Unique School Events Page

Julie Larrivee Madera South High Activities Director julielarrivee@maderausd.org

## 18 UNIQUE EVENTS YOU COULD DO AT YOUR SCHOOL TOMORROW

- 1. Smart Cookie- students who high grades (3.0+) deliver a cookie to their class
- 2. Bubble Day- free bubbles, bubble machine and bubble wrap
- 3. Happy Birthday DAY for all staff members- big cake, hats and sign
- 4. Donut Hole Day- donut holes given out, hanging donuts with string contest. Pictures of Homer Simpson
- 5. Ugly Holiday Sweater Day- snow cones, hot coco, snowman making contest- DO YOU WANNA BUILD A SNOWMAN?
- 6. Graffiti Art Contest- Use Plywood, supply spray paint, gloves, masks and raffle the art afterwards.
- 7. Teacher picks 2 students to honor- cater breakfast or luncheon
- 8. Victory Lap-kids with mascot with candy go to a class to recognize or whoever is wearing school colors
- 9. Be Kindness Week- labels with compliments (Because of you..., You brighten up my Day, You are Unique, etc..)
- 10. Photo Scavenger Hunt or Scavenger Hunt @ lunch- bring actual people back- wearing a jersey, plays an instrument
- 11. Fish Pong- red cups, ping pong balls, fish and make it a big challenge or even a bracket at lunch
- 12. Gold Fish Tank- blindfold student on a tarp –s how bag of fishes- if they make it over the tarp- they get a fish. Put mandarin oranges on the tarp.
- 13. Ice Cream Social with new students- put butcher paper as the table clothes and write would you rather or conversation topics. Use popsicles since its cheaper and less messy
- 14. Battle of the Couples or Best Friends Show- quiz each couple with a white board and ask funny questions.
- 15. Digits and Desserts- invite freshmen girls to get nails painted by a senior girl, make ice cream sundaes and have a box that they can write their number to receive a call from that senior or have seniors give their # out.
- 16. Get a print out of all student's name and cut and paste and create a poster with their name on it. You can do43 posters for each grade and students will actually look for their name.
- 18. Crown a Leadership King and Queen. Step forward if you helped decorate, set-up, worked at the dance, dressed up, cleaned up and have about 10-15 items. The top girl and boy will receive a crown and the title.

## <u>Unique School Events Ice Breakers Page 2</u>

- 1. Who is telling the truth- have students write something unique about them or if they won a million dollars. Call that person up and 2 other students and have them sit in chairs in front of the class. Say what the fun fact is and then say that is true for 1 of these people, they will have to convince the audience its them and the audience can ask them only 1 question, than they will vote who is telling the truth?
- Script with scenes- 2 people pick a scene from the list and a create a simple script- Person A and Person B. Person A: Hello Person B: Hi, Person A: I know what is going on Person B: I don't think you know, etc... They will choose the action of the scene and then act out the scene saying the script, kids must guess what the scene is. (proposal, cop pulling someone over, 2 people at a concert.
- 3. Use Colored wooden sticks, or anything that has different colors. Have them group according to the same color and share things such as something they love, hate, goals. Then switch so they have someone in their group with a different color.
- 4. Toilet paper roll game- you will need 8 rolls of toilet paper for this game. Ask kids to bring a roll. Each person at a table will take as many sheets as they want. The trick is after everyone has grabbed some sheets, they must say the # of sheets they picked-things about them. Ex: I grabbed 5 sheets of TP- so I have to say 5 things about me.
- 5. Taboo (the board game) @ tables- card game in my bottom desk drawer. Pass around a small stack of cards to each table. They must describe the word at the top without saying the 5 key words below it.
- 6. Have kids partner up and give them a blank sheet of white paper. Have each person draw a head shot of their partner. After a few minutes have them share the drawing with their partner. Have anyone show off their drawing. Use it as a lesson about how you are your worst critique and how you see flaws that people don't even see. We as leaders must help people see their true image not just what they see in the mirror.
- 7. Color personality- look online to find a variety of surveys. After results have kids group into their colors to see who has the same color as them. Talk about how in leadership- each color personality is crucial and give reasons why.
- 8. Music Share play a song, when it stops find a partner and share their response to these questions
  - a. What did you have for breakfast, how many pets do you have?
  - b. Favorite music artists or group, \$1,000 gift card to what store
  - c. Favorite fast food chain, any super power
  - d. Dream vacation, favorite movie
  - e. Celebrity crush, favorite TV show
- 9. Give everyone a playing card, have it face down and on your call have them place it outward on their forehead <u>Playing card game</u>
  - Ace= suck up to, beg and ask please
  - King=bow down to them, worship them
  - Queen=flirt with them, talk about their appearance
  - Jack= laugh at them, point at them.

Joker= ignore them, run away from them MESSAGE: As leaders how can we help the Jacks, Jokers and Aces to find their link. How can we use the Kings and Queens to help build our unity on campus?

10. Surprise Dare On a blank piece of paper, write a dare for the person to your left to have to do inside the gym. Then right before they do it, say the surprise is that they have to do it now.

MESSAGE: You can't expect someone to do something you ask them if you can't do it yourself. Don't be a hipcrocrite. If you have a finger pointing at someone else, you have 3 pointing at yourself.

## Unique School Events Page 3

\*<u>Homecoming Make-over</u>- students or staff can nominate themselves or others. Candidates apply and list reasons why in need of a make-over, why they deserve and how this would change their lives. Leadership reviews and selects 1 student and 1 staff member. Budget is \$100 per make-over. New outfit, new hair- cut and make-overs are revealed at a rally. Before photo in slide show and after is the red carpet reveal with escorts on each side.

\* <u>**Red Ribbon Week</u>** – teachers shared shocking facts and the history behind Red Ribbon Week. Daily statistics and information were read aloud over the broadcast system. A local group called Dance Empowerment performed numerous dance numbers during an assembly while promoting their motto about standing up against peer pressure and making smart choices. During lunch everyday, students were able to sign a pledge to be drug free and receive an item and a copy of their pledge as a reminder of their vow and commitment. On Friday, students took the silent pledge of honoring a victim of drug or alcohol abuse and not speaking until lunch. The participants painted their faces white, eyes black and placed a picture with the biography of a victim who lost their life because of another person decision to be under the influence. At lunch, the students held tombstones around our quad and stood in silence with a red balloon as music played. The students gathered on stage where a message was read about how our choices not only shape our future, but affect others as well. Student's balloons were released as others watched.</u>

\* <u>Spook Fest</u> — a Halloween Carnival during the day where local elementary schools were invited to attend. Clubs & Classes dressed up in fun costumes & hosted fun carnival like games in our gym. Kids were escorted by their teachers or other student helpers & went to each station in a rotation format. There was also a scavenger hunt, face painting, & our school mascots greeted students. Each student was given a decorated bag where at each booth win or lose, they received a candy.

\*<u>Give THANKS Week</u> — dedicate one week to say thanks to many people at your school. Secretaries, counselors, athletic director, librarian, cafeteria workers, maintenance crew and any one else that contributes to your school. Each day give a shout out on the bulletin announcements; we deliver various gifts ranging from sashes, gifts, cookies, aprons and even a golden plunger. When you deliver the gift, attach a letter as well. We also do a teacher breakfast where everyone in leadership brings a breakfast item, play music and set-up in the main office as teachers walk in to get their mail. Give Thanks Grams are free for any student to fill out and the gram has a different check sections where students can check...ex: You are a \_\_rockstar \_\_the cheese to my pizza \_\_wise teacher. We attach a small piece of candy and deliver it to teachers. We make sure that EVERY teacher receives ones & teachers will post them on their walls- sometimes it becomes a bragging session.

\**ICE King and Queen* — every high school has a Homecoming King & Queen, but what about the winter time & what about having royalty amongst the teachers? During our winterfest week in which we have our Winter Sports Rally, students nominate teachers to be ICE King or Queen. The top 3 male & 3 female teachers are then the ICE King & Queen candidates. They may campaign with posters, fliers and at our rally, they will perform a talent (together or individual) & state the reason why they should be ICE K or Q. Students can vote at lunch for their favorite teacher. That night during the ½ time of a basketball game is when we have the former ICE King & Queen crown the new K & Q. They receive a crown or even a bling "ice".

\* <u>Day to Make a Difference</u> – this is our most powerful and influential activity that we do. It is very similar to "Challenge Day" featured on MTV's "If You Really Knew Me". We have teachers nominate a diverse set of students (200-300) to attend and hold them 4<sup>th</sup>, lunch and 6<sup>th</sup> period. Kids walk in to our gym greeted by other kids, receive name tags and listen to a brief explanation of what M.A.D. Affair is (Make a Difference). We form 1 big circle and do various big circle games then break off into small circle games. Then each student has a number on their name tag and that becomes their group number. In their groups, they do various ice breakers and then get more serious games- Yarn Name Game, Human Knot, I Am Form, 2 truths and a lie, Labeling groups, Egg drop and dessert challenge. While groups eat a pizza lunch, we do the egg drop, for every group that their egg survives, wins a bag of candy. Dessert challenge is when groups receive various food and they create a dessert piece of art. After that we do boys versus girls jump rope challenge and then have a motivational speaker come in. Then we do the famous Cross the Line from the movie "Freedom Writers" and have students share their thoughts afterwards. The last activity is we give each student a sticky address label where they write a message to someone they just met. We do follow-up activities every month and after 5 years of doing activities, this is by far what kids talk about.

\*Dodgeball — bored at lunch- host a Dodgeball tournament inside your gym. Any students can form a team of 5 & it costs \$10 to play. Depending on how many teams, you have will determine the prize money. In the past, we've given cash & t-shirts to the Dodgeball Champions, but usually the team would rather just have money. If we have fewer than 12 teams, it could take 2 to 3 lunch periods without doing a consolation bracket. We draw at least 200 kids to come watch it & play music as the team is going on. We use soft dodgeballs & warn the audience that they could get hit. We have a minimum of 2 refs and 4 people to recover fly away balls. We have boundaries & at the start of the game, we ask that the first shot must be at least 10 feet from the starting point. We take our Dodgeball Championship Team to compete with our neighbor school & hold an evening Ultimate Dodgeball Championship Match. Teachers also compete against their teachers and invite cheerleaders & mascots to perform.

\*Assembly for Academic Card Holders – this assembly can be for any type of recognition- 3.0 and above, most improved, students of the month, etc... There are various companies that can offer an assembly for as little as \$500. Ron Saylor Magic and Bureau of Lectures are just a few to name. You could also hold a mini dance or carnival to recognize those students.

\* <u>Powder Puff</u> – many schools already do this, but take it to the next level. We have our game at night so parents and other community members can come. Our football coaches and players organize the practices and activities takes care of everything else. Girls must attend two practices in order to play and t-shirts are optional for them to buy. We ask all players to sell 5 pre-sale tickets and once they return their ticket money they can request their jersey number, if not it can be a brawl to who gets what numbers. If players do not sell all of their tickets, they can return them. All Powder Puff players and coaches are asked to wear their shirts on game day in order to publicize the event. At lunch, we've had both teams do a few plays- just to get the crowd pumped and wanting to see more. Besides the game, we have our boy cheerleaders, mascots, raffle and other fun items. One year, we had B95 come out and we also sold Jamba Juice and In N Out (since we don't have them in Madera). The cheerleaders perform a half-time routine and call out for little kids to join them on certain dances. Each coach will award a MVP with a medal and the winning team earns medals that they wear with pride to the school the next day. Average attendance for our powder puff game is 400 which earns a profit of around \$1,500-\$2,000. The best part is to see girls who are not involved in sports participate in this wild and event. We have ALL girls fill out a liability form in case of injury and have a trainer at the game.

**\*Boys and Girls Pageant** — many schools will have a talent show, lip sync or even and all male pageant, but doing a Mr. and Miss Pageant involves everyone. This year we were lucky and had an even amount of girls and boys. The contestants received a free t-shirt, but were asked to sell 5 tickets. We held 3 practices along with an informational meeting. The pageant began with an opening number of both the boys and girls doing a dance together. This portion was NOT JUDGED and was really entertaining. All contestants received a number ribbon that they wore at all times. We had 4 teacher judges along with a math wizard to do all of the calculating. After the opening dance number, we had formal wear, where each contestant walked the runway, introduced themselves and stated, "Why they should be the next Mr. Stallion or Miss MSHS." Following formal attire was our talent section. Each contestant could only perform a 2 minute talent- we had every talent including colorguard, guitar, monologue, comedy, magician to even someone playing Guitar Hero. After talents, judges narrowed it down to the top 4 boys and top 4 girls- they were then asked 2 questions: 1 serious and 1 funny. As judges were tallying up their scores, we had various other forms of entertainment- choir performed and leadership did various dance numbers. Our top 3 girls and top 3 boys were awarded with Starbuck gift cards, flowers and the winners received crowns, sashes and free tickets to Grad Nite.

\* <u>Sports Madness Week</u> – there are some athletic teams that might receive more recognition than others and draw more of a crowd. This week is created to equally recognize all sports and have teams recognize and have a fun, friendly competition within each other. We have three sports madness weeks a year- Fall, Winter and Spring. For each season, we recognize 2 athletes from each team. We created 2 awards the IRON Award- chosen by the coach as the athlete who is mentally and physically strong. The other award is the C.L.A.S.S. Athlete (C.L.A.S.S. is our school motto) which is voted by teammates as the one athlete that embodies C.L.A.S.S. (Character, Leadership, Academic, Sportsmanship, Service). Each athlete receives a special t-shirt with the award title, certificate and their name and picture at an upcoming pep rally. During the week, we have a day dedicated to 1 or 2 teams. Athletes come out at lunch receive a prize (candy, ice cream) and participate in a game. For example: Tues- Girls Golf vs. Girls Tennis- Water Wars- water balloon sling shot battle game, Wed- Football- car bash with the opposing team's name on it. Liability forms for all students \$1 earns = 3 swings. Thurs- Girls VB vs. XC – Dunk Tank and Inflatable Obstacle Course. F- H20 Polo vs. Gymnastics- Rootbeer Contest and messy obstacle course.

\* <u>Student Teacher Reverse Day</u> – this activity usually happens towards the end of the year and many seniors take the opportunity to make their last days in high school truly memorable. Students will ask a teacher if they can switch places with them during 1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup>. Even freshmen will switch places. Students must meet with the teacher and go over the lesson plan that they will be teaching. The student will fill out the lesson plan sheet and have the teacher sign it and turn it in to the activities director. Teachers have the option to remain in their classroom or go to another class with a "student" teacher. Some teachers even dress the part of a student and carry around backpacks. Students are asked to dress professionally. All teachers and students that participate are invited to a breakfast that morning where they receive nametags. Students will be addressed as Mr. or Miss and teachers have name tags with their first name. Students cannot be in a classroom w/out a teacher & in dealing w/ discipline, student teachers are not allowed to discipline students, it is up to the teacher in room.

\* <u>Freshmen Passport to Success</u> – this event involves your entire freshman class. All freshmen meet in the gym and are split into four different groups. There are four rotations that last around 15 minutes each. One rotation could be A what NOT to wear fashion show and have vice principals or principal speak. One rotation could be with counselors and have leadership students do a serious skit. Another rotation could be current students talking about their high school experience on what they're involved in and even a fun skit like the freshman dating show. Lastly students would go into smaller rotation groups and go to various teacher classrooms where the teacher could present tips on how to survive high school or even what not to do in high school. Every freshman receives an actual passport with a page of their rotation- guides are Link Crew. Pages of school clubs, graduation reqs A-G requirements, goal setting sheet, test taking tips, .

\*<u>Color Fun Run</u> – this race could be a lunchtime activity or even something during the school day or after school. You can have different classes, clubs or even teachers compete in obstacle course race. The end of the race would obviously have that color element. Perhaps make it something for a community service for funds are raised. You could even make it is Saturday event and get the whole community involved. You could run as a relay - team of 7, 5 stations around campus... puzzle, basketball or trivia. Color thrown after team completes task or at the end of the race. Buy color from <u>http://colorblaze5k.com/buycolor/</u>. \$2 - 4 oz, \$124 for a 25 lb box.

\* Spring Fling Carnival – this school carnival can get many clubs and sport teams involved. You can have a food fair, carnival games and even bounce events. Clubs or teams can run a food booth, game, dunk tank or even a marriage booth. ASB can purchase bounce events, slip in slides, bull ride, rockwall and other fun events and have kids pre-buy bracelets from \$3-\$5. Carnival can be at the end of the day or even after school. A fun filled day where kids can get wet and go wild.

\*<u>Homecoming Ideas</u>– do a Homecoming Dress Up Days Parade the Friday before your Homecoming week to help give ideas on what students can wear. Do a dress up day challenge between the classes, have 4 sections at lunch , whoever has the most people will win something (otter pops, etc..) make your main office sparkle with your theme, do events during pre-game- Spirit Walk with clubs, showcase other people-mascots, Grand Marshal, teachers, band director, etc... Use confetti sticks, crepe paper streamers, shiny metallic wrapping paper