

Current Events

Schools Pay Students to Learn

For Discussion

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1. What is an incentive?
2. What is capitalism?
3. Do all students need incentives from parents/teachers to motivate them to learn?
4. Are bigger allowances, gold stars, candy, etc. sufficient motivation for some students?
5. What is the difference between parents paying their children money for academic achievements and schools paying them?
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?
7. What is the difference between motivation and bribery?
8. Do you think that cash rewards for learning would instill the wrong values in kids?
9. Would cash incentives be effective in your school? Would they have a lasting impact on student achievement?
10. Does it matter whether cash incentives are paid for by private donations or with tax dollars?

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