

FUNDRAISING FOR FIDO: Teaching Students to Give, Care and Share

At the Ozaukee Humane Society, students are some of our biggest supporters. There are many ways that schools, classroom groups, clubs, scout troops and community groups can help animals and raise much-needed funds for the new Ozaukee Humane Society Victoria Wellens Center in Saukville. Please consider getting your students involved by planning one of the following events that put the *fun* in *fundraising*!

Elementary & Middle School

Penny Wars or “Cash for Critters”

These fun challenges can be held by an individual class, whole school or competition between classes or grade levels. Students bring in extra pennies to add to their class total, or silver coins (nickels, dimes and quarters) to subtract from another team’s total. Set target goals and provide incentives or a special prize to the class with the highest total. Incorporate it into a math lesson by having students count the change and chart progress each week.

Dress-Up (or Dress-Down) Days

Who doesn’t love to wear their pajamas? Have students and staff bring a monetary donation for the privilege to wear their pajamas (or jeans) to school. Host an all-school “slumber party” in the gym for students to come in and read their favorite book during lunch period. Ask staff members to dress-up as their favorite storybook character and walk around greeting and reading with the kids!

Reading for Rover

Hold this pledge drive to encourage student literacy while raising funds for a good cause. Students collect pledges for every page, chapter or book they read. Have students create dog- or animal-themed book marks to give to people who pledge as a thank-you. Invite a local therapy dog team to visit your school one afternoon to read with the students!



Middle & High School

Tune-Out or Unplugged

This unique pledge drive challenges students to put away the cell phones, stop the texting, and turn off video games, computer and television (for any purpose *other* than a school-related one). Students and teachers collect pledges for the number of days they can stay “tuned out” from electronics. Use the opportunity to encourage students to “plug in” to other activities like reading, writing or researching an animal welfare topic or organization of their choice.



All Grades or Clubs

Bake Sales

This classic favorite is always a huge hit with students, faculty and parents. For a twist, organize a Dog Bone Bake Sale. Ask a local bakery to donate the dough and have students roll-out, bake and package biscuits at school to sell during lunch period and after school. Turn it into a marketing lesson by having students create posters and flyers to hang around school, or design an advertisement for the school paper about the sale and the organization it's benefitting.

Dog (or Car) Washes

These are fun to hold on weekday afternoons or weekends. Purchase or ask a local pet supply store to donate the shampoo and other supplies. Set up at school or a local park (make sure they have a water supply for you to fill up your buckets). Hang up posters around school, at local pet supply stores and animal shelters, and get your suds on! Make or purchase colored paw print ribbons to tie on every dog's collar that gets washed to show support for the cause!



Book Sales

Ask students, staff and parents to donate gently used books, CDs and DVDs for an all-school book or media sale. Ask to set-up in your school library or a local library's meeting room. Many libraries have community rooms they let groups use at no charge.



Waggin' Tails Dog Walk

Organize a dog walk for students, teachers and community members to bring their own dogs and hit the dusty trail! Check with your local city hall or park office to see what paths or hiking trails are appropriate to use. Don't forget to have 'dog stops' along the way or at the start and finish with water bowls, treats and refreshments for two- and four-legged friends.

Remember to...

Make It Fun

Keep students energized by setting goals and providing incentives for every goal reached along the way. Reward kids for a job well done with activities like ice cream socials, pizza parties, or having teachers dress-up, color their hair or wear funny clothes. Offer a "grand prize" incentive like Principal-for-A-Day to the student who raises the most.

Make it Meaningful

We know the last thing teachers need is to squeeze another project into their already busy classroom schedule. So why not make the fundraiser part of your curriculum? Many facets of planning, organizing and implementing the event can be incorporated into a lesson. Setting goals, writing letters, designing advertisements, researching organizations and even money managing can easily be turned into an English, social studies, business or math lesson.

Getting students involved from start-to-finish encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making and communication skills and reinforces core values of responsibility, caring and citizenship.

Rewards

It's important for students to connect with the Ozaukee Humane Society and learn about our history, mission and needs to see the positive changes their involvement can make. For this reason, the Ozaukee Humane Society Humane Education Department is offering groups the following incentives:

- Groups raising \$500 or more will receive a visit from a Humane Educator and an adoptable animal to connect your students to the shelter's history, involve them in how the funds will be used, and help your students to take pride in knowing how their efforts directly helped the animals.
- Groups raising \$1,000 or more will receive a visit from a Humane Educator and permanent recognition at the new Ozaukee Humane Society Victoria Wellens Center.

Get Started!

Contact the Ozaukee Humane Society Humane Education Department at 262-546-5712 to tell us about your idea or brainstorm new ideas that will work for your group. With your help, anything is possible!

