

5 Ways a Church Education Secretary Can Enhance Christian Education

by David Cadavero

1. Keep records of children.

- ★ A card or on-line file of school-aged children needs to be developed identifying where each school-aged child goes to school. The file should also include: the address, phone number, grade level, and date of birth of each school-aged child.
- ★ Information from the file is to be shared with the principal from your local church school district.

2. Promote Christian education at least once per quarter.

- ★ Educate church members concerning the benefits of Christian education.
- ★ Invite the principal or his/her designee to present a “progress report” on the school. Also, the school choir, drama club, or student pianist/violinist, etc., can provide special music. Testimonies by parents and distribution of a school newsletter would enhance this program.

3. Develop a Worthy Student Fund.

- ★ Encourage members to endorse and follow a plan of 50¢ per member per month. If each member contributes 50¢ monthly, then thousands of dollars per year could be raised for **Worthy Student Scholarships**.
- ★ Consider including as part of the worship service a **Little Lambs Offering** (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.). All collected funds should go to *Worthy Student Scholarships*.

4. Plan in the church schedule for one Sabbath to be designated as Christian Education day.

- ★ Have the pastor, someone from the school, or your local Office of Education deliver a sermon on Christian education.
- ★ Have the local church school students lead out in various parts of the service—i.e., scripture reading, special music, prayer, children’s story, etc. (In some instances, students can deliver sermons on Christian education.

5. Contact all parents with school-age children and encourage them to enroll their child in a Seventh-day Adventist school.

- ★ Plan to systematically contact/visit homes of all Seventh-day Adventist parents with school-age children.
- ★ Present the marketing DVDs on Christian education and on Cognitive Genesis (both of which are developed by the North American Division) to all parents with school age children. These DVDs are available through the Office of Education at no charge.
- ★ Request the principal and/or their designees to accompany you to make visitations to the homes of children who attend your congregation. The purpose of this visitation is to encourage parents to send their child(ren) to the church school/academy.
- ★ Distribute the promotional publication *Adventist Education vs. Public Education: Which is Better?* to all parents of school-age children. It is available in English and Spanish through the Office of Education at no charge.
- ★ Distribute to church members the one-page handout *Beatitudes of Christian Education*. This is available in English and Spanish through the Office of Education at no charge.