



30 Tips and Tricks to Get You Through the Year



Sanford Carvajal
A.S.B. Director
Mt. Carmel High School
scarvajal@powayusd.com

1. Send students to CASL, take notes, and report out to your ASB.
2. Go visit other A.S.B.'s and then present what they do to your class.
3. Send your Advisor to the CADA conference. Tons of ideas that you can bring back to your school.
4. Make your program so good you don't have to recruit kids, you are turning them away because you don't have enough room to take them all.
5. **PRIORITIZE**, Prioritize, prioritize. Figure out what needs to be done now and what can be pushed back.
6. What do you want? A Director or an Advisor. The Director is in charge and runs things. I prefer to be the Advisor and let students be in charge as much as I possibly can.
7. Do Freshman Orientation in the morning of the first day of school. Super high attendance. Freshman start school at 7:30. Everyone else starts school at 10:00. Teachers love short classes on the first day.
8. Everything your Link Crew leaders tell the Freshman on the first day the freshman will believe. "Everything you tell them is the truth." Be careful.
9. Keith Hawkins is a stud. Enough said.
10. Always buy way more name tags than you need. You will always use them again the next year. I just saved you a run to Staples before your event.
11. If you can afford to give every student on campus a shirt, do it. It pays off.
12. Link-a-loons allow you to tie balloons together quickly and easily.
13. Use a template to help you blow up every balloon to nearly the same size.
14. Risk Management at Pep Rallies. When you make a decision, can you defend it in front of a judge?
15. If you are brave, have the kids run your rally. They will learn more from being in charge than they will from watching you run their rally.
16. Try doing your pep rally on a Monday. Most gyms are available on Sunday and you have all day to do your setup. This has been GREAT for our kids. No more finishing at midnight on a Thursday.
17. Make sure you have a minute by minute schedule for your rally. Also make sure you have one extra game ready to go in case your rally might end early.
18. If you have metal supports or beams in your gym roof, get the click magnets and mag poles. They are expensive at first, but last for years.
19. If you can, do a black light rally and/or dance, try it if you think your kids can handle it.
20. Take kids and go watch other school rallies if you can. Copy what they do well.
21. When you check kids into your black light dance, make sure you see them in black light. What they wear in normal light can look very different under black light.
22. Don't pay for DJ lights that are going to kill your black light effects.
23. Ceiling Magnets from balloons.com.
24. Magnet poles from balloons.com.
25. Put your yearbook up to bid every three years and save money big money.
26. Let students be on the panel for your bid. It's a great learning opportunity.

27. Put companies in separate rooms, meet, vote, and be done in one day.
28. Put a week between your Homecoming game and dance. If you are killing yourself to get through the week, why keep doing it? Your kids will LOVE it also. It's a hard week for them also.
29. Have written rules and go over them before float building starts.
30. When students are judges, have them wear referee shirts.
31. What happens when one (or more) classes don't finish their float on time? Have that conversation before float building starts and stick with it.
32. Custodian carts can pull floats on all-weather tracks with no problem.
33. Take floats apart and use them for decorations at the dance.
34. Have a plan if there is a tie when judging the floats. Don't wait for a tie and then try to figure it out.
35. How are you going to handle "Soap Opera 101?"
36. Film commercials to promote your Student Store and play them if you have a closed circuit T.V. broadcast.
37. Film lunch pep rally games during ASB class and play it the day before you are going to play the game.
38. Write up positives and deltas after your events. Read them the next year before you put on that same event so you don't make the same mistakes and you remember to do the good things again.
39. Use the 48 hour rule. If you are mad after the event, don't talk about it for 48 hours. If you are still mad, it's probably something worth being mad about.
40. Use the kindergarten sticker board to help keep kids accountable.
41. Clap It Out! This lets students know when it is okay to go home.
42. Take a picture to take role. Hard to say you were there when you aren't in the picture.
43. Create a Student Review Board (S.R.B.) that runs all elections. Helps to shield the A.S.B. from being accused of fixing elections.
44. Only carry the keys you really need every day. Find a safe place for the others.
45. Run a drawing for classes that send Senators to your Senate meetings and buy them lunch.
46. Have your students follow you on Twitter and or Instagram.
47. Create a custom wall calendar for your dances. Use sticky notes to record progress.
48. You think you are ready? Try doing a school wide Lip Dub. Good luck.
49. Buy a connex box or two. You never have enough storage.
50. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness. I'd rather you ask for help then mess it up or not get it done.

https://app.schooltube.com/video/c0a2acb700b5472cb02a/Mt._Carmel_High_School_Lip_Dub_2012