



## October 14, 2022

### Utah PTA Advocacy Conference - Register Now!



Register now for the Utah PTA Advocacy Conference, "Strong Families Build Strong Students" on November 9, 2022 at Mountain Ridge High School in Herriman, Utah from 9:00-2:00 PM. Registration is \$15 including lunch (or \$5 for virtual attendees). JD Barnes, former contestant on the BYUtv series, Relative Race, will speak on "Overcoming challenges through family connections, past and present" and Dr. Ali Crandall will speak on "What are ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and Counter-ACES and what is their role in building strong families?" Participants will also

choose additional sessions on critical issues to help build strong families. During a working lunch, Utah PTA needs your voice to approve the 2022-2023 Legislative Priorities and various new Resolutions. Find conference and registration information at [www.utahpta.org/advocacy-conference-2022](http://www.utahpta.org/advocacy-conference-2022).

### "Membership Magic" Award



Any PTA that submits at least 50% of last year's membership by October 25th will be entered into a drawing for a buy one, get one free registration to the Utah PTA Leadership Convention in May. 2 winners will be chosen, so get those membership dues submitted! Visit our [website](#) and follow us on social media for membership tips and available awards!

## Utah PTA Suicide Prevention Toolkit

The Utah PTA Suicide Prevention Toolkit is evidence-based and has been created by prevention specialists in collaboration with Utah PTA. It contains a combination of upstream, midstream and downstream approaches designed to help children of all ages. When it comes to suicide prevention and mental health promotion, most of the focus is often on downstream interventions; that is, pulling our kids out of the water when they are in crisis. Families and educators find themselves exhausted while resources are depleted, and everyone keeps throwing in the life preservers and performing other heroic deeds. We need to place more emphasis on the upstream interventions which can help prevent our youth from falling into the river in the first place. Learn more from our [Suicide Prevention Toolkit at utahpta.org](http://utahpta.org).



## College Prep - What should we be doing now?

### vidsig and **Utah PTA** everychild.onevoice. SPECIAL OFFER

High school students (and parents) can have honest and live, one-to-one 10-minute conversations with vetted undergrads at colleges and universities to help determine whether a school is a perfect fit – before you make your decision.

VIDSIG's College Experience Experts are current undergrads representing 200+ colleges and universities across the US, the UK, Canada and Australia.

All experts are vetted through an extensive process to make sure they are aligned with our integrity-based platform. VISIT VIDSIG.COM AND BOOK YOUR SESSIONS TODAY!

(Sessions are \$25) USE THE PROMO CODE: College4u for your FREE SESSION!



It's only October, but high school seniors already need to take note of scholarship & college application deadlines. Most high schools will be hosting college application days or weeks, where some of our Utah schools will be waiving their application fees. Others will be hosting FAFSA nights, where students can get help filling out their FAFSA application - which needs to be submitted to be considered for a number of available scholarships. Utah PTA also has a great benefit for students who would like to find out more about different universities they may be considering. Through [VidSig.com](http://VidSig.com), students can get a virtual tour of different schools from current students. It's a great way to get the inside scoop without all of the travel expenses..

## Free Reading Resources for Parents



Did you know that the University of Utah Reading Clinic (UURC) provides direct services to Utah parents and educators across our state? The main goal of the clinic is to serve as a resource for parents by offering ideas for supporting readers at home and online assessment of student reading skills. For more support, the UURC also offers in-person and online intervention to struggling readers. Research results show that these interventions significantly improve the reading performance of at-risk and struggling readers. UURC also supports educators. Educators interested in learning how to provide reading assessments, interventions, or strategies for supporting a whole class in challenging text and written composition may participate in a UURC practicum. Professional development is offered both at the clinic, in online courses, and on-site at schools across the state.

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## Rethinking Graduation Requirements

Would you like to offer input on Utah's graduation requirements for K-12 education? USBE staff invites participants to a series of discussions to better understand how Utah students can achieve the knowledge, skills, and disposition of Utah's Portrait of a Graduate through the learning experiences they engage in leading to high school graduation. Focus groups will consider different characteristics of innovative graduation models and will be providing insights for a future graduation working group. Focus groups will be held in October and November and participants will have a choice of face-to-face or virtual engagement. To register, please submit the information [HERE](#) by October 21, 2022.



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