

Do you know why  
Legislators have  
laptops and blackberries?



Do NOT Email !



# Do NOT Email !

Legislators are buried under email

Staff is often tasked for reading, sorting, answering email never seen by the legislator





Use Your  
Best  
Resource

Four Step Plan to  
Establish a Relationship  
With Your Legislator  
- the old fashioned way -

# Invitation to Visit Your Classroom

- Phone them at home
- Have the class write them a real letter
- Attend a town hall meeting
- Have a parent call
- Have a political supporter call
- Knock on their door

Remember what  
your mother  
taught you  
& say thank you

# Offer Them Free Public Relations

- Meeting with parents (voters)
- Offer to invite the press (voters)
- Meeting with other teachers (voters)

# Ask - Don't Tell

- Legislators are under the gun and will be defensive - no one likes bad news
- Legislators fear confrontational meetings
- Ask for information - a budget briefing, an update, whatever it takes to get them to do the talking

# Follow Up Meeting

- Now YOU can do the asking...
- Long term & short term
- Involve others
- Keep non-confrontational
- Recognize their problem, & offer solutions to help them

# Once a Relationship Is Established Keep It Going

- Twitter/Facebook/email all you want
- Monthly regularly scheduled legislative session updates

Just remember  
Legislators are people too

Thank you for your time

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