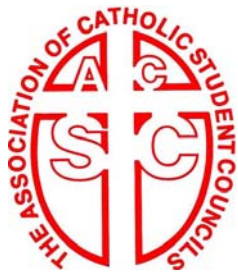


Learning to Lead

TACSC's Monthly Menagerie of Ideas



Growing Leaders Since 1982

December 2004

A monthly collection of LEADERSHIP activities...



THANK YOU for visiting TACSC's MONTHLY MENAGERIE OF IDEAS. Every month you will find more ways to boost leadership, morale and involvement at your school!

If you would like to submit an article for www.tacsc.org or for TACSC's Leadership Times, please email us at tacsc@tacsc.org. We want to hear what is happening at YOUR school!

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Learning to Lead: TACSC's Monthly Menagerie of Ideas

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The Association of Catholic Student Councils

WE GROW LEADERS™

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Officer In-Service- Treasurer

In November, we discussed what makes a Terrific Treasurer. The topics we covered included the qualities of a successful Treasurer, what a budget plan and record book are, how to meet with your administration, how to open a bank account, and how to pay for council bills. This month, we will cover committees, verbal reports, and the steps to fundraising.



One of the most important jobs of a Treasurer is to help raise funds for the Student Council. Here is some important information to help you on your way. Every month at www.tacsc.org we publish fundraising ideas that you can use at your school. Be sure to visit us every month for more projects. In January, we send your school lots more ideas to raise funds so you can attend our Summer Leadership Conference. Check with your Moderator to get your copy.

Verbal Report

The **verbal report** is prepared with the moderator at the annual meeting before each student council meeting. The report consists of current finances and plans for the future. You may also want to include some information on your **committee**. The **verbal report** will be presented and read to the student council by YOU, so make sure to develop good public speaking and communication skills. After the meeting, it is a good idea to print copies of your report and send one to the school bookkeeper, the principal, the moderator, and student council secretary.

Committees

Part of holding the position of treasurer is planning and running fundraisers. It can be a difficult job to do on your own, so it's a good idea to form a **committee**. Make sure to pick a group of students in your school or in your student council (depending on the rules for forming a committee in your school) that you can rely upon. Your committee can help you with any of the tasks you have, but they mainly help you with fundraising. Sometimes another officer may join in your **committee** for certain fundraisers. For example, if your student council is running a spirited fundraiser like Penny Wars, the commissioner of school spirit may be a member of your committee for a period of time.

Importance of Fundraising

Your student council plans many activities for the entire year, and many could not happen without the funds of the student council! The only way to get those funds is through fundraising.

Planning a Fundraiser: 9 steps to plan a good fund raising activity

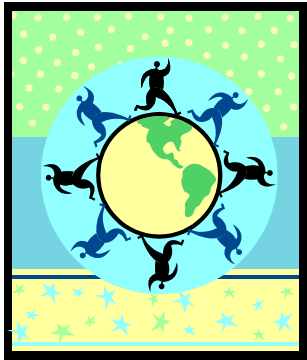
1. **Set your goal**- how much money do you want to raise?
2. **Gather ideas And Decide On One**- narrow your fundraising ideas down to about 5 ideas and decide as a whole student council which idea sounds the best and will make the most money.
3. **Success Is In The Details**- what is your budget? Who is coming? Where is it? When is it?
4. **Approval**- when all of your details are solved and your fundraiser is chosen, get approval from the principal.
5. **Organize and Publicize**- Review the details and make a to-do list and shopping list for any supplies that will be needed for the activity and make any posters or PA announcements for publicizing purposes.
6. **Have The Event**- make sure everyone is doing their job properly and is getting their work done.
7. **Evaluate**- go over pro's and con's of the fundraiser and decide whether or not you would consider doing this again. Did you reach your goal?
8. **Thank-You Notes**- write thanks you notes to any adults or parents that were involved in this fund raiser (it always makes a good impression).
9. **File Everything**- file everything that you did and went through to complete this fundraiser. Having a copy of your evaluation form isn't a bad idea to have either.

Recognition Project - **All Stars in School**



Everyone needs a little lift during the holidays. It's easy to feel lost and lonely during the hustle and bustle of all the activity. One way to make everyone feel special is to make paper stars and pass them out to each student and members of the faculty and staff to wear during December. Remind everyone to wear them on the last day of school before the break - all the stars will look great at the closing mass or assembly.

You can play "I am the Starlight" from Starlight Express, "The Greatest Star of All" from Sunset Blvd., "All Star" from Smashmouth, or "Lucky Star" by Madonna. During the kiss of peace, everyone can say to each other "You are a star!" What a great ending to the holidays!



Holiday Activity - **Celebrating the Holidays Around the World**

There are so many different cultures with so many different holiday traditions. It's important to learn about other countries and their customs, especially since our country is still a "melting pot." There are probably many different countries represented in your school or community. What better way to make everyone feel welcome than to learn about their histories - and yours, too!

Give a different country to each grade. If you have more than one class for each grade, you can give them different countries, too. That way everyone can learn even more about our world. Most countries celebrate the holidays, so this is a good time to educate everyone and have fun, too.

Each class should research their country, their customs, the food, the decorations and the costumes. Each class can create a play that demonstrates each country celebrating the holidays. After everyone has performed, there can be a buffet with ALL the foods displayed. All the students can try each food and vote on what they liked the best. This is a great way for the whole school to socialize and share some holiday cheer.

Service Project - **Decorate the Senior Center...and Celebrate!**

A great way to bring cheer and Christmas to your community is to visit the local Senior Center and help them celebrate the holidays! Bring cookies, candy canes, cocoa, and cider to share. Bring a few small trees, ornaments, stockings, poinsettias, and tinsel to make the center more festive.

Call ahead and find out how many people are in residence at the center. Make small stockings for each person with their name on the front, a holiday pin, or small ornament included. That way everyone will get a gift. Bring lots of carols for singing! You can also bring Christmas Charades, Trivia, or other holiday games.



Prayer Service -

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception is December 8th. Organize an assembly with the whole school. Have everyone bring a flower to place at the foot of a statue of Mary. As "Hail Holy Queen" or another song plays, have each student deliver their flower. After everyone returns to their seat say the following prayer.



Leader: **We place our simple and familiar prayer before you, Mary.**

Reader: **Hail Mary,**

Response: **Mary we greet you.**

Reader: **Full of grace,**

Response: **You are pure and good.**

Reader: **The Lord is with you.**

Response: **You know god's great love for you.**

Reader: **Blessed are you among women.**

Response: **Your holiness is there for all to see.**

Reader: **And blessed is the fruit of your womb.**

Response: **You carried Jesus into the world.**

Reader: **Jesus,**

Response: **You will be forever, holy, Mary.**

Reader: **Holy Mary,**

Response: **Mother of our savior**

Reader: **Mother of God,**

Response: **Hold us in your heart of love**

Reader: **Pray for us sinners,**

Response: **Always.**

Reader: **Now and at the hour of our death.**

All: **Amen.**

If Every Day Was Like Christmas

- by Red West

I hear the bells
Saying Christmas is near
They ring out to tell the world
That this is the season of cheer

I hear a choir
Singing sweetly somewhere
And a glow fills my heart
I'm at peace with the world
As the sound of their singing fills the air



Oh why can't every day be like Christmas
Why can't that feeling go on endlessly
For if everyday could be just like Christmas
What a wonderful world this would be

I hear a child
Telling Santa what to bring
And the smile upon his tiny face
Is worth more to me than anything

Thank you for visiting

Learning to Lead - TACSC's Monthly Menagerie of Ideas at www.tacsc.org.

See you next month!