

STUDENT INCENTIVE *Best Practices*

A little positive reinforcement goes a long way to motivate and encourage students at test time. Here is a list of suggested Student Incentive “Best Practices” as a helpful tool for both new and veteran administrators:

Pre-Test

- ✓ Testimonials that are student to student, or parent to parent are most effective
- ✓ If teachers are enthusiastic about preparing for tests, students are more likely to respond
- ✓ Motivational messages posted throughout campus and on school marquee
- ✓ ASB school-wide campaign with assemblies or pep rallies, posters, etc.
- ✓ Themed celebrations, songs & colors (ex. shamrock green for March testing)
- ✓ Motivational speakers (especially past graduates)
- ✓ Key staff wearing “Just ask me” t-shirts & stopping by classrooms with messages of encouragement
- ✓ Food services “brain power” food & beverage offerings
- ✓ Practice questions during Advisory
- ✓ Adopt-A-Student program (students assigned to a staff member for mentoring)
- ✓ Test-taking Tips workshops with qualified presenters, including anxiety control, physical readiness, etc.
- ✓ Tips for Teacher workshops on preparing students for specific tests, like the CAHSEE
- ✓ Exam practice sessions
- ✓ After school and Saturday prep classes with incentives (ex. prizes, pizza, snacks)
- ✓ Ensuring all parent/guardian communications and notices are translated as needed

During & Post-Test

- ✓ Set targets for advancing to the next performance level and reward students with field trips, student events, reserved parking spaces or equivalent for students without cars
- ✓ VIP program: Students who raise performance level over two years become VIPs with monthly activities or rewards during Advisory
- ✓ Gift certificates or prize drawings for each day of test attendance
- ✓ Pizza or other food rewards
- ✓ Extended lunch period reward



Do you have other student incentives to share? If so, please contact:

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