

The Wave

The Newsletter of the Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards

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GCSchoolBoards@aol.com

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President's Message

To borrow from a well-known colloquialism: "If you don't like the state of public education in Texas, just wait a minute!" This frustrating pattern seems to go on year after year. Time goes on, but the problems remain the same, yet exacerbated by a student population that grows by 80,000 a year, stricter accountability standards, and less and less funding from Austin.

The **GCAASB Executive Board** held its first meeting of the year June 2, welcoming four new Directors and voting in three new Officers. I am humbled to find myself in the position of **President** for the upcoming school year, and pleased to have my cohorts **Becky Streetman** and **Sarah Winkler** move to **First Vice President** and **Second Vice President**, respectively.

As the face of the Executive Board changes, the **enthusiasm for our mission grows**. A palatable sense of pride, determination and collaboration surrounded the exited conversation for what is ahead this new year. It is clear that the time has come to work together as school trustees and seek alternatives to those important issues in each of our schools that affect the quality of education for our children. No one can pull additional funding out of thin air, but **each of us has valuable ideas, creativity and knowledge that, when shared, can assure positive results**. I am confident that the GCAASB can be instrumental in overcoming many of the obstacles facing each of our districts this next school year.

Please urge each of your Trustees to **fully participate in the four meetings** scheduled for this next year. The programs will provide up-to-the-minute updates, training hours, and invaluable opportunities for networking with other Trustees. In addition, four (4) \$500 scholarships will be given away to four lucky attendees at each meeting.

I would be remiss if I failed to thank President **Marine Jones** of **Aldine ISD** for her gracious leadership this past year, as well as **Jerry Smith**, **GCAASB Executive Secretary** "extraordinaire" for his continued exceptional efforts. Thank you both for a job well done!

I am pleased to serve as President of the GCAASB and look forward to working with each of you and your respective districts!



Kathy Green

GCAASB Officers, Directors shuffled

The May **resignation** of **Jimmy Zepeda** of **Hempstead ISD**, who was elected GCAASB President for the 2010-2011 GCAASB term of office at the April 28 Spring Workshop, has resulted in a shuffling of Officers and the appointment of a new Director.

In accordance with the GCAASB By-laws, First Vice President **Kathy Green** of **La Porte ISD** moved up to President, and Second Vice President **Becky Streetman** of **Huffman ISD** moved up to **First Vice President**, while **Wayne Schaper, Sr.**, of **Spring Branch ISD** remained as **Secretary/Treasurer**. Director **Sarah Winkler** of **Alief ISD** was elected **Second Vice President** by the GCAASB Executive Board at its June 2 meeting. 2009-2010 GCAASB President **Marine Jones** of **Aldine ISD** will serve as **Past President**.

GCAASB Directors elected at the April 28 meeting include **Pete Vincent** of **Alvin ISD**, **Linda Huebner** of **Columbia-Brazoria ISD**, **J. T. Floyd** of **Dickinson ISD**, **Carl Burg** of **Goose Creek CISD**, **Charles Cunningham** of **Humble ISD**, **Joe Adams** of **Katy ISD**, **Georgan Reitmeier** of **Klein ISD**, **Jeffrey Mitchell** of **Spring ISD**, and **Kathy Hanson** of **Tomball ISD**.

The **Executive Board** appointed **Kim Janke** of **Needville ISD** to fill the vacant **Director's** position on June 2.

Membership dues reduced in adopted budget

In recognition of the funding challenges facing school districts and supportive education-related companies and individuals, the Executive Board of the Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards has unanimously voted to **maintain for 2010-2011 the lower dues implemented last year**. **Dues notices** have been mailed and are **payable by no later than September 15**.

The Board maintained its **commitment to supporting students** by budgeting \$8,000 for **four \$500 scholarships** to be awarded by drawing **at each of the four membership meetings**. For the 2010-2011 year, the GCAASB membership meetings at Region 4 ESC, 7145 West Tidwell in Houston, will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **August 25**; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **November 10**; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **February 90, 2011**; and 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 27, 2011**.

The dues structure for school districts is based on updated enrollment and the rates are as follows:

50,000+ students - \$350.00	25,000-49,999 students - \$300.00
15,000-24,999 students - \$275.00	10,000-14,999 students - \$250.00
5,000-9,999 students - \$225.00	2,000-4,999 students - \$200.00
1,000-1,999 students - \$150.00	Below 1,000 students - \$100.00
County Board/Service Center - \$200.00	

Associate Members with multiple representatives will pay dues of \$250.00, while individuals will pay \$150.00.

The dues, plus funds from membership dinner sponsors and interest earnings, will enable the GCAASB to provide state-required training for Trustees and Administrators; provide publication and e-mail distribution of a regular newsletter; enable Trustees and Administrators to enjoy a no-cost meal at each of the membership meetings; enable the GCAASB to have a positive presence at the TASB/TASA Convention in Houston; and allow Trustees in attendance at the annual meeting to vote for the Officer and Director positions elected annually.

The **budget** adopted by the Executive Board on June 2 projects **income of \$20,575.00** and **expenditures of \$21,945.00**, with the projected deficit to be absorbed by the fund balance the GCAASB has developed through the years. The **2009-2010 financial records audit** showed an \$814.45 deficit as the result of the dinner sponsorship payment for the April 28 Spring Workshop not being received by the end of the fiscal year on May 31.

Program topics identified for 2010-2011 meetings

A panel presentation on **"Creating a New Vision for Public Education in Texas"** will kick-off the 2010-2011 school year f on **Wednesday, August 25** at **Region 4 ESC**. **Susan Holley** of the **TASA Visioning Institute** will moderate the panel of area Superintendents for that membership meeting, which will begin with a 6:30 p.m. dinner co-sponsored by **Associate Members Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P.**, and **Joiner Partnership, Inc.**

TASB Executive Director Jim Crow, current **TASB President Sarah Winkler** of **Alief ISD**, and current **TASB Legislative Committee co-chair Kathy Hanson** of **Tomball ISD** will present an **"Analysis of General Election Affect on Public Education"** at the **November 10** meeting. **Associate Members Belt Harris Pechacek** and **Thompson & Horton LLP** will co-sponsor the membership dinner that will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Region 4 ESC.

Specific programs for the **February 8, 2011 meeting** and for the **April 27, 2011 Spring Workshop** will be identified at the September Executive Board meeting.

Reservations for each dinner meeting must be made by the Friday before the Wednesday meeting by e-mailing GCSchoolBoards@aol.com or by calling **Tommye Wolverton** at Region 4 at 713-744-6534.

In addition, the GCAASB will host **Candidates Orientation** sessions at Region 4 ESC at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **October 13, 2010** and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 13, 2011** for local School Board candidates.

**First Meeting Registration Deadline
is Friday, Aug. 20!**

**Register by e-mailing
GCSchoolBoards@aol.com**

or by calling

Tommye Wolverton of Region 4 at 713-744-6534

<p><i>Our Students ...</i> <i>Our Staff ...</i> <i>Our Schools ...</i> <i>Our Responsibility!</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards</i></p> <p align="center">2010-2011 Proud of Our Public Schools!!!</p>	
<p>President Kathy Green, La Porte ISD 1st Vice President Becky Streetman, Huffman ISD 2nd Vice President Sarah Winkler, Alief ISD Secretary/Treasurer Wayne Schaper, Sr., Spring Branch ISD Past President Marine Jones, Aldine ISD</p>	<p>Directors Pete Vincent, Alvin ISD Linda Huebner, Columbia-Brazoria ISD J. T. Floyd, Dickinson ISD Carl Burg, Goose Creek CISD Charles Cunningham, Humble ISD Joe Adams, Katy ISD Georgan Reitmeier, Klein ISD Kim Janke, Needville ISD Jeffrey Mitchell, Spring ISD Kathy Hanson, Tomball ISD</p>	<p>Executive Secretary Jerry Smith, APR</p> 