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## Montana PTA “Shadow an Educator”

Montana PTA is excited to promote our “Shadow an Educator” program which is designed to develop non-partisan, two-way, meaningful, communication between schools and lawmakers.

The “Shadow an Educator” program encourages a lawmaker to follow a school staff member for all or part of the day, helping students in the classroom, familiarizing themselves with teachers’ expected grade level curriculum, eating lunch with students and staff, and observing students in physical activities, particularly at recess. This is also an opportunity to speak to administrative staff about their roles in running an effective educational environment.

### Suggested Procedure:

1. Schools contact lawmakers in their district, introduce themselves, invite lawmaker to “Shadow an Educator,” and schedule date.
2. School administrator requests teachers to offer their classrooms to be observed and assigns lawmaker to classrooms where teachers accepted participation. Administrator will schedule time during the same day to exchange information about running an effective educational environment with lawmaker.
3. Lawmaker attends school, greeted by administrator and teacher, on scheduled date to follow teacher through workday at school.
4. Lawmakers and school staff exchange salutations at end of day.
5. Lawmaker and staff write truly honest summary about experience and exchange summaries.

### Suggested Dates:

ACT NOW! Invite the candidates in November’s election to participate now.  
After the election, contact the winner and ask them back again!

The Legislature will again be making important decisions regarding school funding, please take advantage of this valuable opportunity to give your legislators firsthand knowledge of education issues in your local community.

Contact information for the Legislature may be found at:

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/default.asp>