Seeking Legislative Advocate

Are you passionate about our children’s rights when it comes to the quality of education they are receiving? This includes everything from classroom/school size, new buildings/updates and state spending decisions. If so, Rockwell is looking for someone who can serve as that voice for our kids and our school. *You do not need to be a registered voter to assist – just someone who is willing to help serve as that voice and fight for our students’ educational rights!* If so, then please join us in helping to serve as our school’s Legislative Advocate. Here are more details …

For over 100 years, PTA members have been a powerful voice for kids.  At the national level, PTA has a proud history of advocating for kindergarten classes, school lunches, child labor laws, and more.   They knew then what is still true today:  since kids can’t vote, they need strong advocates who will champion their interests in the halls of government.

Here in Washington, PTA advocates gather together in the fall for Legislative Assembly to get informed on the issues, discuss and debate them and vote on a legislative agenda.

Washington State PTA’s Top 5 priorities for the 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions are:

1. [Funding McCleary](http://cqrcengage.com/npta2wa/mccleary)
2. [Creating Positive School Climates Through Social Emotional Learning](http://cqrcengage.com/npta2wa/SEL)
3. [Increasing Capital Funding](http://cqrcengage.com/npta2wa/capital)
4. [Increased Access to Higher Education](http://cqrcengage.com/npta2wa/capital)
5. [Breakfast After the Bell](http://cqrcengage.com/npta2wa/BATB)

The Director of Legislative Advocacy for Rockwell Elementary represents our school at various legislative events throughout the year. These events include Legislative Assembly in the Fall and Focus Day in the winter, when the Washington State PTA shows up in Olympia while the legislature is in session and advocates for policies that improve the education and well-being of kids.

Additionally, at the local level, our school district, LWSD, may add another Bond Measure to the ballot this year, which will require support from the Legislative Advocate to enlist volunteers to help promote this Bond measure, whose purpose will be to raise funds for Capital Funding to build new schools and update existing schools (such as Rockwell). Also, LWSD has formed a [Long-Term Facilities Planning Task Force](http://www.lwsd.org/News/Long-term-facilities/Pages/default.aspx), which is a process to engage the community on planning for school building needs throughout Lake Washington School District. We would love to have a Rockwell representative attend some of these Long-Term Planning meetings to get information on the latest status of our school building needs.

**Again, you do not need to be a registered voter to take on this role. Also, this position can also be split into two positions: one advocate handles state/district level support and the other handles school-specific support (such as the upcoming Bond Measure). We have a lot of documentation and materials from previous years, so plenty of training and support can be offered for this position.**

If you are interested, please email us at [rockwellptapresident@gmail.com](mailto:rockwellptapresident@gmail.com)