

MONTANA STATE LITERACY ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COUNCIL AWARD

The Montana State Literacy Association will present an annual Legislative Advocacy Award to a local council at the annual State Literacy Conference. The award will be a check for \$100 to the local council with the most Congressional and/or Legislator visitations.

Montana State Literacy Association Position Statement

- That equality of educational opportunity regardless of their geographic location is a constitutional right of all Montana students;
- That the state must provide a funding system which provides adequate funds for all students in Montana;
- That the “Local control” provided to school boards in the Montana Constitution be realized in all aspects of school district proceedings;
- That MSLA supports the Montana Content and Performance Standards adopted by the Board of Public Education, provided sufficient state funding is available for implementation of the standards; and
- That MSLA is opposed to the “forced consolidation” of school districts. (Forced consolidation is legislative, administrative or executive action taken at the state or regional levels that mandates the consolidation of school districts.)

Suggested Strategies

- Tell your legislative visitor(s) how you can be an ongoing resource
- Be Positive
- Know your facts
- Make your message your own
- Tell a compelling story

Criteria

- That local reading council members invite a Congressional member(s) and/or state legislator(s) to schools within their council geographic area.
- That local reading councils discuss the MSLA advocacy position statement with the Congressional and/or legislative visitor.
- That the local council president will by **May 15**, provide written notification of the visit(s) to the MSLA Legislative Advocacy Chairperson.

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PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

Lisa Moore
2125 4th Ave N
Great Falls, MT 59401

406-868-0840
ommoorelb@gmail.com

Due: May 15, 2021