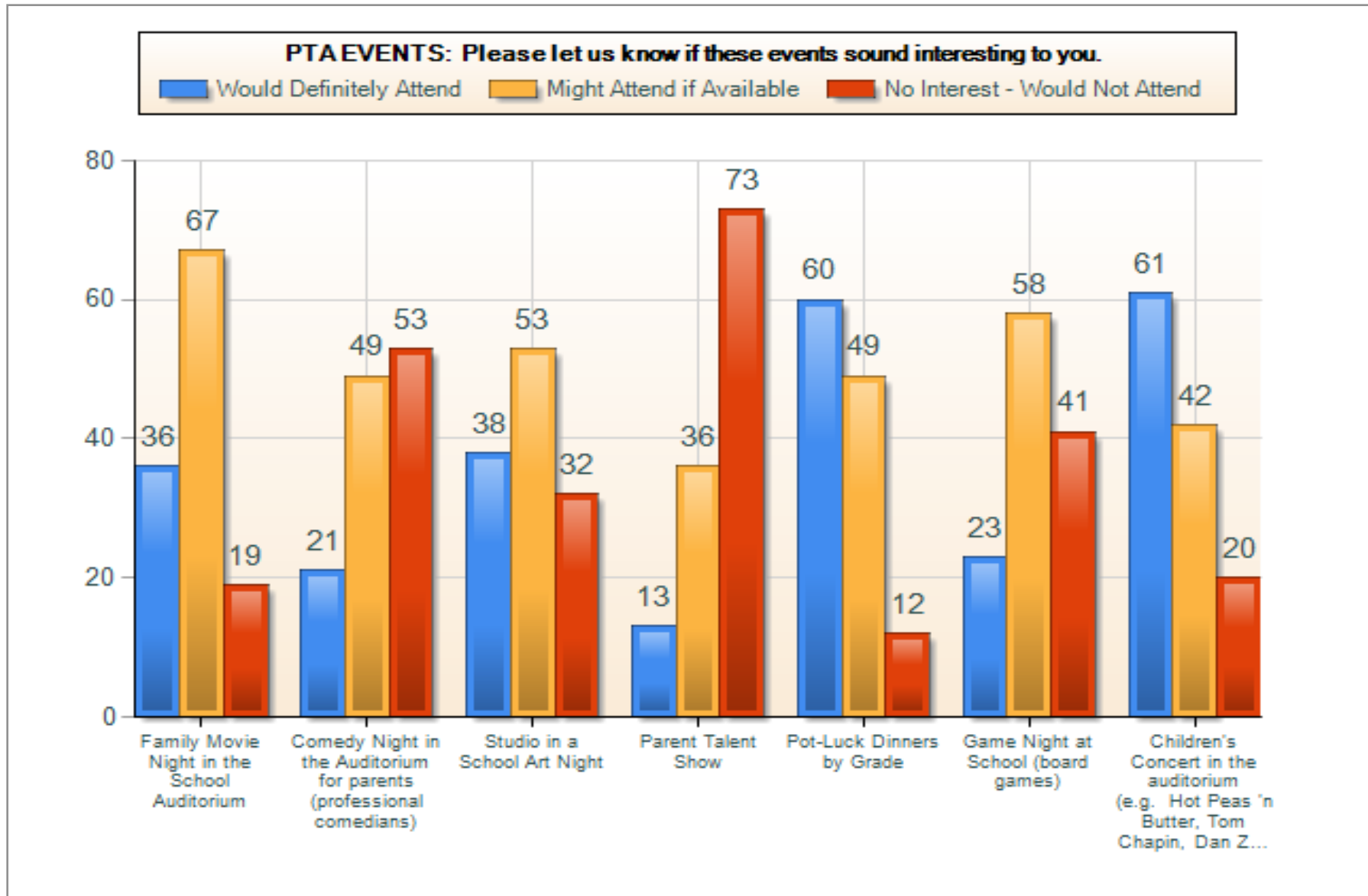


PS199 PTA Survey Results

June '09 Survey

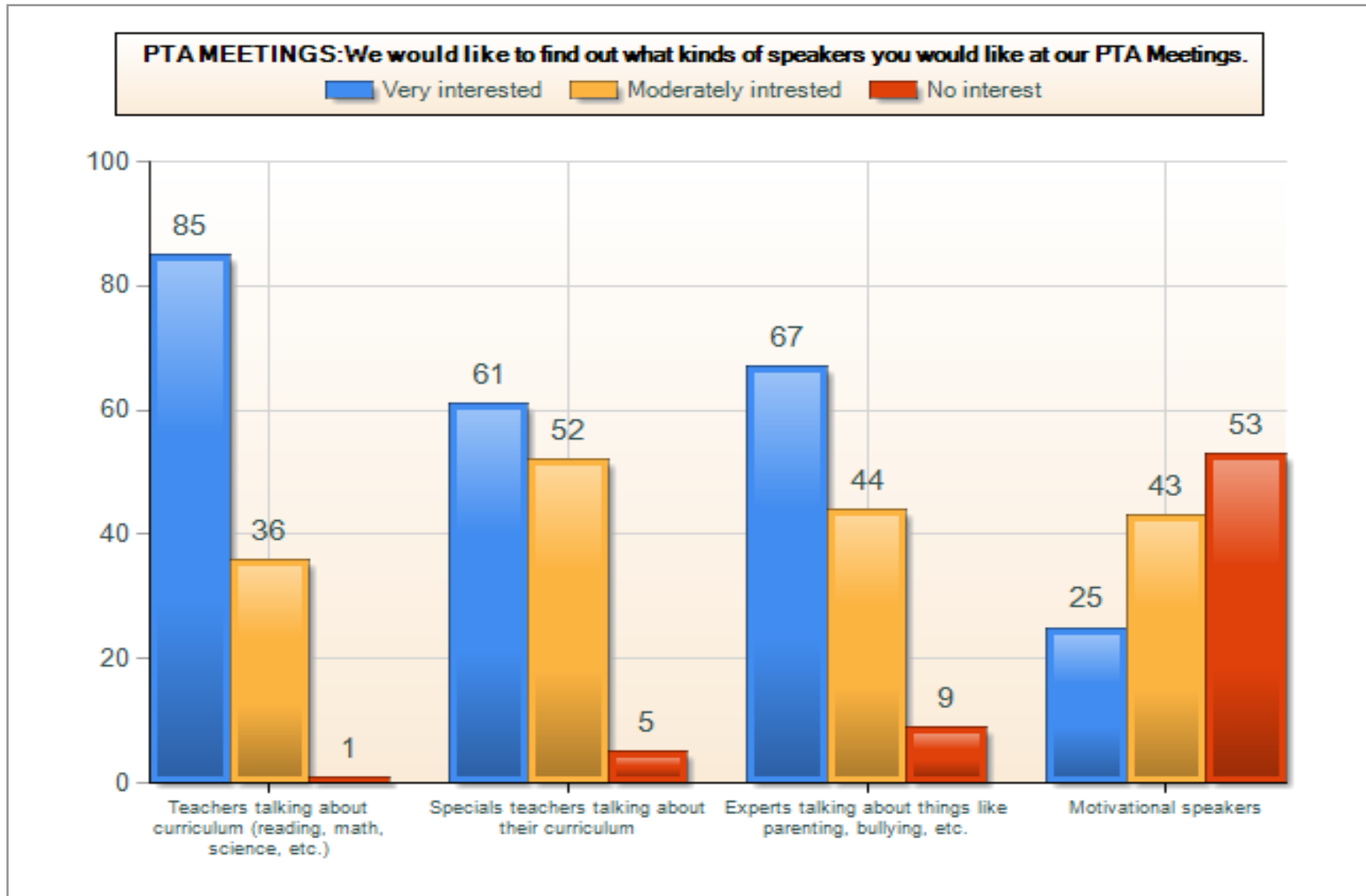
PS 199 PTA Ideas and Feedback: PTA EVENTS: Please let us know if these events sound interesting to you.



Other ideas for community events include:

- ✓ *Fair/block party*
- ✓ *Keep events focused on parenting/education*
- ✓ *Sports/field day*
- ✓ *Movie night at Sony Theatre*
- ✓ *Saturday sports clinic organized by Sports 'n Stuff*
- ✓ *Special interest groups for parents (e.g. knitting clubs, reading clubs, parents of kids with ADHD, etc.)*
- ✓ *Jazz/music night by Lincoln Center, Julliard, School of Music & Art*
- ✓ *Dance appreciation night by Lincoln Center*
- ✓ *Families offering to host a cocktail reception at their home and charge parents to attend, proceeds go to PTA*
- ✓ *Clothing swap*
- ✓ *Lectures on child relevant topics like internet safety, drugs, balancing pressures, authors such as Peg Tyre*
- ✓ *Moms' and Dads' Nights Out*
- ✓ *Activities should be centered around entertaining the kids. If adults are involved, activities should focus on fund-raising, like a buffet dinner/drinks in the school on a Friday night, maybe even bingo.*
- ✓ *International events - music and dance, fashion shows, etc and for adults - more diversity events with themes such as gender, religion, race, disability issues. Book readings, art etc are fantastic ways to communicate our differences and celebrate them at the same time.*
- ✓ *Wine tasting for parents*
- ✓ *School sale of items or services that parents make or offer or sell (good way to meet parents and help our local community)*
- ✓ *Teacher talent show or parent/child talent show*
- ✓ *Having a couple of community events is nice, but PTA doesn't need to go overboard and schedule social activities on a constant basis.*
- ✓ *Community service - clean the streets, deliver food to elderly, etc.*
- ✓ *"Green" events*
- ✓ *Employment events*
- ✓ *Children's theatre in the auditorium (e.g., Theatreworks)*
- ✓ *Computer classes for parents, and classes for parents completing their GED*
- ✓ *Science night*
- ✓ *Friday disco night in the cafeteria*
- ✓ *Have childcare available at parent-only events*

PS 199 PTA Ideas and Feedback: PTA MEETINGS: We would like to find out what kinds of speakers you would like at our PTA Meetings.



Are there other topics you would like to see covered at PTA meetings? Responses include:

- ✓ *Issues regarding the school and neighborhood -- overcrowding, new buildings, other construction, new stores*
- ✓ *Show the budget, actual and variance on the same side of the same page on the treasurer's report.*
- ✓ *Please publish the PTA agenda in advance in the weekly email.*
- ✓ *You might want to put a rep from the SLT on the PTA agenda so parents know what issues the SLT has been focusing on.*
- ✓ *Truth about what is happening with the school.*
- ✓ *Homework: amount on school nights, why is there weekend homework?*
- ✓ *Motivational speakers and teachers should talk at other times, not PTA meeting. it makes the meetings go too long*
- ✓ *Helping children build self-confidence; helping boys succeed in school*
- ✓ *PTA meetings should be school information only. Speakers should be held on other nights if you really want to bring in speakers.*
- ✓ *(1) Adopt a park, (2) Adopt a library, (3) source ways for the PS199 to volunteer time to help the community*
- ✓ *Presentation on learning differences*
- ✓ *Description of our community's political landscape, e.g. CEC, CB7, etc. What they are, what they do and how they relate to our school.*
- ✓ *More school wide information about the tests, overview of what you need to know about middle school process,*
- ✓ *How the parents at PS199 relate to one another.*
- ✓ *Would like PTA meetings to be held in the morning after drop-off*
- ✓ *What's going on at recess; the school's approach to discipline*
- ✓ *Have Gary Goldstein and Peter Rockwitz tell about the history of P.S. 199.*
- ✓ *Elected Officials on the "HOT SEAT"*
- ✓ *Is there any way to address exercise (or lack thereof)? I would love to see the kids have more gym time--indoors or out. In general I'd like to hear about ways to increase enrichment opportunities (art, music, gym, computers, science).*
- ✓ *Specials teachers engaging parents in their curriculum may be more interesting than being told about their curriculum. These are all sit 'n get ideas, which are fine. Perhaps more hands-on or discussion-type events may be more meaningful (e.g. doing math games).*
- ✓ *I would like our local politicians to come in and talk to us each year about what they are doing to help our schools (and I mean DOING as opposed to talking about).*
- ✓ *I would like speakers on the environment to come in to talk about recycling, saving energy, involving our kids, using less stuff.*
- ✓ *More speakers on the effect of media overexposure on kids - I missed the events this year at the school.*
- ✓ *Speakers on health issues for parents - how we can squeeze in health habits to our day, Actually, it would be great if we could have a speaker/trainer come in each PTA meeting and have us do some stretches, simple exercises to limber us up and ease stress, even neck/shoulder massages. It would be advertisement for the health professionals and great for us!*
- ✓ *Community events – and pressuring the DOE to make more space for crowded schools.*
- ✓ *Extended discussion (not just updates) of issues of community interest, when it is relevant to do so.*

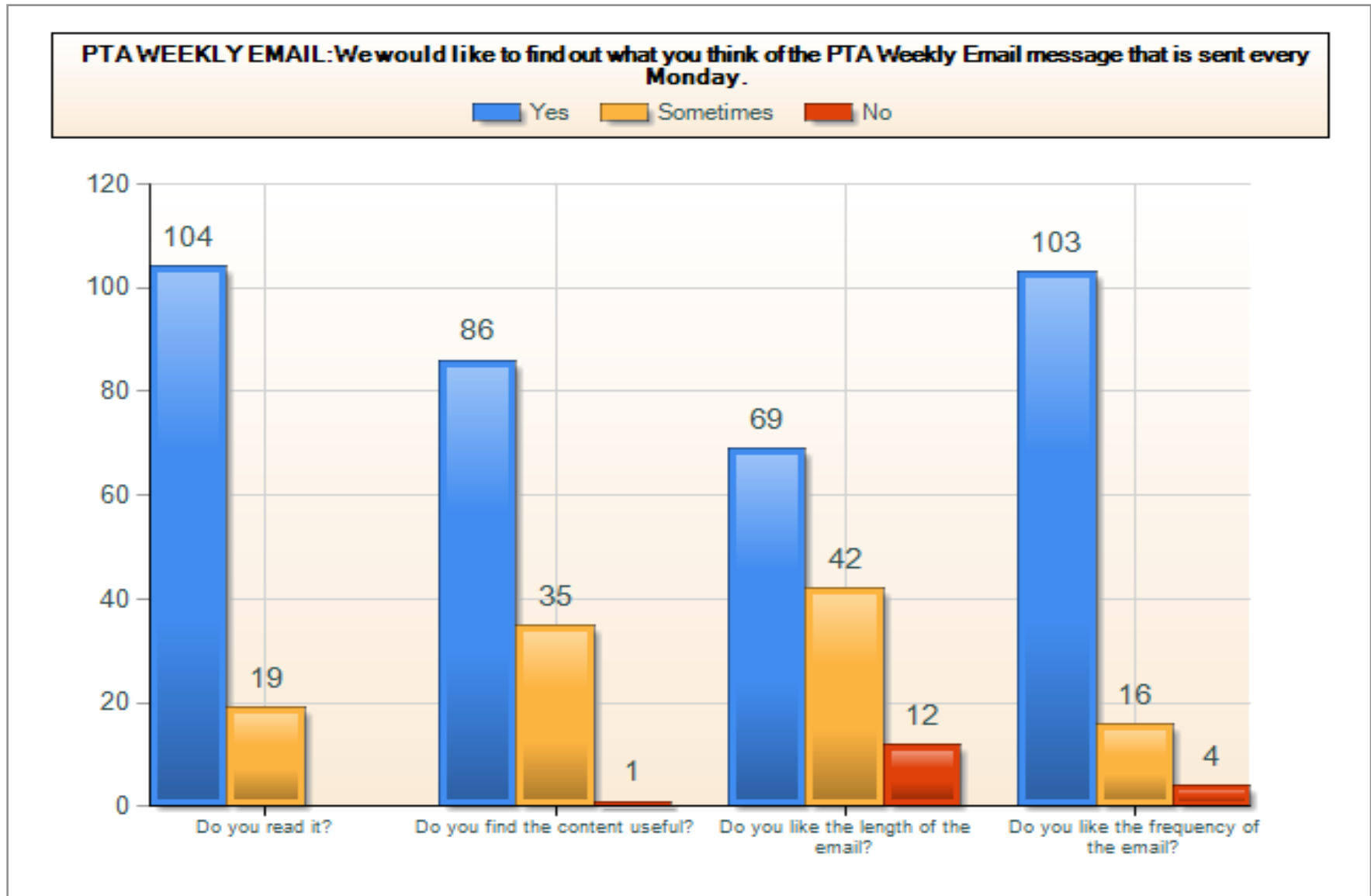
Do you have any additional fundraising ideas that you would like the PTA to consider for the 2009-2010 school year?

- ✓ *Fair/Block party*
- ✓ *I don't care how you fundraise, but please focus on what the money is being used for. make the school green. build a science lab. introduce foreign language classes. add a computer class. fundraise around a cause or a benefit, not around generic "PTA" activities. Show me something valuable for my contribution. Show me how it benefits my kids. Don't make it cosmetic--make it impact my children's education.*
- ✓ *The PS199 hats and t-shirts could be a good fundraiser throughout the year.*
- ✓ *Wrapping paper (every other year)*
- ✓ *I think it would be helpful to have statistics about PledgeDrive participation. What percentage of the community is expected to participate and what percentage does? I also think it would help to put a time limit on it (Get your gift in by December 31!)*
- ✓ *I really liked the Kidsart fundraiser that was done in prior years. Innisbrooks was also very useful.*
- ✓ *Craft sale; more varied branded merchandise that is more easily available*
- ✓ *Cookbook where parents submit recipes*
- ✓ *Must use on-line donation tools! credit card charges are well worth the extra reach*
- ✓ *Used-book fair*
- ✓ *Online Magazine Sales. You can sell Magazines and have a online order system.*
- ✓ *If the school needs something, such as a DVD player or a computer, the PTA should ask parents for their "gently used" items. The parents will be happy that their old items will be used by the school, they will get a tax deduction, and the school can use the funds it set aside for the item for something else.*
- ✓ *Bingo for parents; taste of the upper west side for parents*
- ✓ *Kids' artwork made into cards, mugs, t-shirts etc.*
- ✓ *Holiday Bazaar- have parents bring their wares (books they wrote, jewelry they make or sell... clothes the manufacture. etc) give a percentage to the school and help parents as well especially in this economy.*
- ✓ *Poker night. We attended one at another school, and it was fun and successful. Dealers were professional, dinner and drinks were served.*
- ✓ *Wish list (registry) set up at staples to buy/donate supplies for my specific classroom. not really a fundraiser, but it can help get the supplies we need.*
- ✓ *Given the economic climate, the demands for money are coming in constantly. I would like to see the PTA encourage parents to find grants or investment from outside the parent body. I know there is a grant committee, but I haven't heard much about them or what they are doing.*

Do you have any additional fundraising ideas that you would like the PTA to consider for the 2009-2010 school year (continued)?

- ✓ *While I know our school operate from a constrained budget, most schools in the country in most neighborhoods do. Very few schools have enough money or other resources to meet the demands of their dreams for their children's learning. However, we have access to lots of fiscal capital. I appreciate projects that shows us, helps us, and engage us in giving back, pushing out, instead of garnering more and more for many of us who already have much. Like Ms. Taylor's book drive this year.*
- ✓ *Continue recycling programs*
- ✓ *"flea market" to benefit school*
- ✓ *Talent nights, vendor sales in the school yard. etc.*
- ✓ *We made lots of money setting up lemonade stands in Central Park – don't know if you need a permit, but if not, it was fun and productive.*
- ✓ *Fundraising concert*

PS 199 PTA Ideas and Feedback: PTA WEEKLY EMAIL: We would like to find out what you think of the PTA Weekly Email message that is ...



Do you have any comments about the weekly email?

- ✓ *Sometimes the formatting of the different items could be smoothed out so they all appear the same. Double checking e-mail addresses and links before sending would prevent the need for correction notices.*
- ✓ *The links don't work -- connect to a password needed area. I need to cut and paste every time*
- ✓ *Send it out on Friday for the following week.*
- ✓ *Have a standard set of sections i.e.*
 - 1) *School events/news*
 - 2) *Community meetings*
 - 3) *Important Future Dates to remember (or maybe a link to an updated calendar?)*
 - 4) *Thank yous to committee workers etc.*

Standard sections make it easier to find what you're looking for.
- ✓ *Should be some way to differentiate really important info. Should be able to send grade appropriate info only to appropriate people.*
- ✓ *Would be better to post about important dates more frequently (things seem come up too fast) and have a list if them right up front.*
- ✓ *It seemed to get longer and longer as the year went on.*
- ✓ *A bit too long.*
- ✓ *Would like to be able to read the minutes of PTA meetings. they are never posted on the school website.*
- ✓ *I think it would be more effective if there was a clearer separation between the PS199 news and the community/board of ed news. I also think it would be beneficial to have a fundraising section - or specific and regular updates on how much money is raised for different events throughout the year and what the money is being put toward.*
- ✓ *I think it has helped a lot in planning for upcoming activities.*
- ✓ *Sometimes seemed we received multiple e-mails with the same information.*
- ✓ *Short & sweet. Works.*
- ✓ *Would prefer twice a week separating in school and out of school info*
- ✓ *I find that even if I read the email I rarely retain what's in it. I know we're trying to go green but it's too much to process for me at one time.*
- ✓ *They are usually too long. Once a week is good and sending more than one in a week should be only for a very exceptional circumstance.*
- ✓ *Put more space between entries.*
- ✓ *Do not like getting the weekly email, flyers and a class parent email all on the same topic, worded exactly the same.*
- ✓ *Have the email accessible via the PS 199 website.*

Do you have any comments about the weekly email? (Continued)

- ✓ *Could use clearer formatting.*
- ✓ *It would be good if it could be set up on yahoo so that you could click to each subsection of the e-mail and find it easily.*
- ✓ *It is great to have community events, but sometimes the longer description could be summarized in favor of a link to the relevant website.*
- ✓ *There seems to be redundancy from week to week, especially regarding community activities. Would like PTA email to be separate from the listing of community activities such as CEC meetings of Office of Family Engagement picnics*
- ✓ *I think that it really works and is helpful to have the information all in one place.*
- ✓ *Great work. One idea is to make it shorter for outside events, with links to the websites for those events, where web links are available.*

PS 199 PTA Ideas and Feedback: I have children in the following grades.

