



Board Briefs

A report on the November 2010 meeting of the TASB Board of Directors, Austin

Focus on School Funding

Before the legislative session starts, state lawmakers need to know that public schools can't sustain funding cuts. The TASB Board reaffirmed its efforts to communicate in dollars and cents what cuts will do to individual school districts. The Association also will continue to present the TASB school finance plan at the grassroots level and to receptive legislators statewide. In the future, a recently formed special committee will work with the TASB Legislative Committee to provide additional guidance to staff.

TASB and TASA presently are conducting editorial board meetings in select media markets to emphasize a message to the legislature of no funding cuts for public schools. Teams of one or two local superintendents and an equal number of school board members are participating in these meetings across the state. Members also are encouraged to use the available advocacy resources to prepare for the 82nd legislative session:

- *Legislative Briefing Book* includes eight briefs accompanied by fill-in-the-blank work sheets on TASB's advocacy priorities. All school boards are urged to complete the work sheets and share their districts' answers with their legislators before the session begins. One of the eight briefs will help local districts tell their own stories about the implications of cuts to an already underfunded public education system.
- The revised edition of the *Report on School District Mandates: Cost Drivers in Public Education*, which includes legislative and regulatory mandates resulting from the 2009 session, will be posted at gr.tasb.org and delivered to legislators and staff later this month.

New TASB Director Elected

Filling an interim director position, Marilyn Bettes of Navasota ISD was elected to represent Region 6 on the TASB Board. A retired educator, Bettes currently is vice-president of her local board. She has served the district for four years and also held the position of board secretary.

Prior to her retirement, Bettes was active in the Fort Worth Council of Reading, Texas State Reading Association, Secondary Interest Council, and International Reading Association. In addition, she was a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Association for Secondary School Principals, Fort Worth Educators Association, and Texas Parent Teacher Association. Bettes attended Texas Wesleyan University and Texas Christian University, earning a bachelor of arts degree and a master's of education.

Inmon Joins Race

Gary Inmon, a local board member in Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD and TASB president elect, announced his intentions to run in the special election for Texas House of Representatives District 44 seat. This seat previously was held for almost 30 years by the late Edmund Kuempel, who recently passed away in Austin. Inmon can remain on his local board, and thus the TASB Board, during his candidacy.

In Other Action, the Board Approved:

- Minutes for the September 2010 Board meeting and Delegate Assembly
- Board policy on statement of commitments, understandings, and expectations for a TASB Director
- Board policy on appointments
- Board policy on Nominations Committee accountabilities and approvals
- Board policy on Executive Committee accountabilities and approvals

The next TASB Board of Directors meeting is January 15, 2011, in Austin.

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