

Resource Kits for Student Representative Councils





"Even if you knew how to get it, wouldyou know how to spend it?"

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Acknowledgements:

First and foremost, thanks go to the students of Student Representative Councils, Student Unions, Student Parliaments, Junior Student Councils, Student Forums and all the other names student representative groups go by. If it were not for your brilliant creativity and your willingness to share your ideas and stories, this kit would be considerably thinner.

Secondly, thanks are due to all students AND Teacher Advisers involved with SRCs around Australia. Yours is possibly the hardest job in the school and we deeply appreciate that commitment.

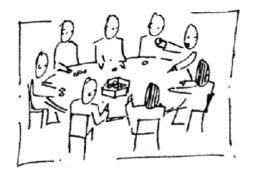
Thirdly our thanks go to schools who are willing to try new things. These are schools that make being on SRC a fun thing because they do not construct meaningless barriers. These are the test grounds for SRC ideas, which more timid schools then take on as their own.

Last but by no means least, our thanks go to Prudence Meggitt, who has spent hours of time editing these kits and has taught us how to use a comma properly.

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Create a Fundraising Committee:

You want to succeed at fundraising? You're going to need a serious approach and that means getting a team together who will focus on fundraising throughout the year.



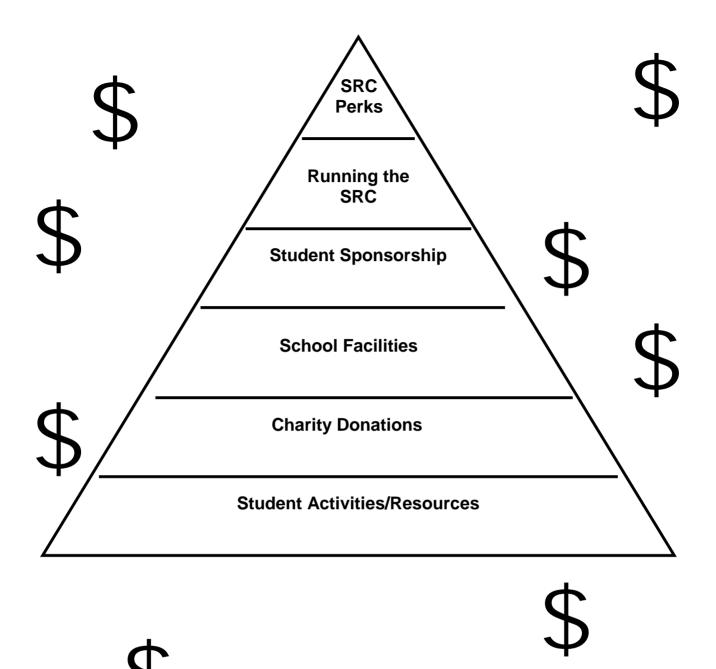
A Fundraising Committee should always exist. They should have the responsibility of knowing what resources you have, what resources are needed and figuring out how to fill the gaps.

The Fundraising Committee are big picture people and look at a whole year plan. They have a creative responsibility and need to be inspired about their role so they don't feel like they are simply accountants.

The Fundraising Committee can tell you when the SRC is being too ambitious, and they can tell you what realistic targets and timelines might be.

INMPORTANT: The *fundraising committee* doesn't DO all the fundraising themselves. They still require the people power of all members of the SRC – their job is to plan the ideas and lead or oversee them.

A fundraising committee is different from a *social services committee*, however. This is an important distinction because the *fundraising committee* must also be equipped to look at raising money for the running of the SRC or to buy something for the students.



The Healthy Spending Pyramid

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There's money out there going begging. It's just sitting there waiting for you to claim it. And amazingly you let it drift by without collecting.

There's several types of free money sitting there for you, you just need to know where to look.

1. Money you've already earned.

The most obvious source of money you've already earned is the uncollected payments on events like a casual dress day. If one or two people fail to pay from each class, that amount adds up very quickly. Ok, so it's only \$20. This time. But three or four free dress days a year and suddenly it's \$80. Next year more people think they can get away with it, and the loss grows and grows.

-----Get the rest of the staff *serious* about handing out detentions for people who fail to pay. Perhaps students are not given their end of year report until they have returned all library books and settled up all debts with the SRC etc. ------Have your SRC reps collect the money at form assembly rather than leaving this job to form captains or for the home group teacher to appoint someone randomly. These people will frequently record their friends as having paid when they haven't. Have SRC tally the records and count the money. Any discrepancy that occurs is their responsibility to find and rectify. (you don't need to enforce this point too severely, but impress upon the individuals the importance of counting the money and the responsibility involved).

Are you giving all this money raised to worthy causes? Well, the SRC is a worthy cause! Yes, it is! YES IT IS! You are volunteers working to support students' rights and improve their lives in school. It's not like you're funding a trip to the Bahamas. Take a percentage of the collection and put it towards your projects.

2. Money you don't need to be spending

Write a short list of your regular expenses. Do you really need to be spending that much on food for meetings? It's important, yes, but are you going overboard? What about photocopying? Is there any other school budget that would be willing to pick up this tab? Can you cut down your photocopying? What equipment can you borrow instead of owning? \$

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