

2003 Illinois Directors of Student Activities Convention
"BEST OF THE BEST"
Survey Results

BAND NIGHT; Kris Costopoulos; Lyons Township H.S.; (708) 579-7444

Have a band night with student bands, one from each grade level. Charge \$5.00 per person (even parents who come to see their child play). Have the bands pass out flyers to friends, write band information in car chalk on windows or have students wear sandwich boards to advertise.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM; Spring; Megan McDonald-student; Minooka Community H.S.; (815) 467-2140

Our National Honor Society hosts a Senior Citizen Prom in our school. Senior Citizens have the opportunity to enjoy a nice meal while listening to entertainment by our high school choir, band and madrigals. Prizes are donated by various places and drawings done.

MR./MISS INDIAN; Michelle Erickson; Minooka Community H.S.; (815) 467-2140

A Junior and Senior event that involves a group dance (all participants) to open, swim wear, formal wear, a "fish bowl" question (may or may not be relevant to the Homecoming theme), and a talent portion (may or may not be serious). Prizes are awarded at the end.

CHRISTMAS IDEAS; Therese McLaughlin; Proviso East H.S.; (708) 202-1758; tmmproviso@yahoo.com

During the Christmas season raise money for food baskets by selling personalized ornaments for an eight foot paper tree on a wall.

BASKETBALL FAN "ROWDIES"; Fall and Winter; Kenneth Gerk; Aurora East H.S.; (630) 299-2433; kgerd@d131.edu

For all home boys' and girls' basketball games, as well as TWO away games, a student body of "Rowdies" sit and cheer together. They have all the same t-shirts and must sign a membership form that states their expectations. Membership includes the t-shirt, two away game tickets and bus fare. This student council sponsored group is made of all different classes and costs \$15 altogether. Next year we hope to expand the "Rowdies" to a "Red Sea" for other sport programs.

BATTLE OF THE TEACHERS; Winter; Risa Caudle; Proviso East H.S.; (708) 259-8630; risacup@hotmail.com

"Battle of the Teachers" during African-American History month, a trivia question is asked over the announcements. The first 10-20 teachers with the correct answer wins.

HAWK FEST; Fall; Kristin Gac; Bartlett H.S.; (630) 372-4700

‘HawkFest’ – Carnival which begins homecoming week. Held on a Monday night in our parking lot. Games: dunk tank, human bowling, jail time, break dance contest, Jacob’s Ladder, boxing, jousting, etc. A dj plays throughout the event and the court is introduced in a spotlight. Fireworks end the event. It’s a great way to get the kids pumped.

NEWLYWED GAME AND 30 SECONDS OF FAME; Year round; Tina Woolard; Grayslake Community H.S.; (847) 223-8621 ext. 1022; twoolard@127.org

We played the NewlyWed game with student couples as well as faculty couples. We did 3 panels of 5 couples each and between couples we did 30 second talent show and voted on a winner at the end.

TRICK OR TREAT FOR CANNED GOODS; Fall; Melissa Hill; Earlville H.S.; (815) 246-8361

Student Council dresses up and “Trick or Treats” for canned goods. Seventeen members collected over 1000 items in 1 hour. We only have about 500 homes in our town. It was GREAT!

LUNCH WITH THE PRINCIPAL; Year round; Ruth Brady and Tara Pombert; Bradley-Bourbonnais Community H.S.; (815) 937-3707; rlbrady@bbchs.k12.il.us

Once a month, the Student Council Advisors select 6 to 8 student who have been highly involved in the activities at BBCHS for that month to have “Lunch with the Principal”. Students selected range from freshmen to seniors. Student Council provides a box lunch. The principal meets for an hour lunch with the students in the boardroom. The students share ideas, concerns and needs they have as students. This activity gives the students who may not have contact with the principal to meet him and also gives the principal an opportunity to meet with a broader number of students and find out what their needs are firsthand. After this activity, students have come back to us and say how neat it was to talk with the principal. Now they see him in the hallways and he says “Hello” and calls them by name. That makes them feel special.

GOOGY GOLF; Winter; Cindy Koss; St. Laurence H.S.; (708) 430-5253; koss@stlaurence.com

We turn our entire school into an indoor golf course. Each club, athletic team or class is assigned a location or room in the school and they create a golf hole. We started with NINE holes and grew to EIGHTEEN. This is family fun on a Saturday evening. (golf clubs and golf balls are borrowed from a local miniature golf course)

POSTCARD POWER; Year round; Pat Buchenot; Lake Park H.S.; (630) 295-5312; pbuchenot@lphs.org

Use postcards to communicate with students, parents and alumni; cheaper than a letter and graphically more interesting and exciting. You save money and communicate your message.

VETERAN'S DAY/WEEK LUNCHEON; Fall; Jackie and Terry TerHaar; V.J. Andrew H.S.; (708) 342-5800; jsullivan@d230.org or tterhaar@d230.org

Student Council showcases the contributions of veterans during the second week in November. Each day of that week is dedicated to one of the branches of service. Passing out flag pencils to the entire student body, announcements, signs, trivia quiz, an essay contest, music played in the hallways during passing periods and veterans leading the student body in reciting the pledge are some of the activities that occur. The last day of the week they host a luncheon inviting veterans to "share their stories" with the students. At this luncheon, the students honor and thank the veterans for their contributions.

FRESHMAN WELCOME POSTCARDS; Summer and Year round; Lyn Scolaro; Prospect H.S.; (847) 718-5400; lscolaro@dist214.k12.il.us

Student Council, along with our counseling department, send postcards to our freshman in August. They then meet, greet and orientate the freshmen to Prospect. They also send a follow up note at the end of the first quarter and at least one more time in the second semester. They share e-mail addresses and serve as mentors to the freshmen.

R.A.V.E.; Fall; Chris Erickson; Minooka Community H.S.; (815) 467-2140; erickson@mchs.net
(Responsible Alternative Various Entertainment) We provide open gyms, cards, games, food, etc. at no cost to students on a Friday or Saturday when no other activities are scheduled. This is to discourage poor choices by students.

DRAMA FALL PLAY/SPRING MUSICAL; Fall and Spring; Linda Body; Bloom H.S.; (708) 755-1122; lbody@bloomdistrict206.org

We bus our feeder schools to a matinee featuring the play in the fall and the musical in the spring.

SPIRIT CLUB; Year round; Erin Fasbender; St. Charles North H.S.; (630) 587-7153; efasbender@d303.org

Students designed our school mascot with symbolism and a background story. We then held an assembly introducing the mascot and background story for the entire school. Community members and press were invited. The mascot now has tryouts, bodyguards and a training program with the cheerleaders. He travels to some away competitions and almost all home competitions for a variety of sports. He has different costumes, depending on the occasion and even goes to plays and concerts. He's also available for community activities or businesses that give the school support. (We ordered the outfit from Scollom Productions in South Carolina.) He's awesome!

FRESHMEN FEST; Fall; Melissa Phillips; Warren Township H.S.; (847) 599-4699; mphilips@wths.net

This is geared only to Freshmen. The evening begins with an activities fair where activities/organizations/sports set-up informational tables. An organization packet was also assembled listing all extra-curricular activities, purpose, contact person and meeting time. Food is served as well as beverages. Once the fair is finished, students are led to the gym for a dance. Upperclassmen love to help and freshmen are able to learn more about getting involved in a comfortable setting.

“PROVISO APOLLO”; Year round; Daphne Vickers; Proviso East H.S.; (708) 449-3599; daphnevickers@hotmail.com

We charged admission to a talent show in the spirit of “Showtime at the Apollo” as a fundraiser this year. Winners of the following categories were each awarded cash prizes: 1- Rap, 2- Dance, 3- Singing, and 4- Special Talent. The kids had a great time and we actually made a profit.

VIP TENT; Winter and Year round; Michelle Lucas-Dickins; Proviso East H.S.; (708) 449-9540; abundantfaith22@yahoo.com

Designate an area for students to migrate to purchase exclusive items for additional money. Provide food, games, special food i.e. nachos. Reserve a balcony section at basketball games, set-up a tent at football and other outside games.

DECK THE HALLS HOLIDAY; Winter; Belinda Traywick; Proviso West H.S.; (708) 202-6323

Provide live or artificial wreath for every student activity club, student organization, sports clubs or individual teacher class. Have each group decorate the wreath representing the club or class. Must be handmade, creatively put together and not religious. Wreaths are used to decorate the building. First, second and third prizes given. Students take pride in their wreaths. 20-inch wreaths are provided by Activity Director’s Office. Students have also bought their own wreaths. Some of the BEST - Basketball wreath with team pictures. SADD used anti smoking, anti drugs, anti drinking signs with black ribbons and music notes made of chevaliers.

THE HERD!; Year round; Michael Laneve; Evergreen Park Community H.S.; (708) 424-7400 ext. 224; mlaneve@evergreenpark.org

Before a big game we call out “The Herd”. For a small fee we provide pizza, face painting and t-shirts, and sit together at games and cheer. Last year this was a big success story.

DONUTS FOR DOZENS; Spring; Scott Woods; St. Charles North H.S.; (630) 443-3370; swoods@d303.org

Donuts for dozens is a donut eating contest in which participating students get per donut pledges. The money raised is then used by HS students to take area children shopping for clothing and toys.

PAY IT FORWARD; Spring; Courtney Yonke; Addison Trail H.S.; (630) 628-2608; cyonke@dupage88.net

Eighth grade student from the junior highs come to Addison Trail for a full day of activities that our high school students lead. They are at our school from 7 am to 10:30 pm on Saturday in March. Activities include a motivational speaker, leadership activities and learning about life at Addison Trail. For more info please contact me.

LEAF RAKING/HALLOWEEN TREATS; Fall; Melissa Safina; Bloom H.S.; (708) 755-1122 ext. 2251; msafina@bloomdistrict206.org

Our NHS students volunteer to rake leaves for seniors and disabled adults in the community on a Saturday afternoon in the fall. We also carved pumpkins and made Halloween goody bags for children at the local community center.

B.O.S.S. AND BISON BACKERS; Year round; Jeff Siegal; Buffalo Grove H.S.; (847) 718-4255; jsiegal@dist214.k12.il.us
Airband Mixer. It is the Friday night of homecoming week. We had over 800 students attend the mixer in our field house. We had nine groups of seniors perform acts to music where they would lip sync. We had four guy groups and five girl groups. This was a great way to provide an activity for students during homecoming week. It also provides an opportunity for students not to drink.

PICTURES WITH SANTA; Winter/X-Mas; Marcia LaPorte; Proviso East H.S.; (708) 449-3598; laportemarcia@hotmail.com
The week before Christmas Break choose a day, rent a Santa suit, chose a Santa and host “Pictures with Santa” in our cafeteria. You can use a Polaroid camera or get a local 1-hour place and deliver them the next day at lunch. Purchasing the card with the photo opening is a nice way to complete the presentation. Charge (over cost) what you feel is a good selling price. (Example - \$2.00 each)
The kids enjoy it and it’s fun to have Santa at school. You may also rent Elf costumes for “Santa’s” helpers.

“MR. BENGAL”; Year round; Lori Shemoski; Oak Forest H.S.; (708) 687-0500 ext. 2617; lshemoski@bhsd228.com
Mr. Bengal – 10 senior guys involved in a talent show featuring casual wear, talent, swimwear, formal dress, and a final question. Judges by a panel of teachers and prizes awarded. Admission - \$5.00 per person.

STEPPER SET; Winter; Krystal Bush; Proviso East H.S. (708) 202-1764
Parents and students are invited to learn how to “step” and then participate in a dance contest.

CAR BASH; Fall; Victor Vant and Mary Pacelli; St. Charles East H.S.; (630) 584-1100
Great for guys. Junkyard donates a car with the glass removed. Students take 5 swings for \$1.00. You can raise upwards of \$500.00 in ONE hour.

CHEERLEADING CLINIC FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS; Winter; Niaya Howard-Taylor; Bloom H.S.; (708) 755-1122; nhowardtaylor@bloomdistrict206.org
Send letters out to all elementary feeder schools. The cheerleading team from Bloom H.S. host for a day clinic filled with teaching students arm drills, jump drills, cheers, chants and dance. We also go over basic tumbling.

PASTA FOR PENNIES; Winter; Diane Hanik; Lake Park H.S.; (630) 295-5262

Pasta for Pennies – collect pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, dollars and checks to benefit Illinois Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Prize is an Olive Garden Lunch – select 1 class hour (5th period) for collection.

HOMECOMING SPIRIT SHIRTS; Fall; Sandy Golas; Warren Township H.S.; (847) 599-4360; sgolas@wths.net

Sell homecoming t-shirts with artwork relating to the theme on four different color shirts, one per class. Students pre-order the shirts at registration and pick them up homecoming week. They all wear them on Friday of homecoming week and later that night to the pep rally. Faculty had their own color shirts to wear with the same artwork.

“BEST WEST” CAR DEMOLITION; Fall; Jeff Scull/Jackie Walter; Aurora East H.S.; (630) 553-6120

This fundraiser involves getting a donated old car (without the glass) and charging students \$1.00 for 10 hits with a sledge hammer. The student’s spray paint the car with their opponent’s name and colors. Fence off an area to prevent injuries caused by flying debris. Have students wear safety goggles. The car is then towed away to a junkyard at the end of the activity.

T-SHIRT MAKING NIGHT; Year round; Kris Costopoulos; Lyons Township H.S.; (708) 579-7444

To promote big events have a t-shirt decorating party. Sell solid T’s for a set price but provide students with materials to decorate their shirts. Set the date and have kids use your café to decorate. Have them wear them to school to promote your activity. We did this to promote “Relay for Life”. (\$1,000)

SPRING CLEAN UP; Spring; Kelly Dostal; Woodstock H.S.; (815) 338-4370; kdostal@d200.mchenry.k12.il.us

Each spring our baseball team avails their yard work expertise to the community. For a minimum donation of \$30, a group of 5 will rake your yard, put down fertilizer, etc. They solicit customers in the school newsletter and generally have more hosed than they can service. For a one-day (Saturday) event, the group typically raises over \$1000, at 100% profit.

BEARS BAR-B-QUE; Fall and Spring; Kim Kolze; Lake Zurich H.S.; (847) 540-4041; kim.kolze@lz95.org

Welcome back – all school picnic. We rent gas grills for the faculty to cook and wait on students. Serve hot dogs, burgers, chips and a drink for a minimal cost. Tables and chairs are set up outside. A local (students) band plays during lunches or we have other music.

T-SHIRT RECOGNITION; Year round; Madeline Gabry; Andrew H.S.; (708) 342-5871; mgabry@230.org

T-shirts were designed using the building theme for the year. These t-shirts were used throughout the year for student and teacher recognition. Almost 100 shirts were distributed.

JAILHOUSE MOCK; Winter: Rob Paradise; T.F. North H.S.; (708) 585-1106; rparadise@tfd215.org

This is a take off of the American Cancer Society Jail. Students can purchase a warrant to arrest another student, \$2.00 for 1 period. They are housed in a mock jail. The students that are arrested have to pay \$1.00 to get out of class. All money raised goes to a local charity, \$800 to \$1000.

FEET; Fall and Year round; Karen Kelly; Scales Mound H.S.; kjk@scalesmound.net

Students identify teachers by the teacher's feet. Teachers stand behind a curtain with only their lower legs and feet showing. A student representative identifies the teachers. The class with the most correct wins a prize.

FRESHMAN CLASS BOARD; Karen Allaire; Buffalo Grove H.S.; (847) 718-4044

During homecoming week - theme days: "At the Movies": - video clips shown the first minute of each class – "Our Day": Western Day – dress as cowboy/cowgirl apparel with watermelon seed spitting contest.

HALLOWEEN MIXER

Students dress in costume with categories for prizes.

ORNAMENTS FOR CHARITY; Winter: Mary Renzino; Oak Forest H.S.; (708) 687-0500; mrenzno@bhsd228.com

FCCLA members make and decorate paper ornaments and then students and staff make a donation of \$0.50 or more. Each ornament goes on the school's Christmas tree. A drawing is held for those who paid for one and then the winner receives a pizza. Money goes to charity.

WINTERT CONCERT ASSEMBLY; Winter: Shannon Mulder; St. Charles North H.S.; (630) 443-3370; smulder@d202.org

The Friday before winter break, the theatre department put on skits, different choirs sang, the drill team dances and the bands play holiday music. The performances flow into one another in different areas of the auditorium so the audience is constantly moving their attention. The concert was performed in two different sessions due to size of the school population.

SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICE PROJECT; Winter; Katie Heffernan/Kristin DeTella; St. Charles North H.S.; (630) 587-7152;

kspallasso@d303.org/kditella@d030.org

During our December club meeting, our H.O.P.E. club decorated holiday ornaments and designed holiday cards for a local senior citizen home. After the meeting our planning team delivered each ornament and card to a senior citizen.

SENIOR STARS; Year round; Amy Macechko; St. Charles North H.S.

Our NHS members hold an ice cream social before performing arts events for the elderly members of our community. Then, they have free admission to the performance.

SPIRIT TAG; Year round; Pam Moshure; Lake Park H.S.; (630) 295-5261; pmoshure@lphs.org

Each Friday morning, 10 random lockers are “tagged” with a spirit poster. The poster directs the student to report to the Main Lobby before first period. Student Council has set-up a spirit table in the Main Lobby for spirit check. If the students are wearing Lake Park colors or Lake Park Team wear, they win. The prize is a coupon for a cookie at lunch: value \$0.50 each. If a student is not wearing LP attire, then he/she is allowed to return next Friday to show school spirit and win.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA; Winter; Donna Letzter; West Aurora H.S.; (630) 844-4657; dletzter@sd129.org

Run by our work programs (BPA, DECA, FCCLA, HERO) and our Ambassador organization, this activity provides children in our community an opportunity to have a breakfast with Santa and his elves (creatively dressed Ambassadors) provided by our Blackhawk Café (student run). The morning begins at 8:00 am and ends at 11:30 am and includes games, face painting, Santa and a gift for every child. The morning ends in our theatre where the kids and parents see our winter play (this year- It’s a Wonderful Life). All in all, a fun filled day. Ticket cost: Breakfast with Santa \$5.00 / play \$5.00. Special group rates are available.

SENIOR FAREWELL DANCE; Spring; Shirlene Holden; Kankakee H.S.; (815) 933-0740; shirleneholden@k111.il.us

The junior class is planning to host a “Senior Farewell Dance” the Saturday after senior finals. There will be no cost to the seniors and will be from 7 pm to 11 pm. The decorations will be graduation themed and will be held in the cafeteria. Yearbook photographers will be given an opportunity to charge \$2 to \$3 for group or individual photographs on an instant camera. The night of the dance, a senior spotlight banner will be hung in the cafeteria. Seniors will be given maroon (boys) and baby blue (girls) notecards to write comments or reflections about their time at K.H.S. Appropriate comments will be hung on the banner in the cafeteria until the end of the year.