



Creating a Positive Culture - Ideas

August

Welcome Back - Send a Welcome Back Letter sharing your enthusiasm for the upcoming year!

September

- Have waiting in their mailbox or room a Payday or \$100,000 candy bar. Attach a short, personal note about a strength they possess and how that helps students.
- Deliver an apple to every teacher's classroom personally. Thank them for making the first week of school great! This could be a paper apple that has words of encouragement as well.

Teachers usually save notes, letters and pictures!

October

- *Pass the Mascot* - Principal starts a tradition by acknowledging and presenting a staff member with the school or district mascot. The mascot represents a social or academic contribution to the school or to his/her student(s). Teacher receiving the mascot must acknowledge a colleague or administrator using the same criteria at the next faculty meeting!
- *Paper Plate Award* - Start a faculty meeting tradition where teachers recognize each other for things they have noticed each other doing. You could pick two teachers to start it off; those two teachers are "tagged" and must find two different teachers to "tag" at the next meeting, etc.

November

Guess Who Contest - Have staff members bring in baby, childhood or graduation pictures. Post them on a bulletin board and allocate a time period for staff to enter their guesses.

December

Door Decorating Contest - Have teachers decorate their doors or the schools decorate their front doors. Have a judging contest (parents, board members, etc).

January *Say No to "Moandays"* - Designate every Monday as "Positive Day." Any person who is caught saying anything negative is assessed a fine. The money collected goes for a future fun activity. So...you can't complain about your team losing, rainy weekends, house cleaning, etc.

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February

Power of One” Award - Award a staff person for making a difference in someone’s life.

March

The “We’re So Lucky to Have You” Award - This typically is given to a non-employee who has rendered support or service to the district. Give them a small pot filled with gold-wrapped candy and explain to them why they received it. Post the information in a school newsletter.

April

Appreciative Sayings with food:

M & M’s – *Marvelous and Motivated*

Cupcakes – *You take the cake!*

Juice box – *Thanks for sharing your creative juices!*

Stick of Gum – *Thanks for sticking it out!*

Plastic wine glass with jelly beans – *A toast to a job well done!*

Red Hot candies – *Our staff is RED HOT!*

May

Attendance Award - Put all staff members who have perfect attendance into a bowl and draw out one name (can do monthly). You cover their class for a specified amount of time. Gets you into a classroom and gives them some time off (or have their class covered by a sub).

June

Employee Car Wash - Have employees set some goals based on the District/School Level goals at the beginning of the year. Have an Administrators’ Car Wash = Administrators wash the cars of employees who have met the established goal.