Resource Guide for Political Leadership for the Art Educator

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What are the top three concerns of the school boards?

1. Providing the best education for the tax dollar
2. School Safety and good facilities
3. Good Public Relations
How is your art program perceived?

- Ask questions and listen to answers

- Do administrators have a clear picture of your program and its purpose?

- Ask other faculty, staff and parents how they “see” the art program
What does your school board know about the art program?

Think about year end report

Best way to get a school board to an art exhibit
How can I get more funds for art supplies?

Think Bottom Line

**Gold Card**
International Credit

6179 500 0574 692

EXP 01/2015
When does the school budget process begin?

November
What is the best way to get additional staff or funds for supplies?

Create a special proposal
What are the top three issues for administrators?

- Test Scores
- School Safety
- Public Relations
Tips for the Art Educator!!!
Get to know your administrator

• Understand the role of people you deal with regularly

• Identify their interests, concerns and desires

• Become familiar with their perspectives of an art program

• Find out the best time to meet with your administrator

• Find out the chain of command
Communicate Frequently

- Be confident that what you say will make a difference
- Develop and maintain positive outlook
- Avoid language or position that is confrontational
- Make personal contact frequently
- Refrain from “I want” or “I need”
- Invite them to your environment
Use Clear Language

• Employ “headlines” and have supporting facts and documentation ready

• Don’t be intentionally ambiguous

• Try posing a question, but be prepared with material to answer.
Set Realistic Goals

- Be careful what you ask for-
  - “You might receive it”
- Think in terms of the
  - “bottom line”
- Think beyond present consider long term
Don’t take the first “NO”

• Be prepared to negotiate—be willing to work for something

• Have “Plan B” readily available

• Do some “trial ballooning” with someone you trust
Find an area of Agreement

• Know what you can negotiate away or live without

• Agreement need not be immediate—Can I get back to you?

• Try to pull together collaborative partner
• Be aware of your own strengths and weaknesses - get assistance accordingly
• Know your resources and services available to you
• “Network” with others
Use Public Relations
Dream big!!
One Dollar Story