TIPS FOR ENGAGING YOUR Indiana Legislators About Education

Following these simple tips will assist in a successful dialogue with your legislators regarding education topics.

Who?
- Visit iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators/ to find legislators in your area.
- In addition to your legislator, contact the chairman for the:
  - Senate Education and Career Development Committee
  - House Education Committee
  - Senate Appropriations Committee and School Funding Subcommittee
  - House Ways and Means Committee
  - Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee
- You can find all committee chairmen/members at iga.in.gov/legislative/2020/committees/.

What?
- When contacting legislators about education and education finances do the following:
  - **Be Concise** - Initial communications should be brief and include your name, your school, and the topic you want to discuss. Clearly explain, provide data, and solutions when contacting legislators.
  - **Be Confident** - Do not be afraid to contact legislators about a topic; they serve their constituents and Indiana.
  - **Respect Opinions** - Education is a common topic at the Statehouse and there are many different opinions. Mutual respect should be given if there is a topic that results in a disagreement.

When?
- Contact legislators in a **timely** and **relevant** manner.
- If the topic you wish to discuss is being heard in a committee, being voted upon, etc. then it is the best time to contact legislators.
- Follow the education bills moving through the legislature; do not wait until the legislative session is over to contact legislators.
- You can find all education related bills for the current session at doe.in.gov/legaffairs or http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2020/bills/.

Why?
- Legislators in charge of education and education funding committees should hear from educators in the field.
- Teachers, administrators, etc. have a powerful **voice** for education, **USE IT**!