

Some fundraising ideas that teachers and parents have shared with us.

THINK CASINO:

Did you know that parent associations may use their Alberta Casino funds to cover school booking fees for a Wordfest event? Talk to your association rep.

SHOPPING MALL

Invite each class to open a “store” (e.g. a toy store, a bookstore, a bakery, a cafe, a clothing store) selling donated items. Then run the stores as a makeshift shopping mall during parent-teacher conferences.

ART SHOW AUCTION

Host a “best of” children’s art show for the enjoyment of doting parents/guardians and other relatives. Each class could work on a creative piece to sell at the art show. Add in lemonade stands and bake sales for more fundraising options.

CARDS FOR THE OCCASION

Ask students to create several season cards (including birthday cards), with their own wishes and art works. Sell them throughout the year.

SAY CHEESE!

Offer family portraits, wacky photo booths and other “dressy” pictures. Your group could coordinate with a local photographer. Class pictures are always in demand!

FAMILY CALENDAR

Create and sell next year’s school calendar created with students’ art and market the product for next year’s holiday and professional development days. You may even find local day camps in which to advertise the calendars.

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT

Charge an entry fee for an evening of board games, with juice, cookies and donated or inexpensive prizes. Tip: select age-appropriate games, and opt for old favourites.

BOOKSELLER EVENT

Invite a local bookseller to sell their books on-site. In return, the book store would share a percentage of the revenue. Or host a used book sale with donations from the community!

WHAT'S FOR DINNER

Broaden your palate with a school cookbook. Collect recipes for lunch boxes and popular desserts from each child at your school. Compile them in a book, and sell to parents and their friends at work.

LET'S DO LUNCH!

Organize a special, themed lunch once a month at your school for a small donation. Work with a local restaurant or franchise that can sponsor lunches with pizza, sandwiches or another type of treat!

SCHOOL MARATHON

Set a date, send an engaging message, and try to break a record (e.g. number of people covering the distance hoping on 1 foot). Set a theme for a fancy dress run (e.g. running animals), or organize a relay race. Note: you may have to contact local authorities for any required permits.

BOTTLE DRIVE

It is a classic fundraising idea. And if clearly dedicated to finance an educational event, it works.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

(set it up for educational week – May 5-9, 2014)

Ask each family for a potluck dish consistent with their heritage, and serve the offerings at a large community dinner in the school gym. Tip: Allocate salads, main courses and desserts by grade.

LITTLE LIBRARY ON AUCTION

Students could build little free libraries and auction them at school. See littlefreelibrary.org

CROWD FUNDING

Register your fundraiser on crowd-funding platforms such as indiegogo.com and kickstarter.com. Spread the word in your community, and raise funds for your initiative through micro- donations.