



Fundraising Ideas for Middle School Teams

Bake Sale:

Have everyone from your team bring in individually priced baked goods to sell. Choose a time and location where many students will be present, such as in a major hallway between classes or during lunch. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Board Game Night:

Host a board game night in your home or school and have families and team members lend board games. You can either have your guests pay a general participation fee or a fee per game. You can play rounds of games in a tournament style and have a playoff for the winners. Have simple prizes for your winners at the end of the night. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Bowl-a-Thon:

A bowling fundraiser can be a really fun way to raise money for your team. Simply rent a group of lanes or the entire building from a bowling alley, and start soliciting teams. Before purchasing lanes, ask the bowling alley if they will donate some or all of the lanes to you. Charge an entry fee for participants and spectators. You can even set it up tournament style or have donated prizes awarded for most strikes, lowest score, or even most gutter balls! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

CandyGrams:

A CandyGram is candy bar or gift bag of candy with a note attached that you can sell to your fellow students. When students buy the CandyGrams, they write a note to the person they're buying it for, and the CandyGram is then delivered to that person during a designated time. It's a really fun way for people to give holiday gifts to their friends, and it can be a really easy way to fundraise for your team! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Dance-A-Thon:

Participants will pay for a night of dancing! The event can vary in length from 4 hours to a full 12 hours and should include a variety of music, performers, and food. Prizes can be awarded for best dancers or those who dance for the longest time. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Jeans Day:

Get school approval to host a jeans day or a casual day. Make sure to advertise the event by posting fliers on bulletin boards, sending out emails to students and teachers, or handing out fliers to students as they leave for the day before the actual event. On jeans day, ask teachers to collect the money from students who are dressed down. Recommended amounts are around \$2 or \$5, but check with your school before setting an amount.

Penny War:

This fundraiser is perfect for any school team! First, all participants need to divide into teams. A good way to divide into teams is by classroom or grade level. Each team should decorate and personalize their container. Participants should put pennies (positive points) in their own containers, while placing silver coins and paper money (negative points) in the competing teams' containers. There should be a set date for the end of the competition, and the team with the most positive points at the end wins. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Photo/Artwork Contest:

This is a great way for aspiring photographers and artists to display and show off their work. Ask for submissions from your fellow students and set up their pictures like an art show. You can either make it a funny photo contest, or you can set it up where the most creative piece of art wins. In order to raise money, make it a juried art show, and everyone in the school can participate by voting. Place a jar, can, or box in front of each picture in which people can place coins or bills to vote for their favorites. Make sure to set up your contest in a major space such as a dining hall, a gathering space or a main hallway. Leave the display set up for at week or two until the contest is over. The winner will be the one with the most money in their jar at the end of the contest. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Puzzle Piece Campaign:

Sell Autism Speaks puzzle pieces for \$1 and display them in a prominent location such as in the assembly hall, main hallway, or cafeteria. Send each child home with a flier so parents can send in money for their child's puzzle piece. Turn this into a contest between classes or grade levels to see who can sell the most puzzle pieces around school. The winning group could then receive a small prize such as a pizza party during lunch hour. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Video Game Tournament:

Have someone bring in a gaming system and set it up in a classroom during a free period. Wii Bowling tournaments are popular, as are Guitar Hero or Rockband tournaments. Each participant pays to play in the tournament (recommended donation is between \$5-\$10 depending on the ages of the participants). A tournament bracket should be created, and each participant will move forward in the tournament as they win each round. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Contact your local Autism Speaks office for step-by-step instructions about how to host each of the fundraisers or if you want materials to display at your event such as brochures and Walk Now for Autism Speaks banners.