

Current Events

Schools Pay Students to Learn

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1. What is an incentive? An incentive is something that a person wants and that makes them work harder to earn.
2. What is capitalism? Capitalism is an economic system in which investment in and ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange of wealth is made and maintained chiefly by private individuals or corporations, esp. as contrasted to cooperatively or state-owned means of wealth.
3. Do all students need incentives from parents/teachers to motivate them to learn? Many students work fine by themselves but some students will work harder if they are given incentives.
4. Are bigger allowances, gold stars, candy, etc. sufficient motivation for some students? I think that candy will give plenty motivation and money is not necessary.
5. What is the difference between parents paying their children money for academic achievements and schools paying them? When parents pay their children it is like giving them allowance but when schools pay them it is turning school into a job.
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 don't think that it is appropriate for students to be paid for school by anyone and it makes no difference if it's the school or their parents paying them.
7. What is the difference between motivation and bribery? Motivation is the effort to makes someone do something. Bribery is when you actually give them something to make them do the thing you want them to do.
8. Do you think that cash rewards for learning would instill the wrong values in kids? Yes, because then students will care more about the money they are earning and not about the information they are being taught.
9. Would cash incentives be effective in your school? Would they have a lasting impact on student achievement? Cash incentives would probably makes some students work harder. However, colleges don't pay there students so it would be hard to make the transition from being paid for doing work to not being paid.
10. Does it matter whether cash incentives are paid for by private donations or with tax dollars? It does not really matter where the incentives come from because I don't think that the students should get the money anyway.

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