

What can Administrators DO?



When **X** = Student Activities,
Performance Follows!

Student activities are the spark that ignites positive, measurable change in student performance in the classroom and on the test. Research indicates a positive correlation between improved academics and participation in student activities. In addition, the studies show that appropriate activities reduce deviant behaviors, lower the drop-out rate, and serve as a springboard to college and career success. Unfortunately, student activities are the missing variable in too many of today's educational reform equations.

You have the power to turn that around!

Do the Math

Make the Time

- **Take one minute;** Go to LetXequalSA.com to join the campaign.
- **Spend three minutes** in the halls connecting with individual students, talking about their interests and opportunities to connect their interests with activities.
- **Take five minutes** a day to personally acknowledge, praise, and thank an adviser, coach, or sponsor for their time and commitment to student activities.
- **Take ten minutes** each week to learn more about the research linking student activity participation with academic performance. Share what you've learned in individual conversations with all stakeholders.
- **Spend some time** each semester tracking the data that links student activity participation in your building with academic performance.
- **Ask for time** on the agenda to share the data at faculty, school board, and community meetings.
- **Say "yes"** to occasional schedule changes and classroom disruptions that support student activities and enhance the overall educational experience. ➔





Promote the Value

- **Help the stakeholders** in your school and community to recognize that student activities are a bargain.
- **Determine what percentage** of your school district's overall budget is devoted to supporting student activities. Share that information with all the stakeholders. Compare that with the national average of 1-3%.
- **Remind school board members, parents, and administrators** that student activities develop core social and emotional skills in ways the traditional curriculum does not.
- **Be a catalyst** for developing financial partnerships with local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Share the data** on college acceptance rates, career readiness, and civic-engagement benefits when asking for financial assistance and support from local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Collect, compile, and share data** about the real dollar value of community service hours contributed and funds raised by students to support local charities and causes.
- **Emphasize the long-term costs** of short-term cuts to student activities funding by pointing out the lost benefits and opportunities.

Become a Champion

- **Be an advocate** for the formation of, and participation in, a wider variety of clubs and organizations.
- **Encourage parents** to help their kids develop strong mentoring relationships with their teachers, advisers, and coaches through participation.
- **Show parents** the benefits of involvement in at least one activity, several hours each week.
- **Create an InterClub Council** made up of representatives from each student organization, athletic team, and club. Volunteer to be the adviser.
- **Challenge student leaders** to create more diverse and inclusive student recognition experiences.
- **Challenge faculty members** to help more students to find their spark, identify their champions, and connect with opportunities.
- **Show up at games, plays, dances, and other events** so students know you support their efforts.
- **Reward "above and beyond" service and involvement** from individual faculty members with "above and beyond" recognition and support.



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What can Teachers DO?



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Do the Math

Make the Time

- **Take one minute;** Go to LetXequalSA.com to join the campaign.
- **Take a few minutes** at the beginning or end of class to remind students about opportunities to get involved.
- **Spend three minutes** in the halls connecting with individual students, surveying their interests, and connecting them with opportunities to get involved.
- **Take five minutes a day** to personally acknowledge, praise, and thank a colleague, coach, or sponsor for their time and commitment to student activities.
- **Take ten minutes each week** to learn more about the research linking student activity participation with academic performance. Share what you've learned in individual conversations with students, parents and colleagues.
- **Agree to sponsor** a club or organization.
- **Invite a student** to help with a specific project that could use his or her talents.
- **Show up at games, plays, dances, and other events** so kids know you support their efforts.
- **Recruit students at large for specific projects** to give them a taste of involvement. ➔





Promote the Value

- **Share the data** about the positive effects that student activities have on college acceptance rates, career readiness, and civic-engagement with your students and their parents.
- **Help the stakeholders** in your school and community to recognize that student activities are a bargain.
- **Determine what percentage** of your school district's overall budget is devoted to supporting student activities. Compare that with the national average of 1-3%. Share that information with all the stakeholders in your school and community.
- **Remind school board members, parents, and administrators** that student activities develop core social and emotional skills in ways the traditional curriculum does not.
- **Be a catalyst** for developing financial partnerships with local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Emphasize the many benefits of involvement** in student activities when asking for financial assistance and support from local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Collect, compile, and share data** about the real dollar value of community service hours contributed and funds raised by students to support local charities and causes.
- **Emphasize the long-term consequences** of short-term finding cuts to student activities by pointing out the missed benefits and lost opportunities.

Become a Champion

- **Be an advocate** for the formation of and participation in a wider variety of clubs and organizations.
- **Encourage parents** to help their kids develop strong mentoring relationships with their teachers, advisers, and coaches.
- **Show students and their parents** the specific benefits of participation in at least one activity, several hours each week.
- **Show up at games, plays, dances, and other events** so students know you support their efforts.
- **Challenge student leaders** to create more diverse and inclusive student recognition experiences.
- **Challenge faculty members** to help more students to find their spark, identify their champions, and connect with opportunities.



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What can Advisers DO?



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 **Do the Math**

 **Make the Time**

- **Go to LetXequalSA.com** to join the campaign.
- **Actively work to get more kids involved** in an activity that interests them.
- **Invite a student to help** with a specific project that could use his or her talents.
- **Show up at games, plays, dances, and other events** so kids know you support their efforts.
- **Sponsor** a club or organization.
- **Promote activities at your school** by making sure students in your classes know about them.
- **Recruit students at large for specific projects** to give them a taste of involvement.





Promote the value

- **Show how your program supports** the principal's goals.
- **Tie in with curriculum standards** in as many areas as possible; connect to the curriculum for real-world practice of academic concepts.
- **Tap into parental talents and networks.**
- **Write newspaper articles and send media releases** highlighting your program.
- **Partner with adult service organizations** such as Kiwanis or Optimists whose goals include supporting the youth of the community.
- **Connect with the local chamber of commerce** and let them know you'd value their involvement in your program.
- **Encourage students to find business sponsors** for the activities they plan.
- **Create an activities advisory board** with members of business and industry from your community.

Become a champion

- **Promote participation** in student activities to the students you see regularly. Use your influence to get them involved.
- **Share the research** on activity involvement with faculty members so they understand the importance of activities.
- **Invite principals, the superintendent, and school board members to attend your events** and let them see students engaged in meaningful activities.
- **Prepare an audio-visual presentation** highlighting the benefits of involvement in student activities and show it at a faculty meeting.
- **Demonstrate the reach of your program** by gathering data on the number of students who participate in your events, activities, and programs and publishing that information.
- **Copy and deliver issues of *The Advocate*** to your staff, administrators, and school board members.
- **Promote the idea** that participation in student activities affects student development in many positive ways.



What can Parents and Community Members DO?



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Do the Math

Make the Time

- **Take one minute;** Go to LetXequalSA.com to join the campaign.
- **Learn more about the research** linking student activity participation and academic performance.
- **Share what you've learned** with your kids, with your friends, and with your neighbors.
- **Become familiar with the clubs, organizations, and activities** that exist in your child's school by exploring them with your kids. Don't be shy about calling attention to what might be missing?
- **Strive to have your child participate** in at least one school-based activity for several hours each week.
- **Join your school's Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO).** Volunteer to lend your talents, insight, and experience to support student activities in your kids' school.
- **Take some time to personally acknowledge, praise, and thank** an adviser, coach, or sponsor for their commitment to student activities. ➔





Promote the Value

- **Be a catalyst** for developing financial partnerships between your school and local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Share the data** about the positive effects that student activities have on college acceptance rates, career readiness, and civic-engagement with your kids, with other parents, and with the members of your community.
- **Emphasize the many benefits** of involvement in student activities when asking for financial assistance and support from local businesses, corporate sponsors, and community foundations.
- **Help the stakeholders** in your school and community to recognize that student activities are a bargain.
- **Determine what percentage** of your school district's overall budget is devoted to supporting student activities. Compare that with the national average of 1-3%. Share that information with all the stakeholders in your school and community.
- **Remind school board members, elected officials, and other community members** that student activities develop core social and emotional skills in ways the traditional curriculum does not.
- **Emphasize the long-term consequences** of short-term finding cuts to student activities by pointing out the missed benefits and lost opportunities.

Become a Champion

- **Be an advocate** for the formation of and participation in a wider variety of clubs and organizations.
- **Encourage your kids** to develop strong mentoring relationships with their teachers, advisers, and coaches.
- **Show your kids** the specific benefits of participation in at least one activity, several hours each week.
- **Be sure to attend games, plays, inductions, awards programs, and other events** so your kids know that you support their involvement.
- **Empower your children to thrive** in school by helping them to find their spark, to identify their champions, and to connect with opportunities offered through student activities.



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