

2002 Illinois Directors of Student Activities Convention
“BEST OF THE BEST”
Survey Results

THE DATING GAME; Year round; Shirlene Holden; Kankakee High School; (815) 933-0740

Students get 50 nominations to be on the dating game. The top 3 from each grade are chosen. These names are placed on ballots. 25 cents a vote choose 3 names from the 5 for each grade. These 3 names are placed on a ballot. The game is 6th period on a Friday. Tickets are sold for a \$1. The girls that are chosen for the date are a cheerleader from each grade. The dates are chaperoned – all at one time – and paid for with the fundraising money. These dates are video taped & shown the following Friday on the screen in the auditorium. Tickets are 50 cents. Complete with interviews & special snippets.

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR KIDS; Winter; Mariba Smith; Bloom High School; (708) 755-1122; msmith@bloomdistrict.206.org
At Christmas time we have a party for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd grades from the feeder schools. We decorate the auditorium, the band plays songs, show favorite Christmas movies, bring out Santa & his elves and give candy bags to the children. The Chicago Tribune gives bags of toys to the kids.

TROJAN GAMES/HOMECOMING OLYMPICS; Fall; M. Merilos; Downers Grove North; (630) 795-8408;
mmerulos@csd99.k12.il.us
Olympic games. Last year approx. 600 students involved.

RED SURGE; Fall & Winter; Ruth Brady & Tara Pombert; Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School; (815) 937-3707;
rlbrady@bbchs.k12.il.us & tkpombert@bbchs.k12.il.us
BBCHS has 1,700 students. Some of our Student Council officers felt that there was an untapped resource in student support for our sports programs. They created a pep club called Red Surge. Students pay \$5.00 and are given a t-shirt (which is their ticket to all home sports events), a variety of cheering tools (cheer sticks, pom poms, clickers, tattoos). Over 200 students joined this first year. It is amazing to see an all red section in the stands where students of all ages can cheer on the school's teams. The coaches have said that the players are aware of the support and the Red Surge feels a part of the team. We hope by next year to increase membership to over 300 and eventually as others see the excitement and pride of these students, others will want to join.

TASTE OF BAKER'S SQUARE; Spring; Linda Body; Bloom High School; lbody@bloomdistrict206.org
Staff appreciation: Order 125 pies (less or more) from Baker's Square. Every variety in multiples. Label and set up in conference room from 8:00 am – 2:15 pm. Staff members can come in at their leisure to taste as many of the pies as they would like to. We provide large plates, napkins and forks. The staff loves it! (cafeteria, teachers, maintenance, security everyone!!)

RETIRE A TEACHER; Fall; Jeff Scull; East Aurora High School; (630) 553-6120; sculls5@aol.com

This is a fundraiser where you collect money each day for a week in order to “retire a teacher” and have a party with pizza & pop instead of class. The winning class is announced at an assembly (homecoming, etc.). The “retired teacher” is wheeled out of the gym in a wheelchair and presented with a cane. We raised \$800 at this fundraiser.

HOMECOMING FLOATS; Fall; Rich Davis; East Aurora High School; (630) 299-8139; radavis007@aol.com

Homecoming Floats: 30” x 72” platform on coasters (wheels) can be stored on stage & is low cost.

BLUE & WHITE DAY; Year round; Larry Schroeder; James B. Conant High School; (847) 755-3600; lschroeder@d211.org

Every Friday we encourage students and staff to dress in school colors. During first hour our activity director along with our Cougar mascot and two Student Council helpers visit classrooms to find a class in which everyone is dressed in school colors.

POWDER-PUFF FOOTBALL; Fall; Dave Brady; Argo; (708) 728-8309; dbrady@argo217.k12.il.us

A lot of schools have Powder-Puff. We have the teachers vs. seniors. 63 senior girls and 20 teachers participated this past year. The game is held the Friday night before homecoming. The game is played under flag rules and on 1/2 of our varsity field. 12 senior boys and 6 male cheerleaders also performed and we had 700 spectators.

MR. SCN; Spring; Natalie Nelson; St. Charles North High School; (630) 443-5700; n22001@aol.com

Mr. SCN is an activity where 10 junior males vie in competition for the title of Mr. SCN. The competitions are formal wear, North Star wear, beachwear, casual wear, & talent. A fun night to be had by all!

PEP BLIMP; Winter; Dan Tully; Notre Dame High School; (847) 779-8646; dtully@ndhsdons.org

Purchase a remote control blimp-most available in school colors. You can decorate sides minimally with school logo, name, etc. Bring out your blimp at halftime, time outs, etc. Students love it. You can find a sponsor. Price is \$75 – \$1,000. Recommend something in the middle.

POWDER PUFF; Fall; Michelle Erickson; Minooka Community High School; (815) 467-2140; merickson@mchs.net

We have a powder puff game that is complete with 100 players & 30 “girl” cheerleaders. The best part of the show is that we raised over \$1,400 and over 1,000 canned goods to give to a local charity.

CHRISTOPHER CHRISTMAS; Winter; Brianna Latko; St. Ignatius; (312) 421-5900; brianna.latko@ignatius.org

Service project, students adopt a student with a handicap and buy gifts for that child for Christmas. Student Council & other kids go to Christopher School for a party & deliver gifts.

“FREE” CAR WASH; Fall & Spring; Tina Woolard; Grayslake Community High School; (847) 548-6328; twoolard@d127.org
Have a Car-Wash-A-Thon where students raise \$ by donations before the car wash and advertise a “Free” car wash and then also take donations on that day. We made over \$2,000 on the car wash. (50 students in my group)

SENIOR CITIZEN PRE-SHOW COFFEE; Fall & Spring; Nancy Olson; Hinsdale South; (630) 887-1730; nolsen@hinsdale.org
NHS students host senior citizens pre-show coffees, usually done for the Fall Play and the Spring Musical. Sr. Citizens then attend the evening’s production free.

GOLF CAST PARADE; Fall; Teri Faught; Fremd High School; (847) 755-2816; tfaught@d211.org
Part of the pre-game show for the homecoming game. Each participating club gets a golf cart (about \$30.00) and decorates it to match the theme of homecoming. During the pregame, the announcer announces each golf cart as they drive (parade) around the track. Lots of fun!!

TURKEY TEACHER; Fall; Marcia LaPorte; Proviso East (708) 344-7000
Teachers Volunteer, kids put money in jar by name. Winner wears turkey costume before Thanksgiving. Proceeds to Student Council.

KISS A SENIOR GOODBYE ; Spring; Therese McLaughlin; Proviso East; (708) 202-1758; tmmproviso@yahoo.com
Wrap about 6 Hershey’s Kisses in cellophane with a tag. \$1.00. Have students buy them to be delivered to graduating seniors.

8TH GRADE VISIT; Spring; Terry Burns; Geneva High School; (630) 463-3814; tburns@geneva.k12.il.us
We have the 8th graders visit the high school as a field trip to experience an actual day at GHS. They are assigned to an upperclassman mentor to take them on a tour, answer questions, do small group activities and eat lunch in the cafeteria.

MIX IT UP DAY; Year round; Lesa Friedrich; Highland Park High School; (847) 926-9266
Mix It Up Day is held during lunch periods. After students pay for their lunch, they are asked to draw a number. This # signifies the table they should sit at to eat. Participation is voluntary. Teachers are encouraged to eat in the student cafeteria that day to help “Mix It Up”. Purpose: To encourage students to meet new people and break social barriers. Sponsored by Social Studies / Foreign Language Departments and our Cultural Connections Club.

PRINCIPAL’S DAY; Fall; Karla Modelski; Conant High School; (847) 755-3716; kmodelski@d211.org
Oct. 25th is “National Principal’s Day”. To honor our principal, we put the candy bar “Fast Break” into all of the teachers’ mailboxes on that day with a note attached that said, “Make a FAST BREAK to office 101 to wish Principal Schlender a Happy Principal’s Day”. We also decorated his office and made a cookie in the shape of him & a cougar (for our mascot).

PING-PONG TOURNAMENT; Winter; Kara Schrader; Buffalo Grove High School; (847) 718-4133; kschrade@dist214.k12.il.us
Ping-pong tournament during lunch hours in cafeteria. Students sign up one week before (\$2 for singles, \$3 for doubles). Tournament lasts a week w/ winner for each lunch period/staff, semi finals & finals. Winner of singles can win up to \$50 & each winner of doubles can win up to \$50.

STUDENT APPRECIATION BREAKFAST; Fall; Lisa Biel; Glenbard North; (630) 681-3190; lisa_biel@glenbard.org
4 times a year we hold a doughnut / juice breakfast for all of our students. They love it.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS; Fall; Mike Laneve; Evergreen Park High School; (708) 424-7400
Student Announcements every other day.

H.O.P.E.; Fall & Year round; Kristin Kulzer; St. Charles North High School; (630) 443-5700; kkulzer@d303.org
During Red Ribbon Week, H.O.P.E. students covered a red wall in our school's main lobby and teachers/students were encouraged to sign the wall & pledge to be drug free.

RAIN DANCE GYM ASSEMBLY; Fall & Year round; Ken Ferry; Lemont High School; (630) 257-5838
Using sound effects create the sound of a rain storm.

SPIRIT SQUAD SHIRTS; Year round; Lyn Scolaro; Prospect High School; (847) 718-5400; lscolaro@dist214.k12.il.us
We created a Spirit Squad shirt that listed every sport and club/organization at Prospect. We use these as giveaways to promote the entire co-curricular program. We give them to staff and students. We use them at games, performances, freshman & new staff orientation, on Big Blue Friday and more...

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM; Spring; Donna Engel; Minooka Community High School; (815) 467-2140; dengel@mchs.net
NHS sponsors a dance in Spring with a DJ, appetizers, etc. We have the student Jazz Band play, chorus sings – also we crown a King & Queen.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS; Winter; Dan McCarthy; West Chicago High School; (630) 876-6343; dmccarthy@d94.org
10 Fun Fun events (7-9:30 pm). 1 insured event (2003 Buick Century). Entertainment (Jesse White Jumblers). Similar to what they do on the college level.

INTRAMURAL FLAG FOOTBALL FOR GIRLS; Fall; Aimie Lomigro; Lincoln-Way East High School; (815) 464-4369; alongro@lwhs.will.k12.il.us
1st year high school – all levels of girls welcome. Championship game under the lights in the football stadium.

HOPE; Year round; Katie Heffermam; St. Charles North; (630) 587-7152; kspalasso@d303.org

We place Red Ribbons on every students locker kicking off Red Ribbon week. We asked that each student wear the ribbon to promote a healthy drug-free lifestyle.

JUBILEE WEEK (SPIRIT EVENTS); Spring; Daphne Vickers; Proviso East; daphnevickers@hotmail.com

Similar to Homecoming Olympics, I participated in a school w/ Jubilee week, which consisted of team building events like musical chairs (w/ water buckets as the last 2 chairs), 3-legged race, tug-of-war & egg toss. Also, had softball & volleyball tournament, team cheers & flags.

MOVIE NIGHT; Fall; Sara Hoying; Geneva High School; (630) 463-3800; shoying@geneva.k12.il.us

We rent a huge screen & projector \$4.00 gets you 2 movies, popcorn, and pop. Bring in chairs – anything to lay on.

PIE IN FACE; Year round; Jacki Hare; East Aurora High School; (630) 299-2473; jhare@d131.org

Admin./Teachers are asked who will participate & get a pie in the face. Administrator/Teachers are voted on by a change vote at lunch before the event, (Homecoming Assembly, Pep Assembly). Admin./Teacher is “pied” in front of student body.

PARKING RAFFLE; Year round; Janet Jesse; Stevenson; (847) 634-4000; jjesse@district125.k12.il.us

When holding an all school / community activity which requires faculty / staff to park off campus and “shuttle” in, we hold a parking raffle. Tickets are on the shuttle bus – prizes are from area restaurants & stores or school items. It helps create a positive out of a very unpopular necessity at our school – occasional busing.

APPRECIATION BASKETS; Year round; Debbie Durham; Stevenson High School; (847) 566-8227;

debbiedurham@district125.k12.il.us

For every activity at our school that goes to State or completes some big project, Student Council delivers a basket filled with goodies to honor them.

TURKEY TEACHERS; Fall; Gina Hanna & Denise Kantola; Alan B. Shepard High School; (708) 371-1111 ext. 174 & 404;

ginamiahanna@yahoo.com & dkantola219@yahoo.com

Get about 10 teachers to volunteer to participate. During the week before Thanksgiving sell feathers made out of construction paper for 25 cents. Students who purchase write his / her name on back and then put it in the envelope of the teacher he or she would like to see dressed as a turkey for an entire day. Bodies of turkeys are on display on the office window. At the end of each day the feathers sold are added on so students can see who is winning. At the end of the week, teachers who won (we did 3-5) are announced. The winning teachers select (pluck) a feather off his or her turkey. The student on the back wins a prize. The money raised goes to our food drive.

MASCOT; Year round; Jack Koslek; E.P.C.H.S.; 424-7402; jkosiek@yahoo.com
Our Mustang mascot attends all sport and activity events.

STRAIGHT TALK FOR TEENS; Year round; Pat Buchenot; Lake Park High School; (630) 295-5312; pbuchenot@lphs.org
Experts on teen topics meet monthly with students to discuss issues of importance to teens. Also, straight talk for parents at night for parents.

CAREER RESOURCE FAIR; Spring; Brandon Lenore; North Lawndale College Prep; (773) 542-1490 blenore@nlcphs.org
One day fair where businesses send reps to talk about the steps, fields, advise and motivate student in career choices.

FACULTY DINNER; Fall; Jackie Sullivan & Terry TerHaar; V J Andrew High School; (708) 342-5800; jsullivan@d230.org
Student Council puts on a dinner for the faculty during Parent Conferences. Our students serve the faculty. We decorate the area formally and have the grand piano with dinner music.

BOOK CLUB MURAL; Year round; Gayl Smith; Waubonsie Valley High School; (630) 375-3263; gayl_smith@ipisd.org
I let my book club members put a design mural on a wall in the library during the summer. It was a teambuilding activity and gave members a sense of ownership.

PENNY WAR; Fall; Donna Engel; Minooka Community High School; (815) 467-2140; dengle@mchs.net
Every homeroom is given a container to collect pennies in for 6 weeks. Everybody can donate silver to opposing homerooms as an act of war to delete their pennies. The homeroom with the most collected pennies wins. In 6 weeks \$1,283.74 was collected for charity.

ALMOST ANYTHING GOES; Fall; Andrea Monahan; Fremd High School; (847) 755-2735
Class competition with various teambuilding activities: Frosh. Vs. Sophs. Vs. Jrs. Vs. Srs. Vs. Faculty. Activities such as: Lifesaver Pass; Pie Eating Contest, Wheelbarrel Race. Promotes school spirit & class competition.

CLASS SPONSOR; Fall; Jill Vicino; Hinsdale South High School; (630) 887-1730 ext. 275; jvicino@hinsdale.org
Each class 2003, 2004, etc. decorates a set of cafeteria windows with tempura paints. The windows depict the Homecoming theme and who are opponents is. The classes compete against each other. Prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

DECORATE THE WALLS; Fall; Courtney Yonke; Addison Trail High School; (630) 628-2608; cyonke@dupage88.net
During Homecoming, each club, activity, sport is invited to sign up to decorate a hallway. When they are designated a hallway, each club competes against each other to have the best hallway that shows school spirit. The winner gets a pizza party from Student

Council. This happens on the night before the Homecoming Football game, from 3:00 – 7:00 pm. The hallways look FANTASTIC and because they look so great, students (usually!) keep everything up during the school day.

MISSION POSSIBLE; Fall; Beth Sullivan; Lemont High School; (630) 257-5838

Mission Possible is a student program emphasizing respect and honor throughout the building. All students and staff take a pledge emphasizing the components of the program.

MORNING BARBEQUE; Year round; Cindy Koss; St. Laurence High School (708) 458-6900; ckoss@stlaurence.com

We have Homecoming Week, & 2 spirit weeks to honor all sports at our school. Our best day is Roll Out of Bed day where students wear p.j.s to school. Along with this day is the student's barbeque where we get 2 large grills fired up at 6:00 am and students are invited to bring their "breakfast" which consists of "grilling" food ... hot dogs, burgers, steaks, shrimp on skewers, etc. Winter Barbeque is the most memorable. Students "cook" their own food (start grilling at 6:30 am – done by 8:15 am). Student Council supplies; 60 pounds of charcoal, 2 grills, plates, napkins, milk, juice and donut holes, and cooking utensils. Students bring food (lots to share) and lawn chairs.

HOMECOMING COURT SELECTION/HOMECOMING PARADE; Fall; Erin Fastener; St. Charles North; (630) 587-7153; efasbender@d303.org

Clubs and sports can nominate a "couple" onto Homecoming Court if they 1. decorate a golf cart for the parade and 2. paint a "spirit window" within the school. These couples then become Homecoming Court. They are voted on by the entire school and narrowed down to 5 couples Homecoming Royalty. Then seniors vote on top male and top female – who become King & Queen. This allows more clubs and teams to be recognized and gets more "floats" (golf carts) in the parade. Suggested company: Harris Chicagoland Golf Cart Company

ALL-4-ONE PROGRAM; Year round; Dennis McFarlane; Hillcrest High School; (708) 799-7000; dmcfarlane@bhsd228.com

All-4-One program, teachers give students tickets for doing good deeds, end of the month there is a drawing to give away t-shirts, CD's, CD player, etc.

LUAU MADNESS; Faculty vs. Student Basketball Challenge and Dance; Spring; Erin Fasbender; St. Charles North High School; (630) 587-7153; efasbender@d303.org

Students vote on a co-ed faculty team, consisting of 6 males and 6 females, to challenge the varsity girls and guys combined team in a 40-minute regulated basketball game. One student and one faculty officiate the game and both the students and the faculty have a cheering section. Halftime show includes a "faculty dance team" performance. After the game, all students go to a luau-themed dance. The uniforms and decorations during the game reflect this theme as well. All proceeds go to charity, the students vote on which charity beforehand.

SPIRIT WEEK; IHM High School; (708) 562-3115
Spirit Week t-shirts, games, wheel of wisdom, assembly.

NHS; Year round; Scott Woods; St. Charles North; (630) 587-7152; swoods@d303.org
On 9/11 we put cards & pins on each locker in the school. This was done the night before. It set a good tone for the day. Can be used for any special days.

KISS-A-PIG; Fall; Amy Garcia; Rich South High School; amygarcia2@hotmail.com
Faculty members volunteer to kiss a pig. Student, etc. donate \$ to jars during spirit week. Faculty member with the most \$ kisses a pig during an assembly. Faculty picks a charity, \$ goes to charity & student council matches it. Make sure you play Prince's "Kiss".

BREAKFAST WITH THE PRINCIPAL; Year round; Tom Farlow & Rob Paradise; Thornton Fractional North High School; (708) 349-0372
7:45 am meeting of students with the principal to exchange ideas, 1 a month. Stop rumors or just answer questions.

SPIRIT LINKS; Deborah Murphy; Mother Guerin High School; (708) 453-6233; dmurphy@mtguerin.org
Students receive spirit links from teacher / admin. / staff for doing good stuff that shows the Guerin spirit. Homerooms collect spirit links & during spirit week all the links are joined to create a chain. The class with the most "spirit" gets a pizza party.

"RAM MAN" CONTEST; Winter; Tom Witting; Reavis High School; (708) 599-7200 ext. 283; tomspecpro@hotmail.com
Senior male "Beauty pageant", judged by faculty (10 members), talent, swimsuit, formal wear & question.

LIONS ON PARADE, SCHOOL SPIRIT & SILENT AUCTION; Year round; Kris Costopoulos; Lyons Township High School; (708) 579-7444