



# WWWWW.How to be an Advocacy Chair

Who	You, your school community, anyone who cares about children and families
What	Advocate: “A person who speaks or writes in support of something/someone
When	Whenever necessary to promote the welfare of children and families
Where	In classrooms; at PTA, school board and city council meetings; in Sacramento and Washington, DC.
Why	“To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.”

**How?**

- ❖ Become familiar with resources – people and materials
  - Study the Legislation Job Description and Advocacy Section in the CA State PTA Toolkit
  - Familiarize yourself with material on pertinent websites
  - Read a daily newsletter
  - Read the Fourth District PTA Orange Leaves
  - Subscribe to Fourth District’s “Leg-Link” to receive current legislation news and alerts. E-mail your request to [leg-tech@fourthdistrictpta.org](mailto:leg-tech@fourthdistrictpta.org)
  - Get to know your Council and District Advocacy people
- ❖ Learn who your elected representatives are (School board, city council, state and federal)
  - Become familiar with what kind of issues each has control over
- ❖ Attend PTA training and seminars related to your position
  - Spring/Fall Fourth District Leadership Workshops
  - California State PTA Convention (Long Beach – May 1-4, 2008)
  - Fourth District Roundtables (February 1 & April 25)
  - Fourth District Sacramento Safari (April 1-2)
- ❖ Take Action – Motivate PTA members to join you
  - Prepare a legislative report for every PTA meetings and pass out information
  - Write articles for each issue of your PTA newsletter
  - Educate parents about issues that effect their children
  - Establish phone/e-mail trees to pass on important advocacy information
  - Distribute voter registration cards before every election - have a booth at Back to School Night and Open House

