

Welcome to 2025 Leadership Convention

This session will begin soon



Legislative Basics

Amber Bonner, Utah PTA Education Commissioner





LEGISLATIVE
101

Presenter



Amber Bonner

**Utah PTA Education
Commissioner**



Goals

Goal #1

Find out who represents YOU at all levels

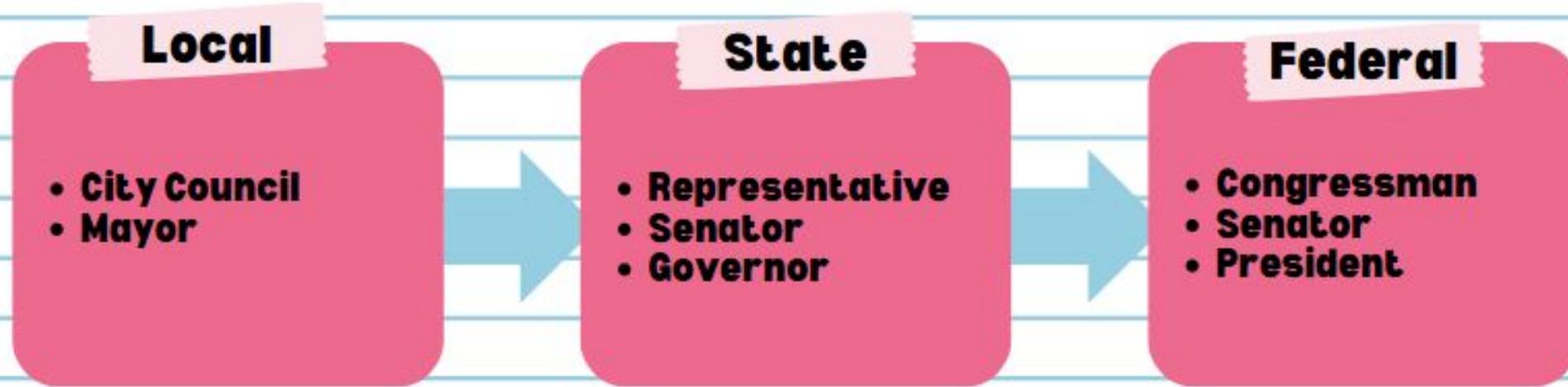
Goal #2

Communicate effectively with your representative

Goal #3

Solve problems you are concerned about

Levels of Representation



At each level of government, you have a LEGISLATIVE branch representative and an EXECUTIVE branch representative. For state and federal government, there are two legislative representatives.

Levels of Representation: School Specific



For schools, you have both elected leaders and appointed leaders. The local and State Superintendent are appointed by the Board of Education. Employees at the school itself are hired by the principal.

How do I know who represents me?

There are two great resources:

- vote.utah.gov
- le.utah.gov

Let's look at both of these.

Each governmental entity will also have their own website, and may have newsletters and social media accounts.

vote.utah.gov



This website is your best resource for all things election related. You can check to make sure you are registered to vote and find candidate information here.



le.utah.gov



**This is the official website of the Utah State Legislature.
Be sure to bookmark it! There is a wealth of great
information here.**



Other possibilities:

Every website is different. But they should have a place to find out who your representative is.

Let's look at JordanDistrict.org

- **City Website**
- **District Website**
- **USBE Website**
- **Social Media**
- **Ask your local PTA leaders**
- **Ask neighbors/friends**



JordanDistrict.org/board

Parents & Students

Faculty & Staff

Our Schools

Resources

Board of Education

Search



Board of Education

Jordan School District is led by the Board of Education, which consists of seven elected officials that represent their communities. The Board works with students, parents and District employees to provide students with educational opportunities, prepare for the world of work, and develop attributes of citizenship necessary in a democratic society. The Board is dedicated to maintaining a safe environment that promotes individual responsibility, personal achievement, and respect for all individuals.

The following section provides information about each Board member. You can also find out more about [Board meetings](#), [Board policies](#), [Bulletin BOARD](#), [Committee Assignments](#), [Current Public Notices](#), [Portrait of a Graduate](#) and [Voting District Map](#).



This is the Official Website of the Jordan School District. Board members are listed, along with their contact information and a map of the area they represent.

Niki George

- Board President
- Voting District 6
- 2021-2026
- 801-694-8576
- niki.george@jordandistrict.org
- Communities represented by voting district: [Copperton](#), [West Jordan](#)
- [Conflict of Interest Disclosure](#)



How can I communicate effectively?

Remember these things:

- **Representatives are just people.**
- **They don't know everything.**
- **They want your input.**
- **Their time is limited.**

Find out how they prefer to communicate with you- email, text, call or in person!

Don't be afraid to reach out!

Identify Yourself

Keep it Short & Polite

Develop a relationship

You do not have to know every detail of the subject you are concerned about. Give them your thoughts and what parts are important to you.

Communication ideas:

**Sign up for their
Newsletter**

Phone Calls

Text

**Follow on Social
Media**

**Comment in a
Meeting**

**Ask for a Capitol
Tour**

Email

**Say Hello at an
event**

**Invite them to an
event**

**Civic Engagement
Nights**

**Ask them to meet
with you**

How can I solve a problem?

First

Learn about the issue. Who is the person to help? What would need to happen to fix it?

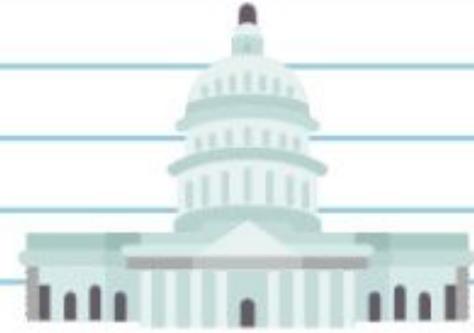
Second

Contact them! Help them understand the problem. Ask for help.

Last

FOLLOW UP. Ask them what solutions they have and how you can help.

Let's Review



Informed

Know who represents you at all levels

Empowered

Know how to communicate effectively

Engaged

Know how to solve a problem



2025 Bills of Interest

SB 37: Minimum Basic Tax Rate Amendments

This Bill made changes to where property tax dollars would be allocated.

VETOED by Governor Cox

HB 267: Public Sector Labor Union Amendments

This bill amended provisions governing public employee, public safety and public fire labor organizations.

PASSED- REFERENDUM FILED

HB 106: Income Tax Revisions

This Bill lowered the Income Tax rate to 4.5%, decreasing the available funding for schools.

PASSED

SB 178: Devices in Public Schools

This bill prohibits students from using a cellphone, smart watch or emerging technology during school hours.

PASSED

2025 Bills of Interest

HB 77: Flag Display Amendments

This bill prohibits a government entity or employee of a government entity from displaying a flag in or on the grounds of government property except certain exempted flags

PASSED

HB 455: Utah Fits All Program Amendments

This bill changes the amount that some students can receive from the voucher, prohibits certain expensed, makes reporting changes. The program saw a **SIGNIFICANT** funding increase this year.

PASSED

HB 381: Civics Education Amendments

This bill requires an additional $\frac{1}{2}$ credit of Social Studies for students to graduate from High School.

PASSED

HB 104: Firearm Safety in Schools

This bill requires schools to teach Firearm Safety to students.

PASSED

**Thanks for
coming!**



Connect with us on social media



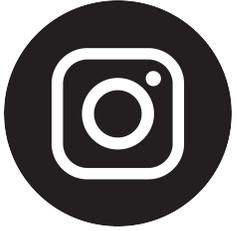
FACEBOOK

- Utah PTA
- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils
- Utah PTA Teachers



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X - @UtahPTAOneVoice



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