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**2022 SPEAK Out! Day**

**Congressional Meeting Outline**

**Note: Most meetings will be 15-20 minutes. Prepare to deliver your message succinctly.**

1. **Approximately one day prior to the meeting, send an email to Congressional staff with SHAPE America advocacy materials to confirm the meeting. Meeting materials are available on the SPEAK Out! Day** [**OneDrive**](https://shapeamerica-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/cwright_shapeamerica_org/EgNhl0zp5wZPtOIns_1-TlMBspSOcFdCRQzlrWLoU7z2kg?e=I8sFuf)**.**
2. **Arrive on time to meeting via Zoom or conference call. Stay enthusiastic and positive!**
3. **Thank Congressional staff or member of Congress for meeting. Introduce yourself as an advocate for SHAPE America and all meeting attendees.**
4. **Ask staffer or member of Congress about their background, feelings/experience with HPE**
   * Try to make a personal connection with the staffer or member of Congress. Ask where they are from, inquire about their previous experience with HPE share why you went into the profession, what HPE looks like now in your school/area (time permitting).
5. **Share how COVID has impacted schools & specifically HPE programs in your state/district/school** (2022 SHAPE America – Health & PE COVID Impacts)
   * How has your school community been impacted by COVID? How have HPE programs been impacted by COVID?
   * What innovative ways have teachers or students adapted? What challenges have you faced?
   * PERSONAL STORIES!
6. **Share impact of HPE programs on students** (front - 2022 SHAPE America – Support Health & PE)
   * SEL is a critical priority for schools and an important part of health & PE programs and national standards.
   * Lifetime health, academic achievement, classroom behavior, fewer high-risk behaviors, physical activity habits, school connectedness, etc.
   * Try to base this talking point on the point of view of the member of Congress (are they a former teacher, doctor, military, etc.? Do they have children? What are their signature issues?).
   * Share effect of HPE on your students, the impact of funding/support, or lack thereof.
   * PERSONAL STORIES!
7. **Discuss impact of ESSA** (back - 2022 SHAPE America – Support Health & PE)
   * HPE NOT included in *No Child Left Behind* (except for PEP grant) – programs, teaching positions, and funding for HPE were cut across the country.
   * SHAPE America advocated for 10 years for health and physical education to be included in definition of well-rounded education in the *Every Student Succeeds Act*.
   * HPE has been elevated and is now eligible for federal education funding for the first time.
   * Impact of NCLB/ESSA implementation in your state/school – access to funding or additional support?
8. **Overview of Title IV, Part A funding** (Title IV, Part A fact sheet)
   * Formula block grant to states and school districts – can be spent on well-rounded education, safe and healthy students programs, and technology.
   * Just funded at $1.3 billion for FY 2022 – BIG THANK YOU FOR THIS INCREASE IN FUNDS!!!
9. **Overview of Title II, Part A funding** (Title II, Part A fact sheet)
   * Funding for evidence-based professional development for all school employees.
   * Opportunity for PD for HPE teachers or schoolwide PD on physical activity/school health.
   * Just funded at $2.2 billion for FY 2022 - BIG THANK YOU FOR THIS INCREASE IN FUNDS!!!
10. **Share importance of ESSA funding for HPE** (ACPS, McAllen Title IVA success story examples)
    * Have you been able to access ESSA funding for HPE in your district? Have you encountered hurdles to accessing funding? Have others in your state accessed funding? Share SHAPE America’s examples.
11. **Make specific asks** (back - 2022 SHAPE America – Support Health & PE)
    * Support bipartisan congressional intent by:
      1. Continuing robust funding of Title IV, Part A of ESSA for FY 2023.
      2. Continuing robust funding of Title II of ESSA for FY 2023.
    * Come visit our school in your home state to see an effective health education and/or physical education in action and the impact that is has on our students and school community!
12. **Close meeting, thank member of Congress and/or staffer, offer to be a resource and follow-up.**
13. **Complete meeting report form** [**linked here**](https://shapeamerica.wufoo.com/forms/mcflw7h0h27bwa/) **immediately following meeting.**
14. **Within one week, follow-up with a thank you email and offer any additional information.**
15. **Celebrate your success!**