

36 Strategies for Serving Our Schools

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| Achievement Awards | Incentives to recognize and motivate students for academic success |
| Adopt-A-Class | Meet with teacher to discuss ways to help in and out of the classroom |
| After-School Program | Volunteers, refreshments |
| Book Bags | Teachers know who needs a new one |
| Book Buddies | Read with a child for 30 minutes or more at least once a week |
| Career Day Speaker | Talk with students about various careers |
| Chaplain | Serve as volunteer chaplain for school sports teams |
| Christmas | SS class sponsor a child or family for Christmas (see counselor) |
| Christmas Stockings | One for each teacher and staff – gift card, candy, school supplies, etc. |
| Church Facilities | Allow school to use church facilities for special programs, PTA, etc. |
| Class Grandparent | Read, bake cookies, tell stories, help with homework, etc. |
| Class Guest | Speak to a class, demonstrate a hobby, share a talent, etc. |
| Classroom Supplies | Paper, pencils, Kleenex, etc. Every teacher has a needs list. |
| Clothing Exchange | Collect and offer nearly new school clothes at very low cost. Funds go to school for special projects. Vouchers given to parents with needs. |
| Computer Tutor | One-on-one assistance at a computer in school or after school |
| E-Pals | Internet pen pals matched by a common interest |
| Gift Cards | Give to teachers at beginning of school year, Christmas, birthday |
| Greeting Cards | To teachers and staff on birthdays and holidays |
| Incentives | Awards, parties, etc. to encourage individual and class achievement |
| Landscaping | Provide flowers, mulch, etc. Work alongside students and parents. |
| Lunch Buddies | Eat lunch with a child or class |
| Mentor | One hour a week...take to a ballgame, McDonald's, meal at home, etc. |
| Family Movie Night | Show movie at school or church with free concessions...students can earn free tickets for family as reward for behavior, attitude or academics |
| Prayerwalk | Prayerwalk the school the week before school starts and before testing |
| Reading Program | Sponsor "Learning to Earn" over summer-children earn \$ reading books |
| Recreation Teams | Sponsor children to play on church recreation teams |
| Rock 'n Read | Donate 2 rocking chairs and provide volunteers to read with students |
| Santa's School Store | Students earn points for behavior, homework, attitude and use to buy presents for Christmas (inexpensive items donated by church members) |
| School Supplies | Work with guidance and teachers to provide for children in need |
| Science Projects | Help a student with science fair or other project-great for single Special Days; help with school festivals, field days, field trips and other school events |
| Teacher Appreciation | At beginning of school year have a special meal, speaker and gift |
| Teacher Workdays | Provide breakfast, lunch or snacks during the day |
| Testing Monitor | Volunteer to help watch class during testing |
| Transportation | Use church minibus to carry special education classes on local field trips |
| Tutoring | Before school, during school, after school-needs for all age levels. |

Principles for Church and School Partnerships

1. Pray for God to open doors, guide each step and bless the ministry.
2. Be sincere and genuine in your concern, motivated by love not church growth.
3. Build relationships. Start with a parent in your church – adopt their child’s class. Organizations do not partner – people partner so reach out to people.
4. Discover needs. Meet with the principal, teachers and PTA. Ask how you can help. Be prepared to serve wherever and however needed.
5. Dream Tall...Start Small. Focus on open doors rather than not-yet-open doors. There are no closed doors.
6. Enlist a team of parents from church and community and teachers to coordinate.
7. Involve as many in the church and community as possible.
8. Put the partnership on your calendar, in your budget and on your prayer list.
9. Understand the limitations. Do not abuse the partnership. Let your light shine.
10. Recognize volunteers and ministry highlights. What gets noticed gets done!
11. Review and renew the partnership annually. Set new goals and press on.
12. Patiently persist – be faithful and God will make you faithful.



**South Carolina
Baptist Convention**
Missions Mobilization Group
803-765-0030, ext. 3801

Resources for Ministry with Public Schools

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| Campus Alliance | www.everyschool.com |
| Campus Revolutions | www.catchthis.net |
| Child Evangelism Fellowship | www.cefonline.com |
| Fellowship of Christian Athletes | www.fca.org |
| First Priority | www.fpoa.org |
| Moms in Touch International | www.momsintouch.org |
| NAMB-Student Evangelism | www.studentz.com |
| National Network of Youth Ministries | www.youthworkers.net |
| Student Venture | www.studentventure.com |
| Young Life | www.younglife.org |
| Youth Alive | www.yausa.com |

Released Time Christian Education

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| Bible Education in School Network | www.bibleeducationweek.net |
| School Time Bible | www.schooltimeBible.org |

Christian Learning Centers of Greenville County

Serving Greenville County

Contact: Janice Butler 864-236-0450

Christian Learning Centers of the Upstate, Inc.

Serving Anderson and Pickens Counties

Contact: Mack Edwards 864-947-1853

Greer Christian Learning Center

Serving Greer Middle and High Schools

Contact: Kathy Neely 864-848-3591

Midlands Christian Learning Center

Serving in the Columbia Area

Contact: Grayson Hartgrove 800-851-8179

Coastal School Ministries

Serving Myrtle Beach and Horry County

Contact: Dawn Hensley 843-293-0446

Spartanburg County Bible Education in School Time

Serving Spartanburg County (primarily District 7)

Contact: Drew Martin 864-573-8583

Christian Learning Center of Florence County

Contact: Louanne Stewart 843-669-1728