

## Advocacy Checklist for Parents

*Here is a checklist that can be used by parents whose students are in danger of losing their French program and who are seeking support.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Encourage your child to get involved by becoming an advocate for the French program, if appropriate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Contact other parents, community members, local or state-level business people with connections to the French-speaking community to rally support for the French program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Contact other parents to organize meetings, and to create petitions to administer electronically through a web-based program or social media, and to raise general awareness of the situation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Contact local, state, and national world language associations for aid, ideas, and support. Find your area AATF chapter and its officers [here](#).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Consult resources available in the AATF [French Advocacy Resource Bank](#).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Create materials (brochures, flyers, e-mail messages) that provide reasons to study French. Distribute this information within the community. You'll find resources on the [Resource Bank](#).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Contact your school council or PTA/PTO for support.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Present your case to the administration and/or school board. Consider including your student in this presentation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Write letters to the editor of your local newspapers. This can be a very powerful tool.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Contact the local press to inform the public of your campaign.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Create a webpage, social networking page, or blog to communicate or publicize your situation. Your children can help, when appropriate.

**You, as a parent, are very powerful.  
You pay taxes and vote in School Board elections.**

Remember:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Address concerns in a positive and constructive manner.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Seek solutions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Be proactive! Do not hesitate to say something because you think you are alone in wanting to see the French program continue. It's likely that others are thinking the same thing!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Learning French is a valuable part of your child's education! Act NOW to preserve the program.