

Current Events

Schools Pay Students to Learn

For Discussion



- 1 What is an incentive?
Incentive is a thing that makes you want to complete something that you wouldn't normally do if you weren't benefiting from it. It helps motivate you.
- 2 What is capitalism?
Capitalism is an economic system based on the private ownership of the means of production and distribution of goods, characterized by a free competitive market and motivation by profit.
- 3 Do all students need incentives from parents/teachers to motivate them to learn?
Most students need it for tasks like doing their homework and studying, but not all students.
- 4 Are bigger allowances, gold stars, candy, etc. sufficient motivation for some students?
Yes, they are big incentives to do well in school, especially money.
- 5 What is the difference between parents paying their children money for academic achievements and schools paying them?
It shows that the schools really care and schools are actually donating their money for incentive.
- 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?
I think it is because it gives kids a reason to do well and the self-motivated learners will have even more motivation to do well. It will help the kids who never want to do work.
- 7 What is the difference between motivation and bribery?
Motivation is when you don't need anything in return to do something and bribery is where you get something back for doing something.
- 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?
I don't know if they would because most of the students here having parents with big pay checks and don't need the money, but inner cities schools would definitely benefit from it.
- 10 Does it matter whether cash incentives are paid for by private donations or with tax dollars?
I think it does matter, because tax dollars means that it is still coming from the parents pockets and it should be by private donations.

Article url: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0429/p20s01-ussc.html>

