
VIRGINIA PTA

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

VIRGINIA PTA 2019-2020



Unique Themes for Your PTA

A unique theme can take your PTA membership drive to a whole new level. Here are 5 really inventive ideas we have found to make your next membership drive a success. Happy growing!

- **Cross Country Race:** Find a “sister” PTA. Have a competition between the two groups to see which one can reach the other’s school first. Each membership gives the group a specific number of miles. Students can also get involved – let them map out the progress and learn a bit of geography along the way.
- **Gumball Contest:** Each classroom gets a “gumball” machine (actually made out of construction paper and mounted to the classroom door). Now the race is on to see which classroom can fill up the machine first. A classroom gets one gumball for every membership. Teachers, moms, dads, grandparents, businesses all count!
- **Principal Challenge:** The PTA sets the membership goal. If it is met, then the Principal promises to do something crazy like: be duct taped to a wall, dye their hair hot pink, kiss a pig, jump into a tub of Jell-O, dress as a super hero, let the kids have extra recess, sit in a dunking booth, etc. You and your Principal can use their imagination!
- **PTA is GREAT!** When a new member joins, ask him or her to complete the sentence, “PTA is great because ...” Mount the responses in the main hallway at a level where the kids can see them. Finding their own parents’ responses is fun!
- Using the child’s nursery rhyme, “**Itsy Bitsy Spider**”, create graphics and post in a prominent place in the school. The goal is to help the spider climb up the waterspout through memberships. You could even assign a certain colored spider to each classroom to set classroom-specific goals.

Unique Fundraiser Ideas for Your PTA

Do you moan every time you hear the word “fundraiser”? Do you still have all of the wrapping paper you bought at last year’s fundraiser? You are not alone! The same-old-same-old routine can sometimes be the death of a fundraiser. But breaking out of the ordinary can spark a new fire in your fundraising efforts and even add some fun. Check out these unique ideas for your next fundraiser:

- **Cook Off.** You can organize a cook off for chili, soup, brownies – just about anything. Your chefs could be: teachers in a classroom vs classroom, police department vs fire department, girls vs boys. Families purchase tickets to the event and get to vote for their favorites. Add a couple raffle baskets and you have a winner! This is also a good way to introduce Power Plates!

- **Trivia Night.** You challenge your school community to organize into teams of 2-4 people. Each team pays an entrance fee for the completion. You could also have a special category for kids based on their grade level. Seeking donations from local businesses would be helpful here, but you could also charge an entrance fee for spectators.
- **Birthday Yard Sign Service.** For a fee, your group would put cute, tacky but appropriate signs in someone's yard to recognize their birthday. You would also leave a sign advertising your group and some contact information to hire out this service.
- **Pamper Mom Night.** This is a mini spa retreat for the ladies. Arrange for several different services to be available, from manicures and pedicures to facials and massages. How about High Tea? Vendors could either donate their services or offer a discount to your group. Attendees purchase a ticket for the services. You might want to add some raffle baskets themed around women's interests.
- **Adult Dance.** Survey the age group of your families and then offer a dance night. Hire a DJ to play music from the 70's, 80's or 90's; depending on the age group of the group. Fun things to add would be food, drinks and of course raffle baskets. Each attendee buys a ticket to attend.
- **Purse Bash.** This one takes some organizing, but your group would either purchase or seek donations of high-end purses and perhaps some other high-end items like makeup, jewelry, etc. Attendees purchase tickets for the event where you also have some food, drinks and music. Every ½ hour you draw a ticket and award a purse to one of the attendees. You could also add some other things like 50/50 raffle, etc.
- **Adult Scavenger Hunt.** Teams of 2-4 people enter the contest for a fee. Each team is given clues to a place in your community. The clues should be difficult. The teams have to solve the clue, then race to the place and take their picture there. The first team to correctly go to all the places in the shortest amount of time wins.
- **Family Game Night.** This one could involve the whole family. You select at least 10 different games. Families purchase tickets to play. A family remains in the competition every time they win a game. Each family continues to play until there is only one family left. You can modify this for the age groups of the kids as well as allowing one or two game losses to still be eligible to continue. Prizes could be dinner and movie tickets, tickets to a local museum, sporting event, concert, etc.
- **Duct Tape Your Principal to the Wall.** Almost no upfront costs here...just your duct tape. You can charge \$1.00 or more for a yard of duct tape. The kids love taping the principal to the wall!

We hope these ideas will inspire you to have a unique and fun fundraiser – and of course raise money for your school community!