

DOZENS OF IDEAS
WE SPELL VOLUNTEER WITH A "U"

Hold an R.I.S.E. (Reading Is Surely Enjoyable) in the Morning program. Parents sit in the hallway and read to a child or groups of children.

Parents remind other parents of meeting times or special events. Those reminders can help motivate parents who are reluctant to participate.

Parents serve as tour guides to parents who are new to the school and the area; they welcome new students to our campus.

Teachers send students to the office and ask someone to call the parents at home or work to celebrate a specific success.

Parents act as classroom monitors when students take standardized tests.

Hold a Grandperson's Day on the Friday before Mother's Day. A "grandperson" in a child's life (not necessarily a *grandparent*) attends a special performance and goes to the student's classroom to work on a project. Then the grandperson accompanies the child to lunch and recess. One year, our fifth graders presented a USO show -- as a culminating activity related to their study of WWII -- for Grandperson's Day.

Hold a Technology Showcase night for parents. Students demonstrate the technology they've learned to use and show off projects they've completed.

Parents help at book fairs, field days, school-picture days, car washes, bake sales, rummage sales, and other school events.

Our school nurse organizes a health screening for all students each year. Parents help at each of the screening stations.

Parents remind other parents of the importance of student attendance.

Parents can help schools acquire needed supplies, equipment, and services, such as landscaping, carpeting, painting, and more.

Teachers send home postcards to share good news with parents.

Three 4 Me/Volunteer Coordination

Data entry (information from these forms), encourage parent involvement, communicate to volunteers, promote program, count volunteer hours,

Picture Day

Need several parent volunteers to assist children to line up for photographers and to "tidy" before pictures.

Coordinate parties at the request of the teacher (limited # of hours per school year); communicate with parents, and to be point of contact for PTA to provide information. Attend monthly PTA meetings if available.

Assist teachers as needed.

Donate party supplies or classroom supplies as requested by teacher or Room Parent.

Red Ribbon Week (National Drug Awareness Program)

Need volunteers to assist with promotion and activities.

Make a Difference Day

Need volunteers to organize and prepare for projects on campus that will “make a difference” for our school. On day of event we will need lots of volunteers, including students, to work on various projects around campus.

Fall Carnival

Need many volunteers to prepare games in advance, to set up on day of event, to work shifts at game booths, and to help clean up.

Holiday Store

Need volunteers to promote, set up, assist children with selection (in shifts), and clean up our Holiday Store that allows students to purchase small gift items for family and friends.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Need volunteers to coordinate staff lunch (organized by different grade level each day).

Fall Fundraiser

Need volunteers to help with receiving and counting funds on campus, and for organization and distribution of products when orders arrive.

Attendance at all PTA board and general meetings, Volunteer teas, etc.

Parent supervision of student's homework.

Driving students to extracurricular activities and chaperoning them.

Chaperoning any school-sponsored activities, field trips, competitions.

Parents providing time anywhere on campus working in the office or library, helping in the classroom, tutoring, helping with talent shows, working concession stands, taking tickets.

Involvement in any on-school, or school-sponsored, activity in which parents participate, attend, or supervise.

At lower elem. level, participation in Reading or Math nights at school.

Helping by serving as playground or lunchroom monitors (unpaid).

Help by telephoning, working on phone trees, planning sessions at home.

Helping by E-mailing from home, planning activities, etc.

Setting up and maintaining websites.

Baking, making decorations or favors at home.

Student volunteer hours after school, in the classroom, helping a teacher.

Parent volunteer hours tutoring others.

Sponsoring newsletter printing.

Helping with being a dance chaperon.

Helping with hospitality at the school.

Serving as a grant writer to better you PTA or school.

Helping by folding, labeling and preparing newsletter for mailing.

Put up bulletin boards sponsored by PTA or teachers.

Collect box top labels or others collections the school is participating in and count and bundle.

Coordinate volunteers for fun nights at restaurants' that give you a share of the proceeds.

Try a Turkey Bingo around thanksgiving. Have stores donate and play bingo for the turkeys.

Collect empty printer cartridges and cell phone for proceeds for your PTA.