

Fundraising

By the "Original" Mike Smith

Raising the funds necessary for student activities can be among the most worthwhile and practical experiences for students because it encompasses all the components of a good project – Planning, People, Preparing, Performing and Perfecting. All of these are done with the specific purpose (desired outcome) of raising money to do something special. Use these opportunities to teach responsibility, organization, people skills and a lot more!

Special Notes!!

Fundraising dollars usually come from "family money." There are two kinds of family money: Budgeted (that which we spend on surviving) and unbudgeted (that which is available after all of our obligations are met). Inexperienced fundraisers tend to target the unbudgeted money with campaigns that feature items the buyer would only buy to "help out" the organization. Smart fundraisers target money that would be spent anyway. The biggest fundraising events seem to feature the opportunity to spend from your budgeted budget –food, birthday gifts, clothes etc..

Many people use "Fundraising" projects not so much as "Fundraising" but as public relations, interest enhancement, and skills training exercises. We call these "Fundraisers". The fact that they generate a little income is a bonus.

Things To Remember

1. Keep the "PURPOSE" of fundraising event in front of the people. The better the purpose, the more dedicated the work force.
2. Set specific, attainable goals for the event, and keep the work force informed of the progress.
3. Develop a program to reward those who work the hardest. Make sure everyone who participates gets something and that the rewards are something everyone would work towards.
4. If possible, avoid fundraisers that require you to buy an inventory. The most cost effective fundraisers are those for which you take orders and deliver. This minimizes your exposure to financial loss.
5. Keep accurate books. The easiest system is a simple in and out system of income and expenses. If your expenses exceed your income, you've got a problem. If you are distributing a product to the members to sell, be sure to keep track of the items issued to each member. Have the member sign a "statement of responsibility" when he/she takes the items. That way the student is responsible for lost or stolen items.
6. Treat this event like any other. Use the PROJECT PLANNER.

Budgeted Money Fundraiser

1. Sell Food Items
 - A. Fresh fruit
 - B. Meat
 - C. Seafood
 - D. Cheese
 - E. Sausage
 - F. Vending Machines

- 2) Daily and Household products and services
 - A. Lawn work
 - B. Magazine Drive
 - C. House work and maintenance
 - D. Dog and/or babysitting
 - E. Operate School Store

Many schools have been successful with magazine drives and labor pools. Many stores need very large pools of part-time labor to inventory. Several groups have mobilized their troops for such an event and given the proceeds to the club or organizations.

HERE IS A LIST OF SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISERS

Male Beauty Contest
Freshmen Mixers
Coupon Book Sales
Sports Concessions
Book Fair
Sock Hops after
Basketball Games
Pizza Party/ Pizza home room
Some kind of Gram Sales (valentines, holiday)
Nursing Home Make-Up Day
Free Car Wash
Car Bash
Topless Car Wash
Lip Sync/Air Band Concert
Deeds to Square Inch Of Campus
Pie Sales
Dog/Pet Wash
Rent-a-Mob
Fortune Cookie Sales
Firewood Sales

Sadie Hawkins Dance
Flower Thank-You Sales
Picture Me on... 's Knee
Balloon-O-Grams
Jell-O Wrestling
Cookbook Sale
Faculty/Student Games
Fashion Show
Anything Goes
Competitions
Colored Carnation Sales
Half Court Free Throw Contest
Battle of the Bands
Computer Dating

Breakfast Sales...a-thons
Ski Festival/swap shop
Bingo Night
Window Scraper Sales
Lunch Auction
Used Book Drive
Paper Drive

Movie Night – on the lawn at school
Ice Cream Social
Rummage Sales
Plant Sales
Craft Fair
Children's Fun Fair
Pretzel Sales
Lost & Found Auction
Afternoon Popcorn Sales
Bicycle Repair
Contests (Banana eating, Singing Telegrams, Pie eating, etc.)
Jukebox in Cafeteria
Radar Gun Toss
Grocery Grab Raffle
Calendar Sales
Clothes Sale – sponsored by a trendy store in town
Talent Show
Lost and found fashion show – charge admission