



# ad·vo·cate (noun /'advəkət/): Using the time, talents, and resources you have to speak on behalf of children





### Are you an advocate?







## Are you mission-focused?



#### Utah PTA Mission

To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

### Vision of Utah PTA:

To fulfill the mission, Utah PTA will:

- Advocate by speaking on behalf of all children and youth in schools, in the community, before governmental bodies, and before other organizations that make decisions affecting children.
- Develop programs, resources, and leadership skills that enhance the lives of all children, youth, and their families.
- Engage the public in united and equitable efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth.





# What is PTA advocacy?



#### "To Advocate" is to plead another's cause, to speak or write in support of someone.

According to National PTA, "PTA Advocacy means supporting and speaking up for students in schools, in communities, and before governing bodies and other decision-makers of policies or practices affecting students."







- 1. Identify a Legislative/Advocacy Vice President
- 2. Discuss ways to Support your School Improvement Plan
- 3. Sign up for State and Federal Action Alerts
- 4. Attend Utah PTA Advocacy Conference & PTA Day at the Capitol
- 5. Develop relationships





1. Identify a Legislative/Advocacy Vice President



- The primary responsibility of a local PTA legislative or advocacy vice president is to keep advocacy at the forefront of the discussion
- Advocacy should be on the agenda
- Represent your local PTA at school board meetings, SCC Meetings, Utah PTA Legislative Advocacy Committee, etc.







- Meet with your principal
- Learn about your school *Teacher and Student Success Plan* and the *Land Trust Plan* created by the school community council







# 3. Sign up for state and federal action alerts



- Utah PTA Take Action Memberhub
  <a href="mailto:leann@utahpta.org">leann@utahpta.org</a>
- National PTA Take Action <u>https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/take-action/sign-up-for-alerts</u>
- Utah PTA Advocacy on Facebook
- Utah School Community Councils on Facebook

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.

- Maya Angelou

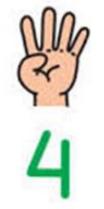




4. Attend Utah PTA Advocacy Conference & PTA Day at the Capitol

- Utah PTA Advocacy Conference October 7, 2021 JSD Auxiliary Services Building 7905 Redwood Road West Jordan, UT
- PTA Day at the Capitol Virtual Training Day In-person lunch with the legislators







# 5. Develop relationships



- Teachers and administrators
- Local and State school board members
- State and Federal legislators



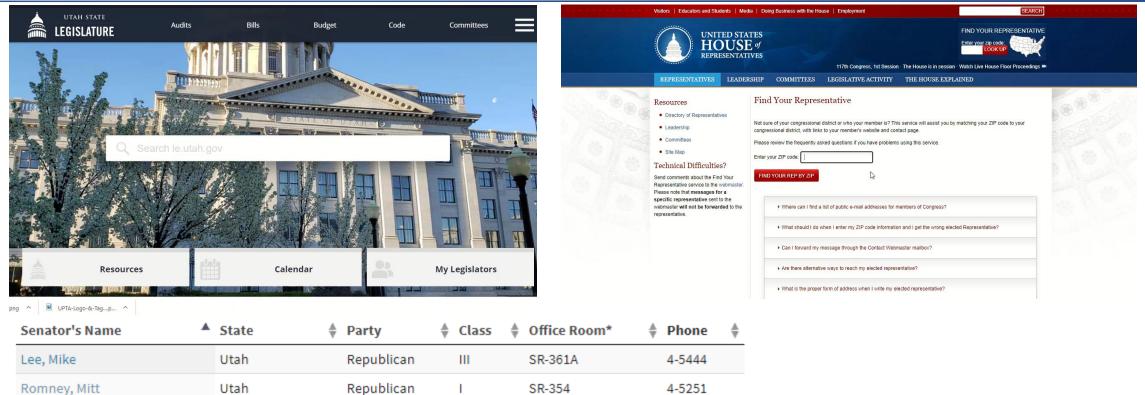
Relationships build responsive leaders Reactive Leaders react without thinking Responsive Leaders react with thought





### Who represents me?





https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative https://www.senate.gov/senators/index.htm Enter Utah in the Search Bar https://elections.utah.gov/map/district-maps https://le.utah.gov/

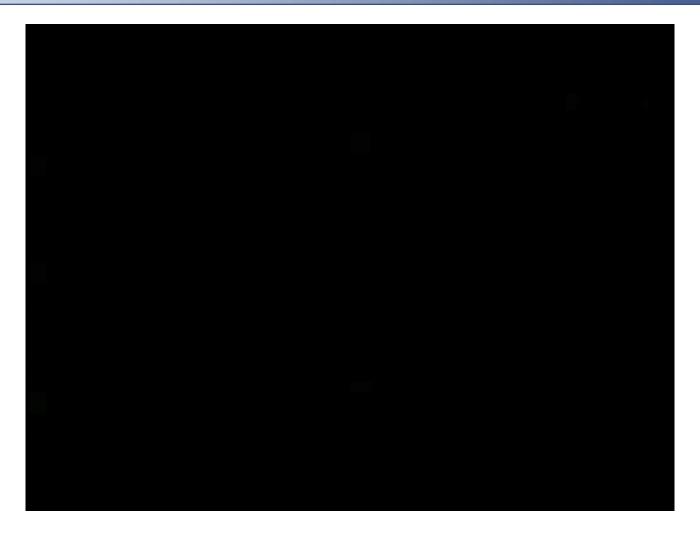




# What is PTA's legacy?



Three delegates from Utah joined with over 2000 others at the first National **Congress of Mothers** meeting in Washington DC in 1897. Will you continue Utah PTA's legacy and be a voice for children?







# High five for being a PTA advocate!





#### Unless SOMEONE LIKE YOU CARES a whole awful lot. nothing is GOING to get BETTER IT'S NOT.

-Dr. Seuss-







## Follow Utah PTA





#### Facebook

Groups you can join:

- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils





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