

Baltimore County Public Schools
Office of Food and Nutrition Services
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Non-Food Celebration and Reward Ideas

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT IDEAS

Parent Ideas—Please check with the classroom teacher in advance to ensure acceptability for the class and to provide advance notice for scheduling purposes.

- Give small favor bags (pencils, stickers, glow sticks, erasers, notepads, etc.).
- Donate a book to the class and schedule a time to read it to them.
- Donate classroom supplies (books, games, musical items).
- Provide supplies and directions for a craft (bonus if parents come to class to help with the craft).
- Donate recess items (balls, hula hoops, etc.) to the class in the student's honor.
- Coordinate a book swap – students bring in a book to “trade” with classmates.
- Create a treasure box with donations of non-food items for students to choose from as a reward.

Class Reward Ideas

- Allow time for music and dancing.
- Hold class outdoors.
- Schedule free time at the end of class.
- Initiate a group activity.
- Provide a homework coupon.
- Bestow a certificate/trophy/ribbon/plaque in recognition of an achievement.
- Allow students to eat lunch in the classroom or outdoors.
- Take a class vote to hold a special dress-up day.
- Have students help develop a list of non-food items that will work best for their classroom.
- Have students earn points through good behavior in the classroom that later result in a weekly reward.
- Reward a lunch time with the teacher at a special decorated teacher's table.
- Reward a lunch time with the principal at a special decorated table.
- Allow students to be teacher's assistant or teach a class.
- Tub and cotton balls: Drop a cotton ball in the class or tub as a reward for good behavior—once the tub is filled, class gets extra a special prize.

Sports-Related Giveaway Ideas

- Paddleballs
- Frisbees
- Water bottles
- Nerf balls

- Hula hoops
- Head and wrist sweat bands
- Jump ropes
- Soccer balls

Toys/Trinkets Ideas

- Finger puppets
- Stuffed animals
- Plastic or rubber figurines
- Puzzle games
- Magnifying glasses
- Playing cards
- Stretchy animals
- Inflatable toys
- Action figures

Fashion Wear Ideas

- Hair accessories (barrettes, headbands, ribbons)
- Bracelets, necklaces
- Sunglasses
- Hats or caps
- T-shirts
- Shoelaces

General Ideas

- Key chains
- Flashlights
- Cups
- Magnets
- Crazy straws

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IDEAS

- Hold or host a music concert after school.
- Solicit movie passes from local theaters or malls.
- Give step counters to measure walking steps.
- Give gift certificates to local non-food merchants (Walmart, gas stations, iTunes cards)
- Waive school club dues.
- Give college gear giveaways.
- Create a photo recognition board to be placed in a prominent location in the school.
- Recognize a class achievement with a schoolwide morning announcement or post on the school Web site.
- Enter a drawing for donated prizes.