion show.
- Hold a Jewelry sale with beads and thread have students make their own necklaces, bracelets, anklets and other jewelry and hold a sale for these items.
- Milk Mustache Pictures - Have students take one another's picture res with milk m mustaches and sell to parents.
- Using a long role of paper, have students paint or draw pictures and sell as wrapping paper, it's a real personal touch!!

The Value of Homemade

The concept of making their own items to sell gives students the opportunity to appreciate hard work and be proud of the items they sell. Here are some ideas on how students can personalize these items.

- Greeting cards -purchase cardstock, fold in half and have students draw pictures, each card will have its own unique touch.
- Sell student designed calendars .
- Plants-Help students grow plants to sell. Make sure whatever plant you choose is easy to grow, and doesn't take too much time.

- Candles-Buy candle-making kits that students can make their own candles to sell. Using different colors and designs, allow kids to experiment with their creativity.
- Ornaments/ Ceramic Tiles- Purchase bare ornaments or tiles for students to hand decorate and sell.
- Cookbooks- Gather kid-friendly recipes and have students put together cookbooks to sell.
- Dog treats- There are many homemade recipes for dog treats, many are easy and fast. Help students make the dough and cut out dog treats to sell.