



*PRE-CONFERENCE – LEGISLATIVE  
STRATEGIES DESIGNED FOR NEW  
ADVOCATES AND THOSE WHO NEED A  
REFRESHER*

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**6PM-7PM**

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# ORGANIZING AN EFFECTIVE VISIT WITH LEGISLATORS

- Know Your Stuff
- Know the Process
- Know Your Legislators

# KNOW YOUR STUFF

- Understand the essentials of the issue; the specifics of the policy
- Study the OACTE policy paper
- Articulate why action is needed
- Use real-life student examples
- Remember, you are the expert!

# UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

- Who makes decisions relevant to CTE?
  - Majority and Minority Caucus Leadership
  - House and Senate Finance Committees
  - House and Senate Education Committees
  - Staff are the first access points to legislators

## KNOW YOUR LEGISLATORS

- Proactively introduce yourself to your legislators – first impressions are critical!
- Research their backgrounds, legislative priorities, accomplishments, etc.
- Get to know their legislative aides

# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

- A strong, unified, and consistent message moves legislators towards legislative action.
- The more they realize voters in their districts are aware of an issue the more they are likely to vote one way or another on a bill.

## AN EFFECTIVE VISIT - OVERVIEW

- Clearly state your policy position
- Share a personal story
- Cite facts, research and statistics
- Give legislator opportunity to ask questions
  
- Leave information
- Offer to provide additional information
- Thank them for their time

# AN EFFECTIVE VISIT – FOLLOW UP

- More detail tomorrow.
- Effective follow-up can be as important as the visit.
- Familiarity breeds successful policy initiatives.

RELAX!!!!

- Enjoy your day participating in the Legislative process and advocating for your students!

# QUESTIONS?

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