Recognition Ideas for your Student Employees to Show your Appreciation

1. Treat Day – full-time staff bring in treats for student employees.

2. Take pictures – post student employee pictures and list what wonderful things they do for your department.

3. Send a special Thank You letter to your student employees to show your appreciation.

4. Coupon Booklets – insert coupons for a free can of pop, movie night at the boss’ house (everyone needs to redeem for this one), one dozen home baked goodies, etc. Be creative in designing your own coupons.

5. Bookstore Certificates are always a nice treat for students and they will definitely use them!

6. Notes Home – send a note to the families of your student employees. Let them know what the student does, how their work impacts your department, and how terrific the student is.

7. Buy low cost, blank certificates and make up silly awards for students: best telephone voice, best web-surfer, etc.

8. Office Party – celebrate with food (such as tacos, pizza or subs) and great conversation between your staff.

9. Friendship Plants – take cuttings from a plant in the office and give to each student as a live “connection” to the office.

10. Pat on the Back – draw an outline of your hand on a piece of paper. Photocopy enough copies for all students in your office. On each hand write a note that tells the student why they deserve a “Pat on the Back”.

11. Use this week as an opportunity to start an award recognition program. Look around the office or at home for a white elephant item. Name the item for the award (Employee of the Month/Week, Great Idea Award, Gotcha Award – catch someone in the act of doing something good) and then make the first presentation of it during Student Employee Appreciation Week.

12. Make a banner to hang for the whole week in your office.

13. Decorate an office bulletin board or the office door for the week in recognition of your students.

14. Good Egg Award – buy plastic Easter Eggs, fill with goodies and give out with “Good Egg” certificates. List what the student did to deserve this award.

15. Care Package with cookies and treats
16. Evaluate your student employee’s performance and give them feedback.

17. Buy a pizza for your students or have a potluck. Gather gift certificates from local vendors.

18. An award ceremony for your student staff.

19. Treat bags for special efforts they do or for that week

20. A note on letterhead, special card commending them for some wonderful efforts.