YALSA Board of Directors Advocacy Engagement Checklist

Among their duties, Board members are expected to engage at a personally meaningful level in YALSA advocacy efforts and publicly support positions taken by the YALSA Board in their role as a Board member. The activities that Board members can do include:

**In Your Community**
- _____ Invite an elected official to be your guest at an event at your library or institution
- _____ Meet with an elected official or policy maker in their district office
- _____ Participate at a public hearing or town hall meeting
- _____ Promote YALSA advocacy messages and resources by sharing them with your networks
- _____ Act as the lead YALSA contact for an elected official who represents your district and develop a plan to build a relationship with him/her
- _____ Attend appropriate civic engagement events to become better educated on issues and to build relationships with elected officials and policy makers
- _____ Write a letter to the editor of your local paper about a YALSA advocacy issue
- _____ Present a workshop or state conference program using YALSA’s canned advocacy presentations
- _____ Vote in local and state elections
- _____ Participate in YALSA activities aimed at the local level, such as District Days

**At the National Level**
- _____ Invite an elected official to attend a YALSA event
- _____ Represent the Board at events such as National Library Legislative Day
- _____ Record a brief video message that either 1) encourages members to participate in advocacy efforts or 2) relays a YALSA advocacy message to elected officials, policy makers and/or the general public
- _____ Send emails or phone calls to elected officials as part of ALA/YALSA action alerts
- _____ Participate in YALSA advocacy efforts implemented through social media, such as Tweet Your Senator or Thunderclaps and encourage others to do so
- _____ Stay informed on issues by reading advocacy and policy updates on ALA’s District Dispatch and by signing up for ALA Legislative Action Alerts and encourage others to do so
- _____ Contribute an advocacy related blog post to the YALSAblog, or another relevant blog
- _____ Vote in federal elections
- _____ Participate in advocacy-focused training to build your skills

*Board members are asked to complete a minimum of three items above per year.*