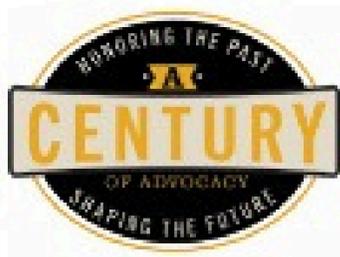


# WELCOME!

We will begin soon...





**ADVOCACY**

**101**

# Presenter



**Amber Bonner**

**Utah PTA Education  
Commissioner**



# Goals

## Goal #1

**Find out who  
represents  
YOU at all levels**

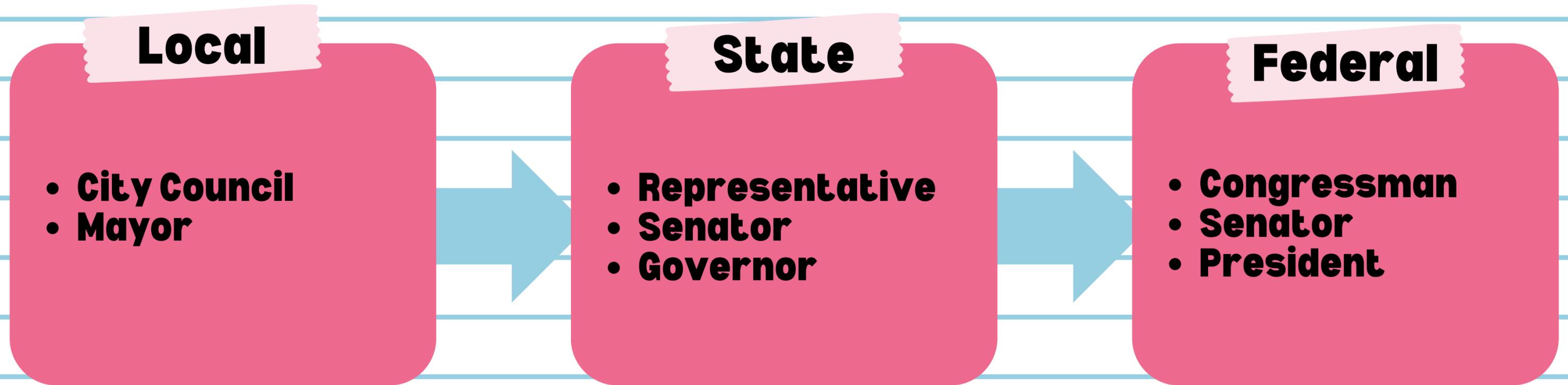
## Goal #2

**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.**

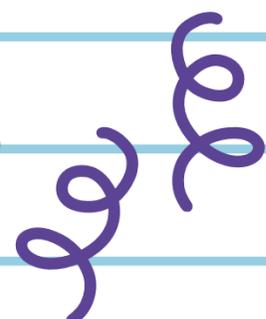


# How do I know who represents me?

**There are two great resources:**

- **[vote.utah.gov](https://vote.utah.gov)**
- **[le.utah.gov](https://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



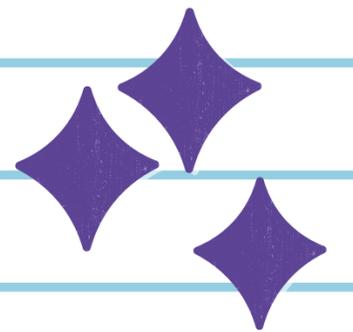
**This is the official website of the Utah State Legislature. Be sure to bookmark it! There is a wealth of great information here.**

## 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/board](http://JordanDistrict.org/board)

- **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.**

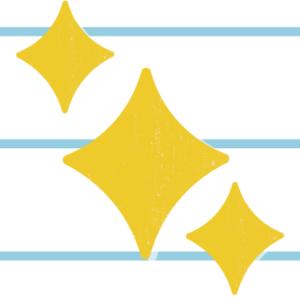
### Niki George

- Board President
- Voting District 6
- 2021-2028
- [801-694-8576](tel:801-694-8576)
- [niki.george@jordandistrict.org](mailto:niki.george@jordandistrict.org)
- Communities represented by voting district: [Copperton, West Jordan](#)
-  [Conflict of Interest Disclosure](#)



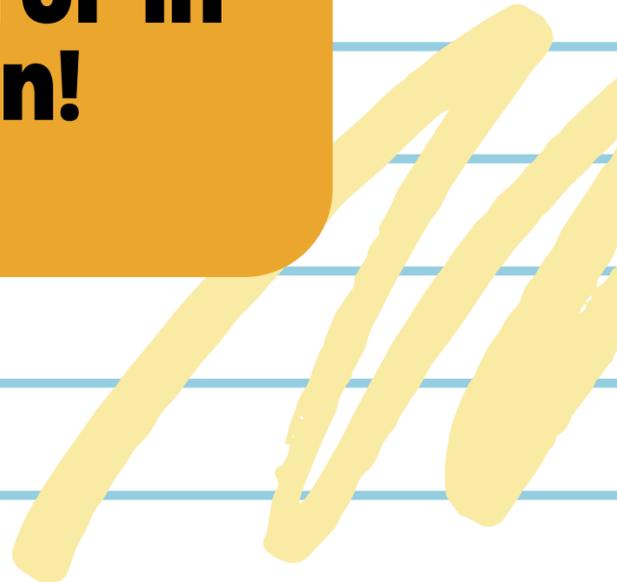


# How can I communicate effectively?



## 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?**

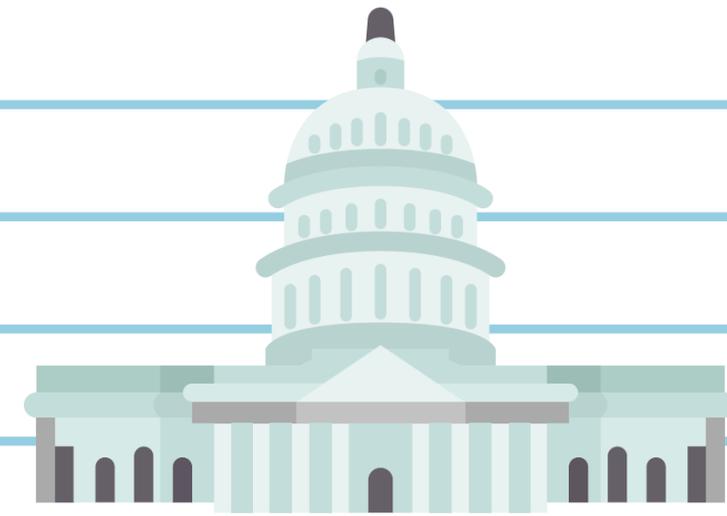
## Second

**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

## **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 expenses, makes reporting changes. The program saw a SIGNIFICANT funding increase this year.**

**PASSED**

## **HB 381: Civics Education Amendments**

**This bill requires an additional ½ 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**

# 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**



**Thanks for**  
**coming!**  
**[amber@utahpta.org](mailto:amber@utahpta.org)**

# MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

