



RETIRED TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

A potential resource for recruitment

Retired Teachers/Educators are a great resource to consider for Kiwanis Clubs, both new and existing. Once retired, teachers have more time to dedicate themselves to serving children and sharing their love for kids. There are additional opportunities to serve with more time on their hands. Teachers are positive role models who are great contributors to strengthening clubs and offering their talents, skills and abilities to either a new or existing Kiwanis Club.

How to begin

Like all retirees, retiring educators suddenly have a lot of time on their hands and are often looking for something to do and to become involved in. Retired educators have already demonstrated a love for children and through Kiwanis can now serve children on their own schedule without the burden of lesson plans, grading papers, complying with regulations and the like.

Qualifications

Teachers already have many of the skill sets that Kiwanis Clubs require for members:

- Communication skills
- Coaching skills
- Mentoring abilities
- Problem Solving
- A positive disposition that can bring members together to achieve common goals and objectives in club excellence.
- Organizational abilities
- Critical thinking
- And many other admirable attributes

Potential Club Satellites

Often, current and/or former Service Leadership Programs Advisors can be considered as potential Club members.

- Teachers can be considered by some Kiwanis Clubs to be put together as a “Club Satellite” of the main club, that is as a separate group with it’s own identity within a larger Club until such time as they reach 15 members and desire to launch their own club.
- Another potential is for Kiwanis Clubs to contact their local Superintendent, District Administrator or School Principal to obtain a list of recently retired teachers who would be ideal applicants for Kiwanis membership.

Other Resources

- Teacher Appreciation Week – Kiwanis Clubs can use this opportunity for potential recruitment to find out which teachers are going to be retiring in the upcoming year, and would they be interested in joining their local Club? This may be an opportunity for the Kiwanis Key Club Advisors to get involved in helping the recruiters to make contact with the potential prospect.
- Hold a Teachers Forum during Appreciation Week – some topics of discussion could be:
 - What projects would most likely appeal to recently retired teachers? Literacy for Children, Food Insecurity, Youth Homelessness, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Inter-generational Clubs (5 Generations), etc.
 - Contact the school superintendent, headmaster district administrator or principal of the district or school for further advice and/or guidance.
 - As a Kiwanian, a recently Retired Teacher could contact a school principal to offer prepared lessons on specific subjects to teach children. These can be effectively prepared at home and recorded on Zoom or YouTube for distribution. Recording them allows the teachers and other decision makers to determine the appropriateness of the lesson before presenting to children.
 - An excellent opportunity is to approach the school principal and ask him/her if Kiwanis could recognize the recent retiring teachers after years of service to children.

Getting Started

- Contact schools including superintendents and/or principals who could assist you in identifying potential retired teachers as prospective members.
- Set up a Teacher Appreciation Week to show teachers all the very best of what Kiwanis is and does for its community and children.
- Contact former and current Service Leadership Programs and Kiwanis Advisors for referrals of prospective members.
- The Service Leadership Programs or Key Club could put together an event to recognize and thank the retiring educator for their exemplary service to both the school and children.
- Some options to consider would be offering the retired educator, honorary membership in the Kiwanis Club or other concessions that would be appreciated.
- Get the word out in the community that your Kiwanis Club wishes to put together a Club Satellite of Retired Teachers with the ultimate intention to form a Kiwanis Club of Retired Educators or like-minded educators.
- Talk to retired educators and teachers you know are about to retire. Make the “ask” to join Kiwanis and continue Serving the Children of the World”.
- An excellent opportunity is to approach the school principal and ask him/her if Kiwanis could recognize the recent retiring teachers after years of service to children. Some examples are providing gift cards, N-95 masks, anything that would be valued and appreciated.