



BCCPAC Advocacy Project

Reaching out to parents?

Consider hosting a BCCPAC Advocacy Project Session

Thank you for your efforts to help parents speak up for their children! The BCCPAC Advocacy Project offers a series of sessions to help your PAC/DPAC Advocacy Project in its on-going commitment to help parents and parent leaders build their skills and confidence in problem-solving and helping others.

From our introduction to the BCCPAC Advocacy Project through to helping parent leaders focus on specific advocacy skills, our Mission Possible series is designed to help your PAC/DPAC plan its journey to reach out and support more individual parents in your school district.

Call the toll free message line today to talk about the session that will best meet your local advocacy needs.

Together we can make a difference!

1-888-351-9834



BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils

Our vision is to improve public education for all students by including and supporting parents

Mission Possible Series

Mission Possible 1

The Importance of Speaking Up!

Prerequisite: None
Time: 1- 1.5 hours
Audience: Parents and partner group representatives

Our public education system tries to meet the needs of many different learners. How do we work together – educators, support staff, community, parents – to speak up for children? Join us in this introduction to the BCCPAC Advocacy Project. Gain a common understanding of what advocacy in public schools means and how it helps everyone approach problem-solving in a positive way. Discover how “speaking up” supports all of us in public education. You will go home with a copy of *Speaking Up! A parent guide to advocating for students in public schools* and a greater understanding of speaking up for children.

This session will introduce you to:

- The BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC), the BCCPAC Advocacy Project.
- What advocacy is and why it is important in public schools.
- The basic steps for solving parent and student problems at local and provincial levels.
- Why working together supports students and how we can do it.
- The information and resources available, including *Speaking Up! A parent guide to advocating for students in public schools*.

Mission Possible 2

Speaking Up! Solving Problems in Public Schools

Prerequisite: None
Time: 2 hours
Audience: Parents

Something is bothering you about your child’s education and you can’t quite put your finger on it. Or you know what is bothering you, but you don’t know what to do. Join us as BCCPAC provincial advocates lead us through this fast-paced session that will help us identify and solve the problems our children face in school. Build your confidence to speak up for your children. Learn how to use *Speaking Up! A parent guide to advocating for students in public schools*. You will go home with a copy of *Speaking Up!* –and more confidence in your ability to speak up for your children.

This session will:

- Help you understand what the BCCPAC Advocacy Project is all about and how advocacy supports children in public schools.
- Discuss the basic processes for solving problems at the school, school district, and provincial levels and the importance of linking to this information.
- Introduce you to a variety of information and resources available
- Help you learn how to gather and use information.
- Help you identify and work problems using *Speaking Up!*



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Mission Possible 3

Speaking Up! Parents Helping Parents

Prerequisite: Mission Possible 1 or 2 recommended
Time: 3 hours
Audience: PAC Executives, DPAC representatives, parent leaders

No matter how well our schools run, there will always be parents who need help to solve problems that their children face in school. As parent leaders, we are the people they often turn to for help. Sometimes we feel we don't have enough information or the skills to help. Let's continue to work together in our district and acquire the skills and information we need to build confidence in our ability to help others. We can make a difference! You will go home with a copy a copy of *Speaking Up! A parent guide to advocating for students in public schools* – and more confidence in your ability to help others.

This session will:

- Help you understand the importance of the parent leader's role in advocacy and how the BCCPAC Advocacy Project supports you.
- Help you help parents use processes at the school, school district and provincial levels to solve problems.
- Increase your knowledge of the range of information and resources available.
- Help you to identify and use specific information to help others.
- Introduce you to problem-solving skills such as clarifying issues, considering options, planning solutions, etc., using *Speaking Up!*

Mission Possible 4

Speaking Up! Building Your Advocacy Skills to Help Parents Solve Problems

Prerequisite: Mission Possible 3
Time: 3-5 hours (Hint: More time means more information, practice and discussion☺)
Audience: PAC Executives, DPAC representatives, parent leaders

Wow! You've successfully completed your previous mission. Parents are turning to you, and you are helping them to find the information they need to solve problems their children are facing in school. Are you ready to go higher and deeper with your advocacy skills? Bring your copy of *Speaking Up! A parent guide to advocating for students in public schools* – and your passion for helping others!

This session will:

- Help you build your advocacy skills and learn how to use them when helping parents.
- Introduce you to communication in an "advocacy" context.
- Help you help parents:
 - Overcome the barriers they face when using school, school district and provincial processes for solving problems.
 - Use information confidentially and effectively.
 - Problem-solve using skills such as clarifying issues, considering options, planning solutions, etc.
 - Prepare for and attend meetings and develop plans for follow-up.



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