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Current Events

Schools Pay Students to Learn

For Discussion

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1 What is an incentive?

An incentive is your reason for doing something.

2 What is capitalism?

Capitalism is when people are allowed to set their own prices and the government has nothing to do with it. It's the system of making a profit.

3 Do all students need incentives from parents/teachers to motivate them to learn?

Yes, but they don't need money incentives. They need support and praise, not a check.

4 Are bigger allowances, gold stars, candy, etc. sufficient motivation for some students?

Yes, but that's really just because they are looking for forms of praise and candy and allowance are the cop out way of doing that.

5 What is the difference between parents paying their children money for academic achievements and schools paying them?

Parents pay because they are proud of their children and the school pays so that children will have a reason to pass.

6 Is it OK for schools to pay students if their parents cannot afford to? Is this fair to all students? What about students whose parents could afford to pay but choose not to? What about the students who are self-motivated learners?

If parent choose not to pay they probably have a very good reason and there is no reason that the school should step in. If the parents can not afford to pay then there are some places that the school can step in and paying off good grades is not one of them. The school should pay for lunches and school supplies, things that are needed.

7 What is the difference between motivation and bribery?

Motivation is giving you the extra shove to go that last little jump and bribery is that it is not a push being given, it's a shove so that the student will pass, if only to make the school look good.

8 Do you think that cash rewards for learning would instill the wrong values in kids?

Yes, I do, because even if the student doesn't need the money they will become greedy. And, for the kids that need the money for their families, the school and community will step in. the student should not have to spend their money on it.

9 Would cash incentives be effective in your school? Would they have a lasting impact on student achievement?

Yes, they would be, but not for the right reasons. At this level of school there is nothing giving us money for doing well will encourage us to do, except to learn for the wrong reasons.

10 Does it matter whether cash incentives are paid for by private donations or with tax dollars?

with Yes it does. There is no reason that the people in the community should be forced to help the bribes. But, if people want to help, they should have the option through donations. But if the area is too poor there is not going to be enough money coming in.

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