

# ADVOCACY TIPS

- **Be prepared** - Have a plan for your meeting and practice beforehand to help you feel as ready as you can be. Think through the logistics of your meeting - where are you meeting, how long do you have with your policymaker, what are your main talking points, and what resources and/or contact information do you want to leave behind.
- **Be professional and personal** - Policymakers really do want to hear from their constituents like you! Be sure to keep your meeting personal and authentic to you, while also being respectful of your policymaker and their time.
- **Be clear and concise** - Don't get dragged down by going into the weeds of your topic or using technical terms and jargon. Make your message simple and to the point, with a clear ask for your policymaker.
- **Be confident** - You already are an expert on your school! Don't be intimidated by your policy maker and remember they're just a person like you - focus on connecting with them.
- **Be ready for what comes next** - Meeting with your policymaker is just the beginning of your advocacy journey! Consider this as the first step towards building an authentic relationship with your representative or senator that you can continue building upon.

