

Healthy Fundraising

Schools have commonly used food and beverage sales as a means to raise needed funds. Fundraising does not have to be all about selling candy, pizzas, hoagies, cookie dough and other food items. New school fundraising strategies that include the sale of healthy foods and non-food items is a public demonstration of the school's commitment to promoting healthy behaviors among students, families and the communities at large, while helping schools meet their financial needs. This practice provides consistent, positive health messages. Below are some fun, creative, healthy, and profitable fundraising ideas.

Non-Food Items To Sell

- Bath accessories
- Balloon bouquets
- Batteries
- Books, calendars
- Brick/stone/tile memorials
- Buttons, pins
- Candles
- Coffee cups, mugs
- Cookbooks
- Crafts
- Coupon books
- Customized merchandise (e.g. calendars, bumper stickers, school cookbook)
- Emergency kits for cars
- First aid kits
- Flowers and bulbs
- Foot warmers
- Football seats
- Garage sale
- Garden seeds
- Giant coloring books
- Gift baskets
- Gift certificates
- Gift wrap, boxes and bags
- Greeting cards
- Hats
- Holiday wreaths
- House decorations
- Holiday ornaments
- Jewelry
- Magazine subscriptions
- Megaphones
- Mistletoe
- Monograms
- Newspaper space, ads

Pet treats/toys/accessories
Plants
Pre-paid phone cards
Raffle donations
Rent a special parking space
Scarves
School art drawings
Spirit/seasonal flags
Stadium pillows
Stationery
Student directories
Stuffed animals
Temporary tattoos
Tupperware
Valentine flowers
Yearbook covers
License plates or holders with school logo
Logo air fresheners
Logo stickers
Scratch off cards
School frisbees
School spirit gear
Souvenir cups
T-shirts/sweatshirts

Healthy Foods

Fresh and exotic fruit, like cases of citrus fruit
Frozen bananas
Fruit and nut baskets
Fruit and yogurt parfaits
Fruit smoothies
Nuts
Popcorn
Trail mix

Fundraising Events

Basketball tournaments
Auction (teacher does something for kids)
Bike-a-thons
Bowling night/bowl-a-thon
Car wash
Carnivals
Dances
Family game nights
Family portraits
Festivals

Fun runs
Gift wrapping
Golf tournament
Jump-rope-a-thons
Magic show
Raffle (movie passes, theme bags)
Raffle (teachers do a silly activity)
Rent-a-teen helper (clean windows, wash dog, mow lawns)
Recycling cans/bottles/paper
Silent Auctions
Singing telegrams
Skate night/skate-a-thon
Talent shows
Tennis/horseshoe competition
Treasure hunt/scavenger hunt
Walk-a-thons
Workshops/classes

Events Supporting Academics

Read-A-Thon
Science Fair
Spelling Bee

The list above was developed by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

Healthy Fundraising: Ideas for Healthy Fundraising Alternatives

<http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/child/reps/fundraising.pdf>

Other Sources of Information about Healthy Fundraising:

Creative Financing and Fun Fundraising for Schools, Sports, and Clubs

California Project LEAN - <http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

Local School Wellness Policy - Guide for Development

Mississippi Department of Education

<http://www.cn.mde.k12.ms.us/schoolwellnesspolicy/MSSchoolWellnessPolicyModel.pdf>

What Schools Can Do - Ideas for Healthy Fundraising Alternatives

Connecticut State Department of Education -

http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/DEPS/Student/NutritionEd/Healthy_Fundraising_Color.PDF

Alternative Fundraising Ideas - Things You Can Do -

<http://www.nojunkfood.org/fundraising/todo.html>

This website provides ideas for activities that can be done to raise funds.

Alternative Fundraising Ideas - Things You Can Sell -

<http://www.nojunkfood.org/fundraising/tosell.html>

This website provides non-food and healthy food fundraising ideas.

Healthy Fundraising

<http://www.healthy-fundraising.org/>

This is a central online resource for promoting healthy fundraising in schools.

Make Sure Your School's Fundraising Efforts Support Healthy Eating!

<https://fns.state.mn.us/StrategicPlan/PDF/ToolKit/FundraiserFlyer.pdf>

This flyer from the Minnesota Department of Children, Families, and Learning provides ideas on fundraising activities to support healthy eating.