

# Parent Advocacy 101

Equipping Parents to Be a **Powerful Voice** for Education Choice



## Why should I be a Parent Advocate?



### You know your children best.

Who better to inform educators and the community about the needs your children have?

### There is power in your voice.

Lawmakers want to hear from you. Your experiences provide a real-world context for education policy.

### Parents trust parents.

Many parents find it challenging to navigate education choices; hearing from parents who have similar challenges, but also successes, will ultimately lead to successful education matches for students.

## What does a Parent Advocate do?



- Parent advocates subscribe to My SC Education emails **to stay up to date on current policy initiatives** that affect their child's education, whether they are on a local, state, or national level.
- Parent advocates actively **participate in the Parent Power Facebook group** by sharing stories, asking questions, replying to comments with information, or posting an article that would be helpful for the group.
- Parent advocates believe deeply in the value of education and act on this by **contacting their state lawmakers and sharing their support** for bills that provide equal opportunity for every South Carolina student.