



# A Proactive Approach to Fighting Bans

## A Weekly Advocacy Calendar for Teachers

### Week 1

- Read PEN America's latest reporting on book bans
  - Start a list of books you want to read
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in!)
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### Week 2

- Watch [videos](#) of authors explaining how their books have made a difference in the lives of a reader.
  - Ask your students to write their own reflections on a time a book has made a difference in their lives.
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### Week 3

- Share videos and student reflections with some teacher colleagues.
  - Ask if they might be interested in trying the same thing with their students.
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### Week 4

- Share what you've been learning so far with an administrator and ask if they might be willing to share the PEN America report at a department or faculty meeting.
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### Week 5

- Reach out to other teachers to see if they are interested in a book club to read and discuss banned books or books with themes that are [commonly](#) targeted, like racism, LGBTQ+ identities, or sex.
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### Week 6

- Plan a parent night in which you ask them to share a book that made a difference in their lives.
  - Share some of the student responses about books that are important to them.
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### Week 7

- Ask your department head or principal how books are selected and how book challenges might work in your district. See if they might be willing to form a committee to write or rewrite a policy.
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### Week 8

- Reflect on what you've done so far (the allies you've made, the conversations you've started) and celebrate this great start to advocacy!