

SPECIFIC AUDIENCES · PARENTS & FAMILIES

The Parent Advocate Worksheet

Connect your child's classroom experience to the decisions made in Jackson

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Parents are often the most motivated advocates and the least equipped. Everything you care about in your child's school is connected to decisions made in Jackson. This worksheet helps you make that connection — and act on it.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

What is one thing about your child's school that you wish was different?

Is this a school-level issue, a district-level issue, or a state-level issue?

THE POLICY CONNECTION

What Mississippi law or policy created the conditions for this problem?

Is there a bill in the legislature right now that would address it?

Who is the legislator on the Education Committee that represents your district?

THE SCHOOL BOARD vs. THE LEGISLATURE

School boards control: local policy, principal and teacher hiring, school budget allocation, discipline policies, school calendar. The Legislature controls: school funding (MAEP), teacher pay statewide, graduation requirements, testing mandates, charter school policy.

Is your issue a school board issue or a legislature issue?

YOUR ACTION

I will contact my school board member about this issue

I will contact my state legislator about this issue

I will attend a school board meeting

I will find other parents who share this concern and coordinate

I will testify at a committee hearing if one is scheduled