
FUNDRAISING

To help subsidize travel opportunities for students many schools try fund raising. When the students and community have had as many car washes, bake sales and chocolate bars that they can handle, it is time to get creative. The following ideas should help inspire some alternative approaches to raising money.

Raffles-Find local shops willing to donate items to be raffled off. Finding items which reflect what the money is being raised for is a nice touch.

Auction-Students as well as community members donate items or services which are auctioned to the highest bidder. Students can supply useful services for the community such as; baby-sitting, bedtime stories, yard work, tutoring, dog walking, house-cleaning, etc.

Craft, art or photo sales-Students create items for sale to the community. Photo posters can be ordered from mail order photo developers or made with color copiers. Choose a great slide or print of the town and have it made poster size.

Flower Sales- Purchase carnations and roses from a local florist supplier and on holidays sell them throughout the day.

Weekend carnival or play day- Local parents would appreciate a structured day of supervised play for their children. How about a kite flying contest out of home made kites? Charge an entry fee and give a new kite as a prize for the highest flyer.

Coupon book-Create a booklet of coupons for student and/or community services. Charge one price for the booklet.

T shirts-Sponsor a contest for the best T shirt design. If your students are raising money for a trip to the southwest, use the southwest as a theme for the designs. Charge an entry fee and then sell the t shirts. For T shirt info call Gariel Printing (1-800-4-GARIEL).

Yard sales-Help the neighbors clean out their basements and sponsor a giant yard sale.

Recycle-Bottles and cans can be a source of quick cash. Students can go door to door asking for those cans and bottles piling up in basements and garages. With a bit of pre-planning a community can be notified and students can offer curb-side pick-up. Ask local restaurants to donate their empties to your cause and don't forget to be sure your school has receptacles for recyclables. Ask the bus company which provides transport for the sports teams to collect the cans thrown away after games.

Penny Drive-Keeping older pennies in circulation is a way to recycle copper!

Pet show-Get the whole neighborhood involved. Charge an entry fee and get donated prizes for categories (best dressed, cutest, pet, owner look alike). Try pet shops and vets for gift certificates.

Sponsors-Ask businesses or individuals to act as sponsors for a student hoping to travel. Keep the sponsor up to date on details of the trip, send postcards during the trip and offer a slide show or photo viewing session afterwards with refreshments.

Dances-Sponsor a theme dance (night in the tropics, come as Groucho Marx or other famous

characters, etc.) Sell refreshments and get donations for song requests.

Holiday sales-During the holiday season gift items do well. Innisbrook Wraps (1-800-334-8461) provides gift wrapping for fund raising. Sally Foster Inc.,(PO Box 539, Duncan SC 29334-9977) provides an array of gift wrap and holiday gifts and treats. Que Importa?(1-800-922-4771) can provide you with a multi-cultural array of jewelry for fund-raising . You might try a slant on candy sales by offering foreign made candies. Contact The Foreign Candy Co. (1-800-831-8541) for details. Companies offering candy sales with an environmental focus include; Community Products, Inc. (1-800-927-2695), offering Rainforest Crunch and TOGETHER (1-800-937-9994), makers of Enviromints. GEO-GIFTS (1-800-824-4668) provides a collection of products that "demonstrate a respect for the Earth". Human-i-Tees (1-800-275-2638) produces colorful environmental design T shirts. Call for a free poster and selling info. Melpa Enterprises, Inc. (1-800-300-0635) specializes in fund raising.

It takes energy and commitment to make any fund raising effort succeed. Provide students with plenty of direction, establish realistic deadlines, goals and keep it fun.

If you have any other fundraising ideas or suggestions please email them to us.



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Explorations In Travel, Inc.

email: explore@sover.net

275 Jacksonville Stage Rd.

Brattleboro, VT 05301

Telephone: (802) 257-0152

FAX: (802) 257-2784