

Join one of the Public Affairs Committees – Advocacy, Education or Public Affairs

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A great way to kick off the New Year is to become involved with one of NEAFCS State or National Committees.

I recently received an email from a state Public Affairs Coordinator who was inquiring about what being on the National Public Affairs Committee entailed. It can be as much or as little as you like. I remember when I joined the Public Affairs Advocacy Committee, I had just started my position as an FCS Educator, and it was April of 2020.



Vincent Webb was the chairperson for the Advocacy Committee, and he was very welcoming at a time I really needed to feel part of something, maybe that is why I kept coming to meetings. He was also organized and had clear goals for the committee and now that I am VP of Public Affairs and I am getting to know the three chair people, Rosie Stewart – Advocacy, Amanda Dame, Education and Mindy McCulley, Marketing I see that they too are welcoming and organized and have clear goals that were established with their yearly Action Plans.

The time commitment is up to you as a member, if you want to learn what is going on with NEAFCS, which is a reason I got on that first zoom or if you want a place to lend your skills and services you can tailor what you want to do. **It's really up to you how much you can or want to give. I can say that from a professional perspective, it has been very rewarding to be involved with the NEAFCS Public Affairs committees because it checks some boxes for what I need to do, but more importantly, it's a pleasure to be involved.** If you have great proof-reading skills, you could help to review the impact reports for the education committee; if you like to coach people to get the good word out about our profession and NEAFCS, check out the marketing committee, and if you have great ideas for material development, especially around wellness for wellness month then check out the Advocacy committee.

I hope to see you on one of the Public Affairs Zoom meetings or at the Annual Conference Public Affairs meeting!