

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.