

Facilitated Discussions*

Facilitated by Dylan Frendt, UniServ Representative

As we endure a societal climate that is tumultuous at best, we find more educators asking how they can be an advocate and ally to students when they feel it is needed the most. Although we have provided sessions on skills and suggestions on how to be an ally, these two sessions will be provided as a facilitated discussion about the fears and challenges people are facing in our recent societal climate when having difficult professional conversations.

Being a Student Ally/Advocate: Part I

NOV 5, 2025

Time/Location: 5-5:30 pm registration/dinner ♦ 5:30-7:30 p.m. discussion ♦ Eastern Region Office

The first session will focus on allowing a safe space for people to express the fears and challenges they have encountered with students, colleagues, administrators, parents and other stakeholder groups when doing this difficult work. It will be a full discussion that will allow participants to drive the discussion on doing this work for any group of students while having productive conversation about continuing to do the work to feel effective and safe. The facilitator will also provide feedback around professional boundaries recommended for people to respect when doing this kind of work. *You do not have to complete Part II for the hours for Part I.*

RSVP no later than October 29, 2025.

FEB 18, 2026

Being a Student Ally/Advocate: Part II

Time/Location: 5-7 p.m. ♦ Via Zoom

Prerequisite: You must have participated in Part I to participate in Part II.

The second session will be a check-in for those that participated in session one to continue the discussion around this topic. This will allow people to further describe triumphs or challenges that they encountered while doing this work. Participants will be encouraged to bring their personal examples to use as learning experiences for everyone that will be participating in the workshop.

RSVP no later than February 12, 2026.

NOTE: For each session, you will receive 2 hours.

***Paraprofessionals**, if taking these sessions for the hours, it is recommended that you obtain pre-approval from your employer to ensure the hours will be accepted.

Members with teaching certificate, if you provide your PPID #, you will receive 2 Act 48 hours for each session.

RSVP no later than dates listed above!

(online at www.psea.org/er/rcpe or email to e-rgn@psea.org)

After registration closes, you will receive a confirmation/reminder email.