

If You're Going to Play, Bring Your "A Game"

Agitate: Parents? Children? Childhood? What or WHO inspires you to lend your voice to this cause? What are you feeling frothy about? What are you having passionate feelings about?

Articulate: Share your story. Time to craft your message. What do you want to say about ECFE? Practice it. Again. And again. Condense it. Practice it some more, with feeling. There! You found it.

Amplify: Who else is singing your song? What organizations can you connect with to amplify your voice? What does the research say? Who else endorses this work? Power up your story with research. Read. Do your homework. Connect digitally! FB, Twitter, Instagram, etc.

Advocate: Who is out of the loop? Where are the gaps? Who needs to hear your message? How will you deliver it? Who/What are the roadblocks? Name them. Roll up your sleeves. Make a plan. Grab a seat at the table. Bring your own chair if you need to.

Act: Organize. Go Public. **SPEAK UP.** Take Care of Yourself. Move. March. Testify. Write. **SPEAK UP.** Lobby. **SPEAK UP.** Repeat. Take Care of Each Other. What are your short term goals? What are your long term goals? What are your longer term goals?

Assess: What gains are **we** making? What do **we** need to do to be more effective? How will **we** share what **we** have learned? How do **we** build leadership in advocacy work?

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