

## Fall Festival Feedback Survey Results October 2008

Total responses: 94

1. What was the main reason you participated in the fall festival?

- 48% Kids wanted to go
- 45% Wanted to support the PTA
- 28% Fun with the family
- 9% Other:

- Vendors
- In charge of something
- Wanted to help the school
- Did not go
- Last fund-raiser of the year

2. Did you feel there was enough publicity and advance notice for the festival?

- 85% Yes
- 15% No

Additional suggestions:

- Advertise *prices* in advance.
- Advertise at local businesses to get more community involvement.
- Advertise it at Back-to-School Night.

3. What would be the best way to cut down times for purchasing tickets?

- 58% Presell tickets at school during the week before the event.
- 13% Don't require tickets for food.
- 8% Use punch cards instead of tickets.
- 22% Other:

- Have multiple lines outside & inside to buy tickets.

- Presell tickets for rides/games & don't require tickets for food. (2<sup>nd</sup> most popular response, after option to just presell tickets at school during the week)
- Don't require tickets at all. Just take money.

4. What did you think of the rides & games?

30% Not enough options

29% Options were OK but wristband wasn't worth the money

19% Just about right

23% Other:

- Lines were too long.
- Rides required more tickets than we were told they would when we purchased tickets.
- Need more ride for big kids.
- Dumb.
- Wristbands & rides not as good as last year.
- Did not get to try rides because lines were too long.
- Waited 1½ hours to go on swings. Rip off.
- Too expensive.
- Not worth it. Wish I just gave \$20 and left.

5. Did you like having vendors at the festival?

81% Yes

19% No

Comments:

- Too crowded to see the booths.
- Would have rather had the vendors another time, so I could go to it without my kids.
- Liked looking at booths while waiting for tickets.
- Would have walked around more if I didn't have to wait in line.
- Could care less.
- I liked school-related vendors, like the person selling emergency kits.
- Women would have spent more if their husbands weren't there with them.
- Not sure most of the vendors found it worth their time.
- People were focused on rides and food, not vendors.

- Would support vendors if some of their profits went to the school.

6. What did you think of the food? (Options and prices)

3% Poor  
43% Fair  
37% Good  
2% Excellent

7. What did you think of the silent auction items?

3% Poor  
9% Fair  
40% Good  
18% Excellent  
30% Did not know there was a silent auction

8. What did you think of the cake walk?

5% Poor  
8% Fair  
32% Good  
10% Excellent  
45% Did not know there was a silent auction

9. What did you like about the festival? (Mark all that apply.)

75% Fun night with the family  
74% Support the PTA  
26% Rides  
43% Games  
33% Vendor booths  
16% Cake walk  
14% Silent auction  
13% Other:

- Cotton candy
- Kids had fun
- Support school
- Nothing - hated it

10. What was your least favorite part of the festival?

67% Long lines

17% Not good value for the money

2% Did not know what to expect

14% Other:

- Food too expensive
- Too few rides
- Ran out of tickets after waiting *forever* in line
- Whole thing was a madhouse

11. Is there something you would have liked to see at the festival that wasn't included?

55% No

45% Yes

- Inflatables and bounce houses [Note: Unfortunately, these are prohibited by the Alpine School District. Otherwise, we would have had them.]
- School talent performances
- More ride options, especially for older children
- Better rides
- More specifics about what my money was going to pay for; not just "PTA"
- More than one horse for pony rides
- Dunk tank
- Paper model rockets
- Pumpkin-carving contest
- More food options (buying food with money)
- Live music from local people
- Better prizes for games (not just candy)
- Make-and-take arts & crafts area
- Teacher pie throw
- 3-legged race
- Nail polishing
- Hoola hoop contest
- Better organization
- Map of what was there & where things were

12. Do you prefer having a festival to having students bring things home to sell?

93% Yes

7% No

13. What is the best day and time to have a festival?

54% Monday evening

32% Saturday afternoon

2% Saturday evening

12% Other

- Different weeknight [No one night got more than one vote.]
- Anything but Friday or Saturday night
- Friday night
- All day Saturday
- During Back-to-School Night

14. The festival lasted three hours. Was that time...

74% Just about right

1% Too long

25% Too short

15. Please share anything else you would like the PTA to consider when planning the next festival.

[Listing only items that do not fit under questions/comments earlier in the survey]

- Parents spent more on items for the silent auction baskets than the PTA got for them. Just ask for straight \$\$ donations instead of doing baskets.
- With take-home items to sell, I can spend \$15/kid and feel good about it. I was obligated to spend more for the festival and didn't feel it was worth it.
- Some people didn't attend because it was just too expensive.

- *Please* put signs high up on the curtains in the gym, so people know what's going on (prices, how many tickets to buy, what the options are, etc.).
- Have it earlier in the school year or earlier in the day, so it doesn't get dark so early.
- Didn't have enough time to participate in the silent auction or cake walk because I spent too much time in lines.
- Parking was difficult due to size of crowds.
- Communicate *earlier* and *better* with volunteers. Everyone who signs up to help needs to know exactly when and where to show up and what he or she will be doing.
- Festival should be about having fun, not making money. Need to consider low-income families.
- Couldn't find the cake walk.
- Silent auction hard to get to on the stage.
- Consider selling tickets somewhere other than where vendors are.
- Wristbands were confusing/not a good idea.
- Higher value per ticket, so people don't have to carry so many.
- Festival budget needs to be voted on and approved.
- Pre-sell dinner tickets with a time slot assigned. That way, the pizza place knows how many pizzas to bring at each time, and they are hot. Also have extra for people who don't preorder.
- Serve dinner in the lunchroom, so people have a place to sit down and eat. Sell & serve desserts and treats outside.
- Don't have young kids working the cotton candy machine. Middle school-aged kids are good volunteers.

- Have more prepackaged or ready-to-go desserts, like caramel apples and cookies.
- Just ask for straight donations (suggested \$10 per student) instead of doing a fund-raiser or festival. Easier for parents and the PTA.
- Food outside the combo meal was ridiculously expensive. \$2 for chips or soda is too much. (Especially when a pony ride was 50 cents.)
- Charge vendors more to have a booth.
- Tell all the things that the PTA pays for.