

Teachers R the T in PTA

Here are some great ideas from PTA units to encourage teachers to join PTA.

We hold a Back-to-School luncheon for our teachers and staff. At the buffet, we cleverly tuck our PTA membership form inside each napkin along with the flatware. An alternative is to place the napkin and flatware inside of a membership envelope.

Another idea for a Back-to-School luncheon is to provide a “menu” of PTA programs that support students.

Our unit provides field trip funds for the classrooms. One of the considerations for awarding funds is whether or not the teacher is a PTA member. We will accept applications from non-member teachers but the application indicates that field trip applications from PTA teachers will be given priority.

The very first year I was unit president for our high school, we had a contest among the various departments of the school (both academic and non-academic). The first group to achieve 100% membership received a gift card donated from one of the local office supply companies or other businesses. (This would work well as a competition among the different grade levels as well.)

Hold an “opportunity drawing” for teachers who join PTA. Winners can receive gift cards donated from local businesses for school supplies, monthly use of a prime parking space, a classroom volunteer for a week, etc.

Give a flower or small appreciation gift along with a handwritten invitation to join PTA on each teacher’s desk on the first day of school. Don’t forget all other staff members!

Our PTA hosts a special luncheon for the teachers when 100% of them join our PTA.

Three high school PTAs in our district embarked on a friendly competition. We challenged our staff at each high school to compete for the highest number of staff members. The school having the most staff members join PTA was treated to a luncheon by the other two PTAs.

Submit an article to the newsletter of your local teachers association about PTA and the positive effect of school-parent collaboration on student success.

Ask the principal to send a friendly memo to all teachers about the benefits of your PTA to the school, students, and teachers asking them to please show their support by joining PTA.



Teachers are an integral piece of the collaborative partnership between home and school. PTA understands that effective home-school communication, including face-to-face meetings, teachers sharing tips on helping students at home, parents sharing information of their child’s strengths and weaknesses, and regular telephone or e-mail communication on student progress, improves student performance.