

ADVOCACY

OVERVIEW



PTA's Mission is to Advocate for All Children

Advocacy in PTA is speaking up for all children:

- in schools;
- in the community; and
- before government bodies that make decisions affecting children and families

Advocacy is the foundation of PTA: to speak up for every child in our schools, in our community, in our state, and in our nation. Advocacy begins at the local level, with parents speaking to teachers or PTAs speaking to principals or school districts. When we advocate at the local level, we can affect the lives of thousands of children. When we advocate at the state and national level, we can affect the lives of millions of children. PTA provides you and your members with the information and tools to be effective advocates for children.

How can you and your PTA advocate for children?

- Visit your child's school and talk with teachers or administrators on behalf the children.
- [Join the Illinois PTA Take Action Network](#) to be informed on urgent issues that need your voice added to PTA's one voice.
- Take action on Illinois PTA alerts and share them with your PTA, school, and community.
- Utilize [Voter Voice](#) to find your elected officials and determine the committees on which they serve. Share that information with your PTA community.
- Use [National PTA's Advocacy Toolkit](#) to build advocacy campaigns on local issues and policies, to learn how to work with the media, and to conduct successful meetings with elected officials
- Partner with like-minded individuals and organizations that:
 - Question the way policies that affect education and our children are administered
 - Are inclusive and engaging
 - Propose policy solutions
 - Open up space for public conversation
 - Raise significant issues that concern our children
 - Engage in the political process to ensure the well-being of our children.
- Write a Letter to the Editor of your local paper on issues affecting Illinois children.
- Ask questions and invite the [Illinois PTA legislative director](#) to visit and discuss PTA advocacy efforts with your PTA or community.