Take Control of Your Child's Education

Your Complete Guide to Educational Advocacy & At-Home Learning

By John Ubaldi, Education Expert | UbaldiReports.com

The Education Crisis is Real - But You Have Power

**2. School Data Demand Letter Template** 

With 33% of 8th graders reading below basic level and U.S. rankings continuing to decline, parents must become their children's educational advocates. This toolkit provides everything you need to supplement your child's education and hold schools accountable.

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1. Daily 15-Minute Academic Boost (K-8)
                                                                           ■ Math (7 minutes)
    Reading (8 minutes)
    Grades K-2: Phonics Foundation
                                                                            Grades K-2: Number Foundations
      Minutes 1-3: Letter sounds practice (say /m/ not "em")
                                                                             Minutes 1-3: Number recognition & counting
      Minutes 4-6: Blend CVC words (cat, dog, sun)
                                                                             Minutes 4-5: Simple addition/subtraction facts
      Minutes 7-8: Read sight words (the, and, said)
                                                                             Minutes 6-7: Number bonds (ways to make 10)
    Grades 3-5: Fluency Building
                                                                           Grades 3-5: Operations Mastery
      Minutes 1-4: Read aloud from grade-level text
                                                                             Minutes 1-3: Multiplication tables drill
      Minutes 5-6: Discuss meaning of new words
                                                                             Minutes 4-5: Long division practice
      Minutes 7-8: Ask comprehension questions
                                                                             Minutes 6-7: Word problem solving
    Grades 6-8: Critical Reading
                                                                           Grades 6-8: Pre-Algebra Prep
      Minutes 1-5: Silent reading of challenging text
                                                                             Minutes 1-3: Fraction operations
      Minutes 6-8: Summarize main ideas & author's purpose
                                                                             Minutes 4-5: Integer arithmetic
                                                                             Minutes 6-7: Basic algebraic expressions
      Pro Tip: Use classic literature, not modern "leveled readers."
      Children need rich vocabulary and complex sentence structures.
                                                                             Warning: Avoid Common Core methods. Focus on traditional
                                                                             algorithms that actually work.
   Weekly Progress Tracker
                                                                                                            Fri
           Day
                              Mon
                                                 Tue
                                                                    Wed
                                                                                        Thu
                                                                                                                               Sat
         Reading
                               Math
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[Date]
[Principal's Name]
[School Name]
[School Address]
RE: Request for Academic Performance Data and Curriculum Information
Dear [Principal's Name],
As a parent of [Child's Name] in [Grade/Teacher's Name], I am exercising my right to access information about my
child's education under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and state sunshine laws.
I formally request the following information within 15 business days:
Academic Performance Data:
   • School's NAEP proficiency rates for reading and math (last 3 years)
   • State test scores by grade level and demographic
   • Graduation rates and college readiness metrics
   • Achievement gap data between student populations
   • Teacher retention and turnover rates
Curriculum and Instruction:
   • Complete curriculum standards and scope/sequence
   • List of all textbooks and supplementary materials used
   • Reading instruction methodology (phonics vs. whole language)
   • Math instruction approach (traditional vs. discovery methods)
   • Social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum content
School Policies:
   • Disciplinary policies and suspension/expulsion rates
   • Parent involvement and classroom observation policies
   • Homework policies by grade level
   • Technology use and screen time policies
Additionally, I request permission to observe my child's classroom during instruction time. This is my parental
right, and I expect reasonable accommodation of this request.
If any requested information is considered confidential, please provide a legal citation explaining the basis for
withholding public education data from taxpaying parents.
I expect full transparency regarding my child's education. Please confirm receipt of this request and provide a
timeline for response.
Sincerely,
 [Your Name]
[Your Address]
[Your Phone Number]
[Your Email]
  CC: Superintendent, School Board Members, State Department of Education
▲ Important Follow-Up Steps:

    Send via certified mail to create paper trail

    Document all responses (or lack thereof)

    If stonewalled, contact school board and local media

    Know your state's FOIA laws for public records
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3. Independent Curriculum & Tutoring Resources
                                                                             Proven Reading Programs
    □ Complete Online Curricula
       Khan Academy (Free)
                                                                                All About Reading ($199)
       Comprehensive K-12 math, reading, science
                                                                                Systematic phonics program
       khanacademy.org
                                                                                allaboutlearningpress.com
                                                                                Phonics Pathways ($35)
       IXL Learning ($19.95/month)
                                                                                Simple, effective phonics instruction
       Adaptive practice in math, language arts, science
                                                                                Dewey Decimal: Available at libraries
       ixl.com
       Teaching Textbooks ($120/year)
                                                                                Reading Bear (Free)
       Self-teaching math curriculum with audio
                                                                                Online phonics presentations
       teachingtextbooks.com
                                                                                readingbear.org
       Saxon Math (One-time purchase)
                                                                                Great Books Foundation
       Proven traditional math program
                                                                                Classic literature discussion guides
       saxonpublishers.com
                                                                                greatbooks.org
    Tutoring Services
                                                                             Assessment Tools
       Varsity Tutors
                                                                                CAT Survey (Free)
                                                                                California Achievement Test online
       1-on-1 online tutoring, all subjects
       varsitytutors.com
                                                                                catsurvey.com
       Wyzant
                                                                                Iowa Assessments ($25)
                                                                                Standardized achievement testing
       Local and online tutors marketplace
                                                                                riversideinsights.com
       wyzant.com
       Kumon Learning Centers
                                                                                STAR Reading/Math (Free trial)
       Math and reading skill building
                                                                                Computer adaptive assessment
                                                                                renaissance.com
       Sylvan Learning
       In-person tutoring centers
       sylvanlearning.com
    Pro Tips for Choosing Resources:

    Start with free resources before investing in paid programs

    Look for systematic, sequential instruction (not discovery learning)

    • Choose curricula that teach explicit phonics for reading

    Select traditional algorithms for math instruction

    Avoid programs that emphasize feelings over facts
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4. Education Town Hall Organizing Scripts
    Initial Parent Outreach Email
     Subject: URGENT: Our Children's Education is in Crisis - Town Hall Meeting
     Dear Fellow Parents,
     Are you concerned about declining test scores in our schools? Frustrated by lack of transparency in curriculum?
     Worried about your child's academic future?
      YOU ARE NOT ALONE.
     The facts are alarming:
        • 33% of 8th graders cannot read at basic level
        • Our district's math scores have declined [X]% in [timeframe]
        • Parents are being denied access to curriculum materials
        • [Add local specific concerns]
      It's time to take action.
      I'm organizing a Parent Education Town Hall to:
        • Share the real data about our schools' performance
        • Discuss specific concerns and solutions
        • Plan coordinated advocacy strategies
        • Hold school officials accountable
     Proposed Details:
      Date: [Insert Date]
      Time: [Insert Time]
     Location: [Insert Location]
     Please reply if you can attend. Forward this to other concerned parents.
     Our children's futures depend on what we do today.
     Sincerely,
      [Your Name]
      [Your Contact Info]
      P.S. Bring specific examples of concerning assignments or communications from school.
    School Board Member Invitation
     Subject: Parent Town Hall Invitation - Your Presence Requested
     Dear [School Board Member Name],
     As an elected representative of our community's educational interests, we respectfully invite you to attend a
      Parent Education Town Hall.
      Event Details:
      Date: [Date]
     Time: [Time]
     Location: [Location]
      Expected Attendance: [Number] parents
      Discussion Topics:

    Academic performance trends in our district

        • Curriculum transparency and parent access
        • Budget allocation and spending priorities
        • Student achievement gaps and intervention strategies
      Parents have specific questions about:
        • [Specific local concern #1]
        • [Specific local concern #2]
        • [Specific local concern #3]
     Your attendance would demonstrate commitment to parent engagement and educational transparency. We request 20
      minutes for Q&A.
     Please confirm your attendance by [Date]. If you cannot attend, we request written responses to questions that
      will be submitted in advance.
     Respectfully,
     [Organizing Committee Names]
      [Contact Information]
   ■ Media Outreach Template
     Subject: NEWS TIP: Parent Education Town Hall Addresses Declining School Performance
     Dear [Reporter/Editor Name],
     I'm writing to alert you to a significant community story developing in [School District Name].
     STORY ANGLE: Local parents are organizing in response to concerning education trends and lack of school
     transparency.
     NEWS EVENT:
     What: Parent Education Town Hall
      When: [Date and Time]
      Where: [Location]
     Expected Attendance: [Number] parents
     NEWSWORTHY ELEMENTS:
        • Local test scores show [specific decline data]
        • Parents report being denied curriculum access
        • School board accountability questions
        • Grassroots parent organizing effort
     POTENTIAL INTERVIEWS:
        • Parent organizers with specific concerns
        • Education experts (John Ubaldi available for comment)
        • School board responses to parent demands
        • Teachers willing to speak candidly
     DATA AVAILABLE:
        • NAEP score comparisons
        • Local district performance trends
        • Spending vs. outcomes analysis
        • Parent survey results
     This represents growing parent frustration with education establishment. Happy to provide background materials
     and arrange interviews.
     Best regards,
      [Your Name]
      [Phone Number]
      [Email Address]
   ₹ Example 1 ₹ Example 2 ₹ Example 3 ₹ Example 3 ₹ The Section Plan Email
     Subject: NEXT STEPS: Town Hall Follow-Up & Action Items
     Dear Town Hall Participants,
     Thank you for attending last night's education town hall. Together, we're making our voices heard!
      MEETING SUMMARY:
        • [Number] parents attended
        • Key concerns identified: [List top 3-5]
        • School board response: [Summarize if applicable]
        • Media coverage: [List outlets that covered]
      IMMEDIATE ACTION ITEMS:
        Week 1: Submit formal information requests to school (use template provided)
        Week 2: Attend next school board meeting as group
        Week 3: Meet with superintendent to present concerns
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Week 4: Organize classroom observation visits
      VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:
         • Research Committee: Compile more district data
         • Communications Team: Social media and newsletter
         • School Board Liaison: Track meetings and votes
         • Parent Outreach: Expand our network
      NEXT MEETING:
      Date: [Date]
      Focus: [Specific agenda item]
      RESOURCES SHARED:
         • John Ubaldi's Parental Survival Toolkit
         • School data request template
         • Independent curriculum resources
         • Parent rights information
      Remember: Change happens when parents stay engaged. Our children are counting on us!
      Please reply with:
         • Which action items you can help with
         • Additional parents to invite to next meeting
         • Any specific expertise you can contribute
      Together, we will restore excellence to our schools.
      Sincerely,
      [Organizing Committee]
   ? Town Hall Success Tips:
   • Start small - even 10 engaged parents can make impact

    Bring data, not just emotions - facts persuade

    Stay focused on academic outcomes, not politics

    Document everything - take notes and photos

    Follow up consistently - persistence wins

    Connect with other parent groups for larger coalition

Additional Resources & Support
    Legal Support
                                                                                                   Parent Networks
                                                   ■ Research & Data
    Alliance Defending Freedom
                                                                                                   Parents Defending Education
                                                   Thomas B. Fordham Institute
                                                   fordhaminstitute.org
    adflegal.org
                                                                                                   defendinged.org
    Parent rights litigation
                                                                                                   Parent advocacy network
                                                    Education policy research
                                                                                                   Moms for Liberty
                                                   American Federation for Children
    Pacific Legal Foundation
                                                                                                   momsforliberty.org
    pacificlegal.org
                                                   federationforchildren.org
    Education freedom cases
                                                   School choice data
                                                                                                   Grassroots parent organization
                                                                                                   Foundation Against Intolerance & Racism
    Institute for Justice
                                                    EdChoice
                                                                                                   fairforall.org
                                                    edchoice.org
    ij.org
                                                                                                   Educational equality advocacy
    School choice advocacy
                                                    Educational options research
    When You Need Immediate Help
    Child experiencing educational discrimination:
                                                                       School denying parent access/rights:

    Document everything in writing

    Cite FERPA and state laws

    Contact school principal immediately

    Escalate to superintendent

    File formal complaint with district

    Contact school board members

    Contact civil rights organizations

    Seek legal consultation
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The Time for Action is NOW
    Every day we wait, more children fall behind. Every day we stay silent, the crisis deepens.
                 Remember: You are your child's first and most important teacher.
                                  This toolkit gives you the power to:

✓ Boost your child's academics at home

                                                 Organize other concerned parents
                                                 Demand transparency and improvement

✓ Hold schools accountable for results

Access quality educational alternatives
                                                 Secure your child's educational future
                          For more education insights and advocacy tools:
           # UbaldiReports.com  
Ubaldi Reports Podcast  

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**A** Your child's education cannot wait. Start using this toolkit TODAY.