



TALKING POINTS

5 Tips for Talking to Policymakers

1. **Introduce yourself.** Tell them your name, that you're a constituent, where in Louisiana you're from (or your parish), and any organizations you're tied to (or that you are representing yourself as a constituent).
2. **Be specific.** Busy policy makers do not have a lot of time, so keep messages simple and brief. Focus on one community issue at a time (i.e., sex education).
3. **Give an example.** Short anecdotes are a great way to show how the issue is personally affecting your family and community.
4. **Call to action.** Tell them specifically what you want them to do next — in this case, that could mean bringing up (and advocating for) CSE at the next school board meeting. Asking a question, such as when the school board member might be voting on a topic like CSE, elicits a response.
5. **Say Thanks.** Thank them for their time and consideration of the CSE initiative and mention you look forward to a response.

FACTS TO MENTION

According to research, CSE programs have been shown to be highly effective at delaying the onset of sex and reducing rates of teen pregnancy.

Although comprehensive sex education (CSE) is currently allowed, the Governor's Office accepts Federal Title V Abstinence Education funds, which can only be used to promote abstinence from sexual activity. Abstinence-only programs are deemed ineffective at delaying the onset of sex and reducing rates of teen pregnancy and STDs.