

# Education Voters of PA Public Education Champions Fellows: Project Description and Role

**Project Description**: Public Education Champions Fellows will advocate for adequate and equitable school funding by engaging within their school district and broader community. The goal of the project is to identify and educate parents and community members to increase their engagement around key public education funding issues on state policy matters. Fellows commit to doing 20 hours of work per month and receive a monthly stipend.

# Responsibilities include:

- Think creatively about how to identify people in a community to engage in school funding issues and turn those ideas into action.
- Be a passionate advocate for supporting public schools and identify others who feel the same way.
- Be outspoken and action-oriented about the need to improve policy and support for children.
- Attend and organize meetings to share information about how state funding for public education impacts your local schools and community.
- Make plans to engage and lift up the voices of parents and community members who believe in public schools!

Duties will include identifying and attending scheduled meetings, including school board meetings and parent/school association groups; preparing and giving public comments at school board meetings; helping plan advocacy activities for people, including facilitating and attending meetings with a local legislators; writing letters to the editor/op-eds; and other activities that you choose to engage with.

Please note: This program focuses on state and local funding and policy issues related to resource equity. If you are interested in engaging with their school district on book bans, LGBTQ+ discrimination, and other related issues, the Pennsylvanians for Welcoming and Inclusive Schools (PA WInS) group is a better fit for this work.

# **Terms**

#### Public Education Champions-Fellows

- This is a consulting position. There is not an employment relationship with Education Voters of PA or any affiliated organization.
- Fellows will need to complete approximately 4 hours of training and will receive a stipend for their time.
- Fellows will be expected to work approximately 20 hours per month with approximately half of these hours during the evening.
- Fellows will be expected to participate in twice monthly meetings with Ed Voters Program Coordinators and other Champions to share ideas and plan activities.
  - Meeting 1: Advocacy Topic
  - Meeting 2: Deeper dive into advocacy topic and activities
- Meeting requirements for fellows include:



- Attending two one-hour Zoom meetings per month in the evening with Ed Voters staff and other PECs. You may schedule make-up sessions up to two times per semester if there are extenuating circumstances.
- Attending evening meetings at least two to three times per month. These include school board, PTA/PTO/HSA, and/or community meetings.
- Fellows will receive a monthly stipend for (September to early November and mid-January to June) for a total of 34 weeks during the fall and spring.
- Fellows will be required to provide monthly reports summarizing hours worked and activities and deliverables that have been completed. (A template will be provided).
- o Stipends will be paid monthly upon submission of an invoice and a monthly report.

# Sample schedule for a PEC Fellow

Week	Activities	Hours
1	Evening-PEC Zoom meeting, PTO meeting, Anytime-paperwork, research, social media	3 hours (Meetings) + 2 hours (other activities) = <b>5 hours</b>
2	Evening-School board meeting Anytime-paperwork, research, social media	2 hours (Meetings) + 3 hours (other activities) = <b>5 hours</b>
3	Evening-PEC Zoom meeting Anytime-paperwork, research, social media	1 hours (Meetings) + 4 hours (other activities) = <b>5 hours</b>
4	Evening-School board meeting, community meeting with rotary club, Anytime-paperwork, research, social media	3 hours (Meetings) + 2 hours (other activities) = <b>5 hours</b>
		= 20 hours total

If evening meetings will not work for you or you are looking for a less intense role, please check out our <u>Public Education Champions-Advocates program</u>.

To apply, click **HERE**.