

**NOTES FROM THE ACT COUNCIL OF P&C ASSOCIATIONS
HOT TOPICS/ISSUES MEETING OF 26 MARCH 2013
(Attended by 29 delegates)**



ACT Council of
Parents & Citizens
Associations

The parent voice on public education

SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION FUND RAISING IDEAS

There were many fund raising ideas that have proven successful for P&Cs and some innovative events may be new to many P&Cs. These are listed below with the school involved. Contact the Council office if you would like to talk to any of these P&Cs and we will pass on appropriate details to you:

Unusual Fund Raising Events	P&Cs involved	Funds raised /Comments
Market/festival days/ nights selling art, craft, food, clothes etc, with external stall holders	Macquarie PS, Dickson College, Harrison School	Home made goods etc
Pavers with childrens' names on them for school footpaths	Arawang PS	
Plant, nursery sale	Majura PS	
School banking, crazy hair days and charity days	Namadgi School, Aranda PS	\$5 on each account opened
Family portraits	Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	Little work involved
Cross country sponsored race	Monash PS	
Obstacleathon	Aranda PS	
Car boot sales	Stromlo HS	\$15 per car + food sales
Entertainment book sales	Stromlo HS	No upfront costs, no risk
Bulb sales	Stromlo HS	\$550
Stuck on You labels and tea towels for kids to draw their portraits	Macquarie PS	
Apple Slinky's, tattoos (temporary!), movie night	Macgregor PS	
Other Proven Fund Raiser Events		
Bike/Walk/Run/Olymp athons (sponsor Adidas)	ArandaPS,	\$2,000 to \$5,000
Bunnings, Masters, Magnetmart, Harvey Norman, Domayne etc sausage sizzles	Calwell HS, Gungahlin College, Lyneham PS	\$1,600 to \$2,800
Mini raffles	Calwell HS,	
Hot cross buns, mango drives, trivia nights, school discos	McGregor PS, Hawker PS, Harrison School, Macquarie PS	Mango drive \$400
Cookie dough drive	Girralang PS	\$1,200 to \$1,300
Election day pooling booth at school food & drink/BBQ service	Gungahlin College, Curtin PS, Chapman PS,	
Bakers Delight, Athletes Foot, Scholastic Books	Curtin PS, Chapman PS	
Fetes, day or night	Aranda PS, Bonython PS, Amaroo PS, Curtin PS, Arawang PS,	\$18,000 to \$25,000
Mothers and Fathers Day stalls or breakfast	Curtin PS, Chapman PS, Harrison School	
Special events/theme lunches eg sushi at school	Farrer PS, Monash PS, Wanniasa PS	
Coles and Woolies promo schemes for schools	Namadgi School	
Uniform Shop	Aranda PS	
Late Night Learning programs in school premises	Lake Gininderra College	
Aussie Farmers Direct sales	Stromlo HS	
Support individual kids fund raising		For interstate competing etc

Other comments for fund raisers:

Elections – polling booths at school

Good opportunity as people outside the school community attend.

Serve things other than sausage sandwiches, e.g. hot soup. Apparently good coffee has been very successful in the past. Last time the local radio station was comparing the different polling stations for the quality of their BBQs and other offerings.

Fetes

1. Hard work takes about 6 months fundraising effort devoted to it.
2. Some schools are saying that parents must either be put on roster to help or opt out by paying oney. Difficult to enforce this.
3. Don't have to have first aid on site but it is advisable, because insurance may not pay out on any claims. St Johns \$120 to \$150. Parent or teacher with first aid certificate will suffice or registered nurse, but must have adequate signage, and all stall holders must be briefed re first aid procedures, also should have access to a first aid room.
4. If earnings are approx \$20,000 (not sure of exact threshold level) then check your P&C insurance covers you if any loss or theft.
5. Should always give the insurance broker a call and run things by them. Civic Insurance Brokers contact details will be in the next Council Communicator.
6. Themes work well, one school has a very successful fete with a sustainability theme with various demos.
7. One school did a mini fireworks display. The expense paid off, probably because people stayed longer to watch the fireworks.
8. Go to other fetes to see what they do and get some ideas.
9. Lots of books available along the lines of "101 ideas for fetes".
10. Check food regulations, some schools had to pull stalls out at the last minute and throw all the food out because it was prepared more than 12 hours prior to the fete.
11. Try evening rather than day fetes.
12. Music bands are quite successful, especially if inviting musicians outside of the school community because their parents and friends come to watch.
13. Some schools said that food was their biggest earner at fetes.
14. It is very important to ensure that you are not just making money out of your school community. For example there are obvious problems with making \$2000 of profit out of \$3000 worth of items donated by the parents.
15. Good way to get around this is to have a sponsorship officer to go around drumming up sponsors. Could also approach potential sponsors with a letter.
16. Bakers Delight are good for sponsorships.
17. Break the jobs up into small bits, you are more likely to get volunteers for small manageable pieces of work.
18. Advertising, free adds on TV, Radio and printed press through community notice boards.
19. Signs on side of road, make sure these are big enough so that they can be read by motorists going at speed. Local real estate agents may do it for free if their advertising is included on the sign.

Feedback to the Community about your P&C efforts

1. People are more likely to give their time and/or money if there is feedback as to what the money is being used for. One school takes photos of all items purchased with raised funds and publishes in the school newsletter etc.
2. People are also more likely to give their time and/or money if they know what the money is for. Set your budget priorities early and publicise them. Have a "thermometer" chart to show parents how you are progressing towards the target.

IT ISSUES

IT problems Mark Huxley from the directorate will be attending the 28 May 13 P&C council meeting. Council wants to collect IT problems with detailed examples, to be presented to Mark as a folio one week prior to the meeting. Send documented IT issues by 21st of May to P&C council office. Also encouraging schools to report all IT issues in the meantime through normal channels. **ACTION: ALL**

Poor outsourcing contracts allow outsourcers to get away with poor performance, they use tricks to get around performance measures e.g. go back to users with questions.

FEDERAL ELECTION

ACSSO (federal body for P&C council) not meeting till June, want to do some preparation to feed into their activities for the election.

Feeling that Julia Gillard is compromising and watering Gonski down already. Liberals are likely not to support it as strongly, will at least rebadge it.

Policy officer from the P&C council office will collate info from political parties re their stance on education issues that will be disseminated to all P&Cs and the parents.

A forum was suggested but most people felt that it probably wouldn't be well supported.

Suggestion for lobbying position - national standards for pre-schooling to be available to every child. At the moment availability depends on where you live. Parents should have access to full time or part time pre-schooling for their children as their situation requires.

CANTEENS

The ACT School Canteen Association has folded. Healthy Kids NSW is willing to take over ACT. Assets of around \$7,000 to be handed over in trust to P&C council or Healthy Kids. P&C council is likely to have to become more involved in the management of canteen issues. Another couple of months before NSW Procurement system will be available. Putting pressure on ACT government to fund canteens in the next budget.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS/COUNTRY

Pros and cons, will be sent out, will vote on it at May meeting.

DISABILITY BOOKLET and P&C ASSOCIATION INSURANCE

Launch was a success. Disability ACT have finally agreed to put the content of the booklet on a website and keep it up to date.

Insurance information evening - very important, changes to our insurance will be explained, need Treasurers to attend. Also Treasurers night, even old treasurers are being encouraged to attend.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL PROBLEMS

The committee that managed to stop the draconian measures will be meeting again now that the swimming carnival season is over. Send any issues that our school has with the new rules to P&C council office.

Ms Cecilia Shlegel

Secretary

ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations

Phone (02) 6241 5759 Fax (02) 6241 8839 Website www.actparents.org.au

Mr Terry L Sanders

Executive Officer