

# Do's and Don'ts of Child Advocacy in the Schools

By Savitri Dixon-Saxon  
Walden University  
<http://www.waldenU.edu>

As a parent, it is your responsibility to be a fully-engaged partner in your child's education. However, it is important to remember that you are also your child's biggest shareholder.

## Do's

- \* Read your child's school handbook thoroughly.
- \* Join your school's PTA.
- \* Volunteer in your child's classroom and at your child's school.
- \* Educate your child's teacher about your child and your child's cultural experience.
- \* Understand testing and other assessments.
- \* Speak candidly with your child's school counselor.
- \* Read materials that your child's teacher sends home.
- \* Get a mentor who can help you understand advocacy in your individual school system.
- \* Communicate with your child each day about his or her experience in the classroom.

## Don'ts

- \* Don't expect that all of your child's education will take place in the classroom.
- \* Don't be passive with your child's learning and believe that everyone is going to look out for your child's welfare.
- \* Don't expect that you can be objective where your child is concerned.
- \* Don't be too aggressive when things are not going well.



<http://imagination soup.net/2011/09/parent-advocacy-dos-and-donts/>