

Idea List

V 3.4

02/12/10

Below is the Idea List that was generated at the PTO meeting in January. The duplicates have been deleted and they have been arranged into categories. Some of the Ideas are already being looked into and they are listed in *italics*. Others have already been confirmed and they are in **bold**. The last section lists the Ideas that still need to be researched.

I. Ideas Being Researched

Gia, the Co-Treasurer is researching the following:

Eliminate room parent party funds.
Use same PP games next year.
Cut miscellaneous expense line item.
Cut "extra programs" line item.
Use the "Music for Minors program"

David, the Co-Treasurer is researching the following:

Reduce the rate at which we add money to the tech reserve fund.

Sangeeta, the Vice-President of Mini-Grants is researching the following:

Reduce (instead of cut) Mimi-grants.
Only sponsor CEEF basket, not the tickets.
Reduce, eliminate or equalize the teacher allowances.

Louise, the Co-President is researching the following:

Hire student teachers to help with the 30:1
Reallocation of personnel costs.

Julie, the Co-President is researching the following:

*Assess Direct Donation on a per child basis or up the family rate.
What if we have a base DD value and an additional amount for additional children in a family?
Gather donations to pay for a 1st grade teacher.
Enlist VC's.
Create a fundraiser for a specific item (like new computers or the Art program).
Could parents target their DD donations to a specific area?
Check out www.bcsfoundation.com/shop. Bullis charter receives 8.5% when parents shop through this link.*

Corey Takara and Cris Vaughan, Stevens Creek parents, are researching the following:

*Help teachers get grant money.
Could we have a parent run art program?*

II. Ideas already confirmed/Completed

- Provide a paperless Directory (this is in progress already).**
- Get ice cream donated for the ice cream social (this has been done the last few years).**
- Parent volunteers to help in the Tech Lab and Library? (Yes, they just cannot run the Tech Lab or Library).**
- Can we schedule extra art, music, PE, library, computer lab time or assemblies on days that teachers need to work or report cards? (No, there has to be one teacher present for every 32 students).**
- Create a parent survey (survey went out to parents 02/11/10).**

III. Areas to be taken on by parent volunteers:

Parent Volunteer Possibilities

Could parents run primary PE?
Can parents run a copy center to help the teachers?
Volunteers need training and mentoring.
Hold a volunteer fair @ walkathon?

Going paperless

First day packet online or on CD.
Less paper copies (clicks) that we have to pay the District.
Minimize Thursday folder inserts (one per family?).
Reduce cost by using double sided printing as much as possible (first day packet, Thursday folders).
Not use District for any copies. Buy our own photocopier or ink for school's copier?

ADDITIONAL IDEAS

- research how McAuliffe does things. They have a fundraising strategy that uses google. Also, as they are a parent run school, can get ideas for training the parents, etc.
- PTO funds half day substitutes for the teachers to work on grants. Depending on the size and complexity of the grant it could be up to one day sub or two half days. That way the teacher has the freed up time to work on the grant.
- May be Music, Art and PE can be split out so rather than going all 30 once; half of them goes and other half stays with aid or teacher or student teacher. This way elementary kids gets extra attention at least few days and will be easier to manage. It might be more work initially but once we set up the process should be manageable.

- Look at the merits of a PTA and foundation vs. just PTO
- Update job descriptions on website for use in recruiting volunteers
- Can we hire teachers that have been laid off to do primary PE, art, and primary music?