

Network Café – Recruit, Retain, Reward

1. What methods do you use to recruit volunteers (parents, community members, corporate, etc.)?

- JK parents at orientation – part of the package
- Grandparents
- Social media
- Back to school letter or form
- Newsletters each month with info about program
- Ask at school council meetings
- Facebook
- Letters to new families, church groups or seniors
- Church bulletin
- Treat last year's volunteers well and they will return
- Placement students (Post-secondary)
- Go to high school students (food program especially)
- Guilt
- Retirees
- Word of mouth/networking (face to face)
- Booth at open house
- Volunteer survey to parents
- Begging
- Announcements
- Email Blast

2. Describe the jobs of student nutrition program volunteers?

- Preparation (cutting)
- Shopping (make shopping lists)
- Unloading vehicle after shopping
- Clean up & dish washing
- Monitor & replenish snack bins
- Servers
- Tracking / reporting
- Menu planning
- Collect & empty bins
- Store food
- Load dishwasher
- Organization
- Budgeting
- Scheduling
- Fundraising
- Sourcing food, funds, volunteers
- Laundry

3. How do you motivate volunteers?

- Stay in for recess on cold/hot days
- Adults can bring kids before bell rings
- Student, volunteer letter
- High school volunteer hours
- Seeing the good they do
- Thank you (gratitude)
- Communicate the impact they make
- Communicate benefits of program
- Respect
- Interaction with younger people
- Honorariums
- Treat them well, appreciate them
- Connecting with them
- Some are self motivated
- Thank you cards
- Encourage social aspect
- Bake cookies
- Providing autonomy to think of new ideas

4. How do you reward volunteers?

- Gift cards/certificates
- Volunteer appreciation breakfast/tea/lunch/gifts (and with school)
- Take adults out for a meal
- Kind words
- Kids make thank you cards
- Achievement Certificates
- Bring tea or coffee
- Christmas and end of year gift
- Pizza party
- BBQ with parent volunteers
- F&F apron
- Recognize in newsletters