

Red and White Night

(Insert your school colors here)

What?: A month-long school spirit event that uses healthy competition to promote school and community involvement.

Who?: All students and staff are separated into two different alphabetical teams.

RED TEAM: Anyone with the last names A-K

WHITE TEAM: Anyone with the last names L-Z

When?: The events occur throughout the month of March, culminating in a 6 hour event on the last Friday of the month.

Prior to the night of

The daily events take place in the morning before school and during lunch blocks.

There is also a dance that takes place the Friday before Red & White Night.

THEME

Each year the event has a different theme. The theme needs to be distinct enough to have two separate/opposing factors.

Examples from past years: "Ancient VS. Future", "Disney VS. Nickelodeon", "Heroes VS. Villains", "City VS. Country", "TV VS. Movies", "Urban VS. Jungle"

What are the events?

MONTH EVENTS: These are usually events that take place in different classrooms and last approximately 30 mins, either in the morning or during lunches.

Examples of events:

Jenga

Harry Potter Trivia

Human Table

Jeopardy

Cake Decorating

Great Opening Lines

Fashion Police

Cup Head

"RED AND WHITE NIGHT" events

These events take place during actual Red & White Night in the gymnasium. There are a wide range of different games, such as:

Human Carry

Obstacle Course

Magic Carpet

Tug Of War

Human Pyramid

Grab Ball

Sports Relay

Catapult

Community Service Events

Bottle Cap collection: The Environmental Club collects twist-off caps from plastic bottles and jugs to promote proper recycling. The team that collects the most bottle caps (in weight) gets one point.

Can Tab collection: Aluminum can tabs are collected for the Ronald McDonald house; the team that collects the most (in weight) gets one point.

Canned goods collection: Canned goods are collected to benefit a local food bank. The team that collects most (in weight) gets one point.

Local charity donations: Each year, a different local charity is selected. Donations are collected in lunches throughout the month and on the night of. The team that collects the most money gets one point.

How can you make “Red and White” work for your school?

1. **Find great advisors:** The advisors that put together this event every year are committed to putting in at least four months’ work to making the event possible. Their dedication is what has kept the event running for two decades.
2. **Captains:** 2 captains are selected from each grade (usually a boy and a girl) for each team. Additionally, two seniors are selected for overall captains. Interested students fill out an application, and the student body votes their top 3 students through to a faculty interview, where teachers choose the most qualified candidate.
3. **Theme:** Choose a theme that will be broad enough to incorporate many different posters, costumes, etc. but will still be unique and make the night enjoyable.
4. **T-Shirt Design:** Begin collecting student designs for the Red & White Night t-shirts. A winning design is chosen and an incentive is offered to the student who’s artwork is chosen for the year.
5. **Events:** Find month events that appeal to a wide variety of students with different interests, and find teachers willing to host these events in their classrooms.
6. **Posters:** Each team is responsible to decorate half of the gymnasium with posters pertaining to their theme. These posters must be hand traced, painted, and cut out by the students.
7. **Charity Collections:** Choose any local charities that you wish to benefit, and begin collecting during the month prior to the event.
8. **The Dance:** Usually in association with Student Council, a Red & White Night dance is held the Friday before the actual event. Students are encouraged to wear their team colors or a costume pertaining to theme.
9. **Event Practice:** For any students interested in participating in a “Night Of” event, sign-ups are held during lunches. The student must attend a “Day Practice” (held during lunch periods in the gym) or a “Night Practice” (held in the evening in the gym) in order to be eligible. Every student who attends one or both of these practices is placed in at least one event.
10. **Poster Hang-Up:** The night before Red & White Night, students spend the entire evening beginning right after school preparing the gym with the posters they have created throughout the month. A lot of student involvement and effort is required to make this night timely and effective.
11. **The “Night Of”:** Typically, doors open at 6:30 PM for Red & White Night. It begins with an introduction of teams/captains followed by captain-specific events (skit and tire pull). Then, the competition begins and the captains ensure that each student who attended practice is in an event and that there is an equal amount of students to make sure the games are fair. Additionally, teacher volunteers are in attendance as judges to make sure there is no foul play. Special community judges are brought in as well.
12. **Say “Thank You!”:** After the event is over, make sure to send thank-you cards to all teachers, staff, and community members who helped make the event possible. Their continued involvement is necessary for the event to keep running year after year.

In conclusion:

Red and White Night is an event that Rancocas Valley has done for twenty years, and it has been a huge success at both our school and other schools that have used it as inspiration. If the proper time and effort is put in, the event promotes school spirit and is also beneficial to the community. Although the teams are divided, it invites the students and faculty come together in support of a common goal. With help from students, teachers, and your community, you can make this activity work for your school!

Questions? E-mail us at juliadeborah3@yahoo.com or joepreader@gmail.com. We’d be happy to help you in any way we can!