

FUNDRAISING IDEAS FOR SCHOOLS

What's Wrong with Candy Sales?

Students' lifelong eating habits are greatly influenced by the types of foods and beverages available to them. When non-nutritious foods are sold "for a good cause", students may think that these foods are a healthful part of a balanced diet. Such misperceptions can contribute to development of poor eating habits. Schools encourage healthful eating habits by avoiding fundraisers that rely on the sale of non-nutritious foods such as candy and cookies.

Positive Options

Following is a list of activities for school fundraisers that have a positive impact on students, families and the community. This is by no means a complete list; many additional ideas exist for successful fundraising.

Support Academics

- Read-a-thon
- Science fair
- Spelling bee
- Workshops or classes



Support the Arts

- Art show
- Concerts
- Dances
- Plays and musicals
- Talent show
- Singing telegrams
- Rent-a-band, rent-a-choir or rent-a-music group

Support Physical Activity

- Walk-a-thon
- Bike-a-thon
- Jump-rope-a-thon
- 5-mile run/walk or another fun run
- Golf, tennis, horseshoe or other sports tournament
- Bowling or skate night
- Sports camps or clinics



More Activities

- Garage sale
- Live auction or silent auction
- Carnival
- Giant game of musical chairs
- Rent-a-teen or rent-a-kid
- Guessing games
- Car wash
- Game night
- Craft show
- Magic show
- Haunted house
- Penny war
- Recycling drive
- Festivals

- Bingo night
- Karaoke competition
- Chess, checkers or other tournaments
- Treasure hunt or scavenger hunt



Items To Sell Other Than Food

- Candles
- Greeting cards
- Gift wrap, boxes and bags
- Magazine subscriptions
- Gift items
- Coupon books
- Holiday wreaths
- Christmas trees
- Mistletoe
- Gift certificates
- Cookbooks
- Balloons
- Decorations
- T-shirts and sweatshirts
- Books
- Calendars
- Buttons and pins
- Air fresheners
- Customized stickers
- Christmas ornaments
- Crafts
- First aid kits
- Emergency kits for cars
- Batteries

Items To Sell Other Than Food, Continued

- Batteries
- School spirit gear
- Plants, flowers, poinsettias or seeds
- Brick, stone or tile memorials
- Temporary tattoos
- Stuffed animals
- Coffee cups and mugs
- Elephant rides
- Pet treats, toys and accessories
- Special parking space
- Foot warmers or slippers
- Scarves and stocking caps
- Spirit, seasonal, state or U.S. flags
- Megaphones
- Decals
- Bumper stickers
- License plate holders with school logo
- Giant coloring books
- Tickets to sporting or fine arts events
- Jewelry
- Valentine flowers
- Artwork
- School newspaper space or ads
- Stationery
- Stadium pillows
- School Frisbees
- Bath accessories and lotions
- Videos and CDs
- Picnic baskets

Healthful Food Items to Sell

- Fresh fruit
- Fresh vegetables
- Fruit baskets
- Nuts
- Trail mix
- Fruit smoothie mix
- Frozen bananas



Summing It Up

The Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines encourage schools to limit fundraising activities involving food and/or beverages. There are a large number of fun, creative and lucrative strategies to raise money in other ways. Fundraisers that involve physical activity can even be used to send positive messages to students, families and the community about the importance of active lifestyles.

To encourage students to eat nutritious school breakfasts and lunches, the Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines recommend that the sale of food or beverages for fundraisers should not take place until after the end of the last lunch period.



This brochure was adapted from guidance developed by the South Dakota Department of Education as part of a project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

CREATING HEALTHIER KANSAS SCHOOLS

Child Nutrition & Wellness
Kansas State Dept. of Education
120 SE 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182

Phone: 785-296-2276
Fax: 785-296-0232
www.kn-eat.org

CREATING HEALTHIER KANSAS SCHOOLS

Fundraising Ideas for Schools



Child Nutrition & Wellness

