

UTAH PTA CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter Connecting & Empowering
Parents and PTA Leaders



September 29, 2022

Membership Mania with National PTA



Local PTA leaders are invited to join the journey as we discover ways to increase and diversify membership; explore free PTA resources; connect and engage with other local PTA leaders; hear how to make membership easier by connecting it to everything they do; earn points for a chance to win prizes; and more. [Register today!](#)

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Student Leadership Conference

Our Student Leadership theme for the year is "Forces for Good," and our sub-theme for our Student Leadership Conference is "Finding Your Why." Stand4Kind presenter, Ben Kjar, will be our keynote speaker, with the band Poolhouse performing as well. Ben Kjar was born with Crouzon syndrome. When he was young, he was told he would have a different life. That's exactly what he's done. Ben consistently says that it's about rising above life's challenges and becoming a victor, not a victim. Ben was Utah Valley



University's first-ever NCAA Division I Wrestling All-American, and he was also a member of Team USA Wrestling. He's a great motivational speaker who has shared his story with millions of people around the world. Cost is \$10 per student, or \$100 for 20 students. Registration is now open and the mail in registration form is [available online.](#)

State School Board Debates



STATE SCHOOL BOARD DEBATES
Join us for live debates!

Sept 29 Noon	District 14 Parts of Beaver, Sevier, Iron, Emery, Utah, Millard, Juab, Carbon, Sanpete, and Grand Co.	Emily Green Richard Jensen	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=520v7NFz5vc
Oct 4 Noon	District 1 Parts of Cache, Rich, Box Elder, Summit, and Morgan Counties	Curtis Benjamin Jennine Earl	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ep3YH5zyD8I
Oct 11 6pm	District 8 Parts of Taylorville, Kearns, West Jordan	Christina Boggs Audryn Damron	YouTube & in Person Times: Early College #15 874 Roy Del Circle West Jordan, UT	Link to come
Oct 12 Noon	District 5 Parts of West Valley City, Salt Lake City, South Salt Lake and Murray	Laurel Fetzer William Fisher Sarah Reale	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0H1HclubJg
Oct 13 Noon	District 6 Parts of Salt Lake City, Holladay, Millcreek, Emigration Canyon, Park City, Brighton, and Solitude	Carol Lear Melanie Monestere	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10kKsd1pdm0

The debate series is hosted by:



Watch out for the State School Board elections on your November general election ballot! The State School Board of Education (USBE) is comprised of 15 members elected for a 4-year term. They set the public education strategy and ensure that public education is the best that it can be in Utah. We have 4 debates in October. For updated debate information and links, visit the [Utah Education Debate Coalition Facebook page](#) If you watch live, you'll be able to ask the candidates questions. Click [here](#) to know which district you belong to.

Utah PTA Arts Education and Supplies Grant Due September 30th

Utah PTA believes that cultivation of the arts is important to Utah's children and that participation by an individual child can make a notable difference in a child's abilities, talents, and self-esteem. With these thoughts in mind, Utah PTA has developed a grant to encourage local schools to develop, promote, and provide quality art programs. This [grant](#) is provided to schools on an annual basis to assist in this effort. [Apply](#) by Friday, September 30!



Utah PTA
everychild.seesvoice

Utah PTA Arts Education & Supplies Grants

Due September 30, 2022
Funds to be used in the 2022-2023 school year
Reopening the application time frame to help more PTA/PTSA in their art projects—Take advantage of this extra opportunity
[LEARN MORE](#)



Is your child getting the education they deserve?



The Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program ([BTS Arts](#)) provides arts-integrated instruction to elementary students, increasing student performance in every subject. BTS Arts puts specialists trained in visual art, dance, music, and theatre in elementary schools to develop lesson plans that incorporate art into the core curriculum, thus enhancing student learning. The arts engage students in a way no other curriculum can and provides an outlet for joy and learning. Find out if you have a BTS Arts Educator at your school by visiting www.btsarts.org. If you don't

have one, please email to find out how to advocate for one at your

school, lisa@thesorensongroup.com. As one educator states, "Happy children learn better, and happy teachers teach better."

You are invited to the "Breakfast of Champions"



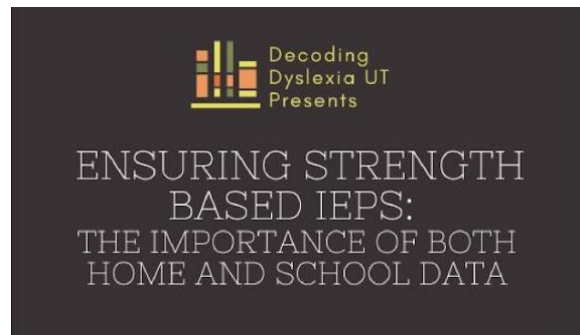
Voices of Utah Children is inviting you to a FREE breakfast on October 12h. Dr. Dana Suskind - the author of "Parent Nation" will be speaking. RSVP is required. We'll see you at the Ken Garff Scholarship Club at the University of Utah Rice Eccles Stadium, 451 S. 1400 E., starting at 8:00AM.

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Free online IEP workshop

ENSURING STRENGTH-BASED IEPs: The Importance of both home and school data.
Speaker: Liz Capone, M.S., Advocate and certified expert witness in Special Education. Decoding Dyslexia UT presents this free online workshop on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 pm.

If your child receives special education services, this will be a helpful workshop for you. Gain tips on ensuring that your child's needs and strengths are reflected in their IEP. This workshop will discuss how to ask data-centered questions in the IEP meeting, how to set up home data collection and how to package and present your child's strengths to the IEP team, and more. Register now



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More Than A Flag



The More Than A Flag campaign has announced a group of 20 semi-finalist designs for the new Utah state flag. Now is your chance to make your voice heard. Visit flag.utah.gov and share your thoughts by October 5th.

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Sharp Survey



We only have days left to give our input regarding the SHARP survey. The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) has created a taskforce to consider withdrawing their support. Please take 5-10 minutes before OCT 2 to support the SHARP survey and how it helps us make every child's potential a reality. Check out recent news stories from [KSL](#) and [The Daily Herald](#) for more information about this important survey.

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Target Circle voting ends September 30th



We're participating in the Target Circle program! You can vote for us and help direct Target's giving to benefit our nonprofit. For full program details and restrictions, visit Target Circle. target.com/circle

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