

The Wave

The Newsletter of the Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards
Vol. 9, No. 3 GCSchoolBoards@aol.com November 2009

President's Message

The **Officers** and **Directors** of the **Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards** extend our heartfelt congratulations and support to **Sarah Winkler** upon being elected as **TASB President**. We are also proud of other association members who continue their leadership skills and commitment to serve students beyond their respective districts.

Now that the **TASA/TASB Convention** has ended, we can focus our attention on our districts and how we can meet the needs of our students, school staff and communities. Thank you for sharing some of your success stories with others during the convention. Our area was well represented.

I wish each of you the best for the remainder of the school year. You are all vital members to the success of our area. Let's continue to work together for the success for all children.

Good luck in your endeavors and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.



Marine D. Jones

February meeting to focus on legislative proposals

TASB Governmental Relations staff members will lead area Trustees and Administrators in identifying issues to address at the next session of the Texas Legislature when the **GCAASB** hosts the **TASB Grassroots Meeting** at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, **February 10, 2010** at **Region 4 ESC**.

GCAASB-area Trustees and Administrators are urged to complete an **online Governmental Relations survey** (www.gr.tasb.org) to provide the foundation for discussion during the Grassroots Meeting. In addition to attempting to distill topics of concern down to the **10 legislative issues of greatest importance** to Region 4 school districts, meeting participants will also elect representatives to the **TASB Legislative Advisory Council (LAC)** that will meet twice in Austin during the spring to propose a slate of **Advocacy Priorities** to the **TASB Board** for eventual action by the **TASB Delegate Assembly**.

Dinner for the Grassroots Meeting will be underwritten by **GCAASB Associate Member PBK Architects**. **Reservations** for the dinner must be made by Friday, **February 5, 2010** to GCSchoolBoards@aol.com or by calling **Region 4 secretary Tommye Wolverton** at **713-744-6534**. Four **\$500 student scholarships** will also be awarded by drawing at the brief membership meeting.

Programs being identified for Spring Workshop

The **GCAASB Executive Board** is working with **TASB** staff to identify programs that will draw a large number of trustees and administrators to the annual **Spring Workshop** that will be held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 28, 2010** at Region 4 ESC.

Details about the programs will be provided in early 2010.

Additional GCAASB memberships renewed

Twelve additional school districts and six more education-related businesses have become 2009-10 **GCAASB** members. As of November 1, GCAASB counted **41 school district members** and **19 Associate Members**.

Districts renewing **GCAASB** membership include **Royal, Fort Bend, Huffman, Channelview, Cypress-Fairbanks, Galena Park, Pearland, Spring, Barbers Hill, Houston, La Marque, and Katy**.

Joining as a new Associate Member was the law firm of **Schwartz and Eichelbaum Wardell Mehl and Hansen, P.C.** Renewing their **Associate Member** status were auditors **Belt Harris & Associates**, architects **Ambrose and House**; the law firm of **Bracewell & Giuliani**; architects **SHW Group**; and the law firm of **Escamilla & Poneck, Inc.**

The **dues** enable the **Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards**

- to provide state-required training for Trustees and Administrators to improve their ability to serve students, staff, and taxpayers;
- fund four \$500 scholarship drawings at each GCAASB meeting to provide educational opportunities for deserving students;
- provide publication and e-mail distribution of a regular newsletter;
- enable attendees to enjoy a no-cost meal at each membership meeting;
- enable the GCAASB to have a positive presence at the joint annual TASB/TASA Convention;
- permit Trustees in attendance at the annual meeting to vote for the Officer and Director positions elected annually; and
- permit Associate Members to display appropriate-sized information about their services at each membership meeting.

GCAASB-area Trustees provide TASB leadership

Former GCAASB President and current GCAASB Director Sarah Winkler of Alief ISD assumed the presidency of the **Texas Association of School Boards** at the close of the **TASA/TASB Convention**.

The TASB Delegate Assembly also elected several other GCAASB-area Trustees to leadership positions for 2009-2010. **Aldine ISD Trustee Viola Garcia** was elected as a **TASB Vice President**. Winning election to the TASB Board of Directors were **Past President Kathy Hanson of Tomball ISD** (Position 4A), **Benny May of Barbers Hill ISD** (Position 4C), **Fort Bend ISD Trustee Sonal Bhuchar** (Position 4G), and **Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Trustee Lida Woodul** (Position 4F).

At the polls

In addition to Trustee Elections in some districts on **November 3**, **bond and tax rate elections** produced the following results:

***Anahuac ISD**, \$12.8 million - **APPROVED**

***Alvin ISD**, \$70 million - **APPROVED**

***Brazosport ISD**, \$166 million - **DEFEATED**

***Channelview ISD**, \$111 million in two propositions - **APPROVED**

***Danbury ISD**, \$8.9 million - **DEFEATED**

***Hempstead ISD**, set tax rate at \$1.48 - **DEFEATED**

*Our Students ...
Our Staff ...
Our Schools ...
Our Responsibility!*

Gulf Coast Area Association of School Boards

2009-2010

Proud of Our Public Schools!!!

President

Marine Jones, Aldine ISD

1st Vice President

Jimmy Zepeda, Hempstead ISD

2nd Vice President

Kathy Green, La Porte ISD

Secretary/Treasurer

Becky Streetman, Huffman ISD

Past President

Kathy Hanson, Tomball ISD

Directors

Sarah Winkler, Alief ISD

Pete Vincent, Alvin ISD

Linda Huebner, Columbia-Brazoria ISD

J. T. Floyd, Dickinson ISD

Greg Meyers, Houston ISD

Joe Adams, Katy ISD

Steve Szymczak, Klein ISD

Frank Braden, Pasadena ISD

Fred Rivas, Sheldon ISD

Wayne Schaper, Sr., Spring Branch ISD

Executive Secretary

Jerry Smith, APR



**Gulf Coast Area
Association of
School Boards**