



everychild. one voice.

Advocacy Conference 2024

UNITING

VOICES

EMPOWERING

CHANGE

We're all in this together

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

MIDVALE MIDDLE SCHOOL

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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Utah PTA Mission

To make every child's
 potential a reality
 by engaging and
 empowering families
 and communities
 to advocate for all children.

Vision of Utah PTA

To fulfill the mission, Utah PTA will:
Advocate by speaking on behalf of all children and youth in schools, in the community, before governmental bodies, and before other organizations that make decisions affecting children.
Develop programs, resources, and leadership skills that enhance the lives of all children, youth, and their families.
Engage the public in united and equitable efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth.



WELCOME FROM COREY FAIRHOLM

Welcome to the Utah PTA Advocacy Conference, *Uniting Voices Empowering Change. We're all in this together.* I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for being here and for your commitment to advocacy. Your participation today is a testament to the power of coming together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our children.

Advocacy is not the work of one person or one organization; it is the collective effort of all of us working hand in hand. It takes a strong team of dedicated advocates, each one of you bringing your unique perspective, passion and expertise. Together, we amplify our voices, stand up for what is right, and push for the change our children deserve. This conference is designed to provide valuable insights and tools that will further empower you in your advocacy efforts, helping us all to be more effective champions for our children and families.

The range of topics covered in this conference—community engagement, education, family life, health, individual development, safety, and student leadership—highlights the comprehensive approach Utah PTA takes in supporting children and families. As the largest child advocacy association in both the state and nation, Utah PTA is dedicated to our shared mission: To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

A huge thank you goes out to the Utah PTA Advocacy Team for their tireless work in collaborating with legislators, community leaders, and organizations to advocate for the children of Utah. Their dedication is instrumental in driving positive change, and their efforts are at the heart of what we do.

I encourage each of you to stay connected with their ongoing advocacy work throughout the year by following Utah PTA on social media and visiting our website at utahpta.org. You can also join our Take Action Network by registering at <https://www.voterveice.net/UTPTA/register> or by emailing kristina@utahpta.org to receive updates on our advocacy efforts.

Thank you for being a part of the vital process and for your unwavering dedication to this cause. I hope today inspires you, connects you with fellow advocates, and empowers you to continue to make a difference. Together, we are stronger. Together we make a change happen.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Fairholm". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Corey Fairholm
Utah PTA President

SCHEDULE

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	On-site Registration	Lobby
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	Welcome - Corey Fairholm, <i>Utah PTA President</i> Ballot Initiatives Overview	Main
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	Keynote address - The Dignity Index Tami Pyfer and Karren Pyfer	Main
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Session 1: (Choose 1) classrooms will be announced	
	■ Strengthening and Leveraging Trust Factors for Greater Connection and Influence	
	■ Advocating For The One	
	■ PTA Resolutions: Why Your Voice Matters	
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Session 2: (Choose 1) classrooms will be announced	
	■ Finding the Value in PTA	
	■ Hacking Your Kids' Digital Lives	
	■ Building an Inclusive PTA, Q&A	
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	Lunch Pick up and Advocacy Team Presentation	Cafeteria
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Utah PTA Fall Business Meeting <i>Legislative Priorities, Updated Resolution, and Bylaws</i>	Main

Please complete
the 2024
Advocacy
Conference
Feedback Survey.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Tami Pyfer

Co-creator of the Dignity Index

Tami Pyfer is the Chief of Staff at UNITE, and Co-creator of the Dignity Index. Tami's career has been spent working in public and higher education and she also held elected office at the local and state level. She was the Education Policy Advisor to Utah Governor Gary Herbert, served on the Utah State Board of Education, taught at Utah State University training Special Education teachers, served two terms on the Logan City Council, and perhaps most importantly, was a PTA President at Woodruff Elementary in Logan!

Karren Pyfer

Teacher and Dignity Index Volunteer

While Tami was volunteering at Woodruff Elementary, her daughter Karren was embarking on her young life of service, receiving the Hope of America award her 5th grade year. A decade later, Karren followed in her mother's footsteps and graduated from Utah State with a degree in Special Education.

Karren has spent nearly 23 years in the classroom as an aide, a teacher, instructional coach, curriculum director, special education director, and school administrator. She is currently on a break from the classroom, volunteering with the Dignity Index initiative and exploring ways to apply the Index to public education.



SESSION 1 INFORMATION

STRENGTHENING AND LEVERAGING TRUST FACTORS FOR GREATER CONNECTION AND INFLUENCE

Dr. Shane Farnsworth



This presentation will share the essential elements of trust and how to strengthen and leverage them

for greater connection and influence. Connection and influence are experienced through the medium of relationships. Trust is a determining factor in relationship efficacy. The aim of the presentation is to build capacity in PTA leaders to understand trust factors and how to strengthen and leverage them for greater connection and influence with patrons, school leaders and legislators.

Dr. Shane Farnsworth currently serves as the Superintendent of Alpine School District in North Utah County. Shane is married to Meri Ann Farnsworth. Shane and Meri Ann grew up in Emmett, Idaho and currently reside in American Fork, Utah. They are the parents of six children and grandparents of eight grandchildren. His non-working hours are filled with giving church service, spending time with family, exercising, learning and going on an occasional backpacking trip.

ADVOCATING FOR THE ONE

Mindi Barker & Karen Conder



When you know a child is struggling and you are not sure what they are struggling with or how to help them, it can be daunting. This class

will let you know what options are available and how to advocate for that child. From learning disabilities to mental health challenges there are resources for every child to reach their potential.

Mindi Barker has been serving in PTA for 20 years and has been on the Utah PTA Board of Directors five of those years. She first learned about advocating for the one when one of her six children was developmentally delayed and she did not know what to do to help him. Finding the right resources made all the difference in his life. She has since found out that three of her children are autistic, two have diagnosed OCD, and many of them have struggled with anxiety and depression. Help is out there and Mindi wants to show others where to find it.

Karen Conder is the Utah PTA Special Needs Specialist and also a member of the National PTA Resolutions Committee. She is a former elementary school teacher and the mother of 2 adult children with disabilities.

SESSION 2 INFORMATION

FINDING THE VALUE IN PTA

Alexis Beazer



Why do you PTA? In this engaging and interactive workshop, we will explore the vital role that PTAs play in enriching

school communities and fostering student success. Participants will learn how to effectively recognize, articulate, and enhance the value of PTA within their schools and broader communities.

Alexis Beazer has been investing in children through PTA service for over 16 years. She is passionate about getting others engaged in PTA. She has served in many PTA positions including local President, Region Treasurer, Region Director and now Director of Membership for Utah PTA. She and her husband, Brent, are the parents of four amazing daughters.

HACKING YOUR KIDS' DIGITAL LIVES

David Bowman



Join David as he shares his unique insights as the "technology parent of 57,000 students" and a parent of his own teenagers as he shows how to improve you children's digital life skills and safety.

David Bowman leads a cybersecurity program for one of the largest school districts in Utah, serving 7,500 staff, and 57,000 students. As a parent of 3 and a technology evangelist, David teaches parents, students, children and anyone who will listen to him, how to leverage technology safely.



NOTES

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE PTA, Q&A

*Mandy Anderson, Toni Brown,
Jamie Ellis*



It takes a Village:
Get your questions answered regarding resources and ideas for making your PTA more inclusive and supportive of Title 1, Refugees and English Language Learning Families.

Mandy Anderson is currently serving as the reigning Mrs. USA, is a mother of 8, home schools her children, is a Refugee Advocate, Inspirational Speaker, the CEO of her new non profit, Mama Sarah, which seeks to support local refugees with ongoing consumable needs as well as the establishment of 2 small orphan home in Africa. She just returned from New York Fashion Week where she walked For Runway to Relief for Refugees, Orphans and Advocacy. She also uses her voice to spread for Suicide Awareness as she shares her own experiences and struggles with mental health.

Toni Brown is the Jordan School District Community and Outreach Specialist. She taught students from all over the world developing a love for the unique experience of refugee and newcomer families. Today she is the coordinator of a new team of refugee mentors addressing the needs of a rapidly growing refugee

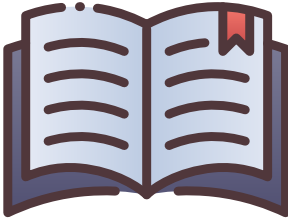
population. Together they bridge the gap between home and school to help students feel welcomed as they acclimatize to their new home.

Jamie Ellis is the current Director of Student Educational Access & Opportunity department in Weber School District. She has served in this role as well as former equity and diversity roles in Weber School District. Through her department she serves students and families who qualify for Federal Programs, specifically Title III and Title VI. She and her team provide translation and interpretation services for the district through their Language Services department. She works closely with the Weber School District Foundation to support after school programming and teen centers in our secondary schools. She is a former board member for Boys and Girls Club of Weber/Davis.

**DEVELOP
ADVOCATE
ENGAGE** UTAH

CONFERENCE RULES

IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ATTENDEES



1. All voting delegates **MUST** have their membership registered on the membership list of their local PTA/PTSA and on the books of the Treasurer of Utah PTA fourteen (14) days preceding the annual conference (Utah PTA Bylaws). All delegates are verified by Utah PTA prior to the Conference.
2. Non-voting delegates may attend all meetings of the conference, provided they register and pay a fee.
3. A badge shall be provided for in-person entrance to meetings. Badges will be required for in-person admission to all portions of the conference.
4. Workshop presenters and guests shall be provided with identification badges entitling them to admission.
5. During the general sessions, non-voting attendees will be observers only as per Utah PTA Bylaws. (ARTICLE XXII:Section 7)
6. In-person delegates are requested to be seated before the opening of each session.
7. No message is to be presented directly to the chair (the president). All messages and announcements must be given to a designated person at the floor microphone or through the virtual chat.
8. Any person disrupting the business of the conference shall be asked to leave the meeting or be removed from the webinar.
9. The minutes of the conference shall be approved by a committee appointed by the president.
10. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the conference in all cases not provided for in Utah PTA Bylaws or these Conference Rules.

NOTES

SPEAKING AND VOTING PROCEDURES

1. Voting delegates must be present in person or virtually to vote.
2. Delegates must be a member of a Utah PTA unit to make motions, debate, and vote.
3. No delegate may represent more than one PTA unit when voting.
4. Only voting delegates may comment or vote on a question.
5. In-person delegates must come to the microphone on the floor and be acknowledged by the chair before speaking and writing their name, the name of the unit represented, and the unit location.
6. During the business portion of the meeting the Zoom Chat feature shall be reserved for virtual delegates who wish to speak to the business.
7. Virtual delegates shall raise their hand using the Zoom raise hand feature and type their name, the name of the unit represented, the unit location, and their purpose for commenting (for, against, or question) in the Zoom Chat. Comments from virtual attendees will be taken in the order received through chat.
8. The designated person at the table will read any business received in the Zoom Chat once acknowledged by the chair.
9. Once acknowledged by the chair, the virtual attendee will be unmuted and allowed to speak.
10. Comments from all delegates are limited to two minutes at a time on any question and only twice on the same question. No delegate may comment a second time until all delegates seeking recognition have had an opportunity to speak.
11. To make a second comment, delegates must follow the same process to be acknowledged and given the ability to comment again. Delegates must observe the timer on the screen.
12. No business shall be on the floor more than 10 minutes unless debate time is extended. To extend debate time, the motion to extend debate must be adopted by a two-thirds vote. Inquiry motions or points of order do not count in the 10 minutes.
13. The chair shall recognize delegates for and against a motion in alternating order.
14. To stop debate and force the vote, a member should obtain the floor and say, "I call the previous question." This requires a second and a two-thirds vote.
15. If discussion is needed, the question on a motion should not be called until there has been a reasonable amount of discussion on both sides of the issue, at least two "FOR" and two "AGAINST".
16. A tie vote is a lost vote.
17. Hasty action may be corrected by use of the motion to reconsider. The motion may be made only by one who voted on the prevailing side.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AT A GLANCE

Motion	Second?	Vote Required	Debatable?	Amendable?	Reconsiderable?
Adjourn Meeting	Yes	Majority	No	No	No
Amend a Pending Motion	Yes	Majority	Yes, if motion to be amended is debatable	Yes	Yes
Call the Previous Question	Yes	2/3	No	No	Yes
Close Nominations	Yes	2/3	No	Yes	No
Division of Assembly	No	Any Member	No	No	No
Limit or Extend Debate	Yes	2/3	No	Yes	Yes
Main Motion	Yes	Majority	Yes	Yes	Yes
Point of Order	No	Ruled on by Chair	No	No	No
Postpone to a Definite Time	Yes	Majority	Yes	Yes	Yes
Question of Privilege	No	Majority	No	No	Yes
Recess	Yes	Majority	No	Yes	No
Reconsider	Yes	Majority	Yes, if motion to which it applied is debatable	No	No
Refer (commit)	Yes	Majority	Yes	Yes	No
Rescind	Yes	Majority with notice, 2/3 without notice	Yes	Yes	Yes
Suspension of Rules	Yes	2/3	No	No	No
Table a Motion	Yes	Majority	No	No	No
Remove Motion From Table	Yes	Majority	No	No	No
Withdrawal of Motion	No	Majority	No	No	No

THE UTAH PTA 2024-25 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



EDUCATION. Support an adequately funded public school system by funding a 3% Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) increase over and above growth and inflation; implement policies to increase proficiency levels by improving attendance, reducing class sizes, and supporting teachers; increase academic excellence for all Utah students; and prioritize local control to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and individual schools.

HEALTH: Support legislative action that focuses on the diverse mental health needs of Utah's students and families, with a focus on promoting protective factors. This includes increasing public knowledge and understanding of mental health concerns throughout the state, access to resources, as well as providing funding for proactive prevention, timely interventions, and community-based initiatives utilizing evidence-based methods.

SAFETY: Support funding to strengthen school safety and security measures, to ensure a physical, academic, social, and emotional safe school community for all. This includes but is not limited to school infrastructure, comprehensive safety training, community violence and bullying intervention and reduction, mental health training and resources as well as the education to families and communities on school safety protocols, children's online security, and the assessment of digital threats posed to schools across Utah.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT: Support legislation, funding, and community partnerships that provide programs and resources to strengthen families and children's social, emotional and physical learning and well-being including, but not limited to: positive behavior programs and classes including art, music, physical education, early childhood education, parenting skills, and juvenile justice reforms, while also increasing constructive family engagement with schools and the community and promote positive parental involvement across the state of Utah.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT: Support programs and policies that promote constructive civic engagement and citizenship, positive character development, and strengthen individual students.

PENDING RESOLUTION

Resolutions are formal statements of Utah PTA public or association policy approved by the delegates at the annual Utah PTA Advocacy Conference or the annual National PTA and Utah PTA Conventions. These statements direct the advocacy work of Utah PTA. Documentation for the following resolutions can be found at utahpta.org/proposed-resolutions-0.

FAM 2024-1 | FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Research has shown that a fundamental component of a student's academic success is parental engagement in the student's education and schools are partners in this "by investing in authentic relationships with families and honoring them as children's first teachers,"^{1,2} and

WHEREAS, When parents, educators and members of the community cooperate to encourage learning, research indicates children have higher outcomes and literacy rates;^{3,4} and

WHEREAS, The strongest predictors of parent engagement at school and at home are specific school programs that guide parents to help students succeed and teacher practices that encourage parent involvement in the education process which also improves teacher morale and higher rating and support of teachers by the community;^{5,6} and

WHEREAS, When parents are involved, students are more likely to exhibit positive attitudes toward school, higher levels of school attendance, and fewer disciplinary issues^{7,8,9} now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations actively seek or develop and promote programs that assist parents in extending and supporting skills developed at school; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA promote the use of programs and tools to guide parents, alongside their children, in forming plans for their children's education; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations provide opportunities for parents to feel welcome and valued at their children's schools and to partner intentionally with teachers and other school personnel as well as create strong partnerships within the community; and be it further

Resolved, that Utah PTA and its constituent associations support policies of the Utah State Board of Education and local school districts that result in practices that encourage purposeful parental engagement in education.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT
FOR THE USE OF THIS BUILDING

SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL GUARD VETERANS DAY CONCERT

Monday, November 11, 2024
Tabernacle at Temple Square

UTAH PTA LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, January 25, 2025
Indian Hills Middle School

PTSA STUDENT DAYS AT THE CAPITOL

February 6 & 11, 2025

UTAH PTA DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Friday, February 7, 2025 - Regions 4, 5, 9, 10, 17, 19
Friday, February 21, 2025 - Regions 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 12, 21

UTAH PTA - BATTLE OF THE BANDS

April 26, 2025

UTAH PTA REFLECTIONS AWARDS NIGHT

April 2025 (TBD) by invitation only

UTAH PTA LEADERSHIP CONVENTION

Wednesday and Thursday, May 7 & 8, 2025
Davis Conference Center, Layton, Utah

LEARN ABOUT THE
2024-2025 DATES



STAY CONNECTED TO UTAH
PTA ALL YEAR