



# Political Advocacy for School Librarians

## Leveraging Your Influence

Ann Dutton Ewbank, Foreword by Kathi Kromer

### 1 VOLUME

Education and information policy has a direct impact on school libraries and is shaped by decisions at the local, state, and federal levels. School librarians are positioned uniquely to leverage their inside knowledge of effective school library programs to make a difference in education through civic engagement; however, a thorough understanding of both the explicit and "hidden" rules of government is necessary to be an effective advocate.

This compact book serves as a guide to advocating for effective programs, filling a gap in the practitioner literature regarding the policies that affect school library programs. Drawing on research-based best practices and the author's experience as the chairman of the ALA Legislation Committee and in political advocacy, this book explains the political process through concrete examples of both success and failure and analyzes these examples to show how librarians can move education policy in a positive direction.

### FEATURES

Realize how to use your strengths as a librarian to influence issues that matters to you, even if you consider yourself apolitical

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Discover the "hidden rules" of representative democracy

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Philosophy, Values, and Issues  
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Learn strategies to leverage your institutional knowledge to advocate for effective school libraries at all levels of government

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**Ann Dutton Ewbank** is associate professor at Montana State University, Bozeman. She researches school library advocacy and is a member-leader in the American Library Association. A tireless advocate, Ewbank has direct experience working with elected officials at the federal, state, and local levels to enact positive policy for school library programs.

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