Effective Advocacy Model

Student as a Self-Advocate
- Go to the source for important conversations
  - Focus on a positive, learning-based solution
  - Come prepared for the conversation
  - Be supportive of open, honest, and respectful dialogue

- Gather all relevant information
  - Access online resources and websites
  - Attend class regularly for detailed academic information
  - Actively question during instruction
  - Talk with your counselor for help

- Follow classroom rules and expectations
  - Refer to the class syllabus and online resources
  - Talk with the teacher directly if you have questions or concerns

- Advocate for your own learning
  - Explain your learning needs and style
  - Describe your struggles in the classroom
  - Clarify classroom expectations and your responsibilities

Parent as a Student Advocate
- Go to the source for important conversations
  - Focus on a positive, learning-based solution
  - Come prepared for the conversation
  - Be supportive of open, honest, and respectful dialogue to build rapport

- Gather all relevant information
  - Access online resources and websites
  - Register to receive automated messages
  - Expect a timely response to your questions or concerns (2 days)

- Understand classroom expectations
  - Refer to the class syllabus and online resources
  - Talk to the teacher directly if you have questions or concerns
  - Clarify classroom expectations and your child's responsibilities

- Advocate for your child's learning
  - Explain his/her learning style
  - Describe his/her struggles in the classroom
  - Clarify what outside support(s) you are currently providing for your child

Teacher as an Instructional Advocate
- Go the source for important conversations
  - Focus on a positive, learning-focused solution
  - Facilitate open, honest and respectful dialogue to build rapport
  - Listen to students’ and parents’ concerns, questions and perceptions

- Clearly communicate all relevant information
  - Update students grades on a weekly basis
  - Keep online current with learning activities, homework, etc.
  - Utilize phone and email when appropriate
  - Respond in a timely manner to all questions (within 2 school days)

- Define your classroom expectations
  - Distribute an updated class syllabus to students
  - Communicate expectations to all students in the class
  - Post the syllabus and expectations on Canvas

- Advocate for your professional expertise
  - Explain the supports you are providing in class to assist students
  - Describe your instructional choices
  - Clarify learning standards and successful mastery of these standards