



Advocates Guide: How to Advocate for Curriculum Change in Your School District

1. Review your school districts website to find out who the "decision makers" are that decide what will be in the school curriculum.
2. Conduct a curriculum review of your local school district's books using the SCAM method (you can find it in our [Culturally Relevant Curriculum Toolkit](#)) to measure how culturally responsive your school and/or school district is. Conduct a curriculum review by first looking at your child's text books. Request that your teacher and or principal to allow you to look at text books from other grades. Look at the table of contents; look at the picture and photographs to see if your culture and or race are represented.
3. Select books to propose for implementation and find professionally written lesson plans for teachers.
4. Address the school board at public school board meeting to request book implementation and ask for the knowledge of how the process works. Provide handouts and information that decision makers can hold in their hand and leave with to review later.
5. Present to the school district's policy committee (or whatever the proper committee/group is for your school) on the "why" of the books we have chosen, and why they are needed; present curriculum director with lesson plans. Use the quotes from scholarly articles in the toolkit (Gloria Ladson-Billings, Molefi Asante)
6. Follow up with requesting one-to-one meetings: superintendent, curriculum director, and elected school board members. Attend meetings in numbers, bring parents and community members
7. Keep up the pressure by attending school board meetings and speak on why this change is needed, use pictures and photos. Get community support by asking people to speak at local school board meetings (especially people in education field, well-known members/influencers).

**the process will vary from city to city based on who controls the education system and how it is structured.*