



Philadelphia Home and School Council

18 Ways To Encourage Parents To Become Volunteers

1. Use a low-key approach. In your face tactics are turn-offs.
2. Talk to the parents that complain (a lot). Let them write the check and cash it with their services.
3. Try to keep track of newly enrolled students and introduce yourself and your team.
4. Work to get parents and teachers together in the same room. Parents love feeling connected!
5. Take advantage of Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other social media apps.
6. Let your friends know about the parent volunteer work you do. Then encourage them to help.
7. Give a Special Parent Volunteer perk each month.
8. Ask for feedback after every event. Parent Involvement and Parent Voice is mandatory in our work!
9. Find out which parent volunteers may need childcare and then try to provide the services.
10. Ask parents what they want to do and where do they see their talents can be used.
11. Give shy or low-key parents behind-the-scenes jobs.
12. Ask all parents to volunteer for at least 20 hours in a school year. The time will add up tremendously!
13. Connect with neighborhood advocates. They may want to help.
14. Get local companies to offer incentives to event helpers. (i.e. Dunkin Donuts, IHOP, Shoprite, etc.)
15. Woo incoming kindergarten parents. Encourage them to run for office positions. **They are a hot commodity!**
16. Do something unexpected at meetings. (A cook-off, a book author signing, spaghetti dinner)
17. Always show sincere appreciation to everyone including your student volunteers.
18. If possible, offer to give parents a ride so they can volunteer.