



## 2019–20 TASB Officers

### Lee Lentz-Edwards

President

### Jim Rice

President-Elect

### Ted Beard

First Vice-President

### Debbie Gillespie

Second Vice-President

### Bob Covey

Secretary-Treasurer

### James de Garavilla

Immediate

Past President

*A report on the September 2019 TASB Board of Directors Meeting and highlights of the 2019 Delegate Assembly  
Dallas, Texas*

## Delegate Assembly Elects TASB Leaders, Amends Advocacy Agenda

The [TASB Delegate Assembly](#) met September 21 during the [TASA | TASB Convention](#) in Dallas. After much discussion, the Assembly took action on critical decisions that will guide TASB in representing members' interests before state and national policymakers.

### ***New Leadership Elected***

Association officers have been chosen to lead TASB in the coming year. Lee Lentz-Edwards, Kermit ISD, is this year's TASB president. Joining Lentz-Edwards as officers are President-Elect Jim Rice, Fort Bend ISD; First Vice-President Ted Beard, Longview ISD; Second Vice-President Debbie Gillespie, Frisco ISD; Secretary-Treasurer Bob Covey, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD; and Immediate Past President James de Garavilla, Silsbee ISD. All assumed their positions at the close of Convention.

The Assembly also held elections for TASB directors, filling 15 positions on the Board.

Elected to three-year terms (2019–22), filling expired terms:

- Region 1B, Yolanda Cuellar, South Texas ISD
- Region 2, Moises Alfaro, Mathis ISD
- Region 4E, Bill Lacy, Katy ISD

- Region 6, Jason Dohnalik, Cameron ISD
- Region 7, Ted Beard, Longview ISD
- Region 9, Mark Lukert, Wichita Falls ISD
- Region 10B, Linda Gooch, Sunnyvale ISD
- Region 10C, Dan Micciche, Dallas ISD
- Region 11A, Becky St. John, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD
- Region 13A, Jayme Mathias, Austin ISD
- Region 16, Cindy Spanel, Highland Park ISD-Potter County
- Region 20D, Robert Westbrook, Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD

Elected to two-year term (2019–21), filling vacancy:

- Region 18, Steve Brown, Ector County ISD

Elected to one-year terms (2019–20), filling vacancies:

- Region 11B, Jacinto Ramos Jr., Fort Worth ISD
- Region 13B, Mary Jane Hetrick, Dripping Springs ISD

### ***2018–20 Advocacy Agenda Update***

Delegates adopted changes to the 2018–20 Advocacy Agenda. These changes included two new Priorities and 20 new Resolutions. The updated Advocacy Agenda will be posted online soon and mailed to all school board members.

### ***Annual Report to Delegates***

Delegates viewed a [video report on Association activities during 2018–19](#). This year's report highlighted member benefits, including the new TASB Member Center, and the Association's advocacy efforts during the recent legislative session.

### ***30 years, 30 rebates***

This year's Assembly also celebrated the 30th year that 100 percent of local school boards renewed their TASB membership. As part of the celebration, TASB had a special giveaway. Thirty local school boards whose representatives participated in the Assembly were randomly

selected to receive rebates on 2019 Convention registration fees.  
Congratulations to the lucky school boards!

- Aquilla ISD
- Aubrey ISD
- Bullard ISD
- Burkburnett ISD
- Childress ISD
- Comal ISD
- Del Valle ISD
- El Paso ISD
- Elgin ISD
- Fort Sam Houston ISD
- Garland ISD
- Graham ISD
- Grape Creek ISD
- Hidalgo ISD
- Holland ISD
- Huffman ISD
- La Vernia ISD
- Levelland ISD
- Liberty-Eylau ISD
- Lyford CISD
- Midway ISD-Clay County
- Muleshoe ISD
- Olney ISD
- Plainview ISD
- Roosevelt ISD
- Sabine ISD
- Seguin ISD
- Slaton ISD
- Spring Hill ISD
- Stephenville ISD

Mark your calendars for next year's Delegate Assembly, October 3, 2020,  
in Dallas.

## Superintendent and Board Awards Presented

Keith Bryant, superintendent of Lubbock-Cooper ISD, was named the [2019 Superintendent of the Year](#) during the TASA | TASB Convention in Dallas. Bryant was selected from a group of state finalists that included Charles Dupre, Fort Bend ISD, Region 4; Walter Jackson, Brenham ISD, Region 6; Tylor Chaplin, Burkburnett ISD, Region 9; and Bruce Gearing, Dripping Springs ISD, Region 13 (now superintendent in Leander ISD).

Also at Convention, Harlingen CISD, Region 1, was named [2019 Outstanding School Board](#) by the Texas Association of School Administrators. Finalist Honor Boards included Frenship ISD, Region 17; Pasadena ISD, Region 4; Rockwall ISD, Region 10; and Tyler ISD, Region 7.

## Save the Date: Grassroots Meetings

The future of Texas public education is in your hands. You can make a direct impact on education policy by telling TASB which issues you want us to advocate before the Texas Legislature next session. Attend your regional [TASB Grassroots Meeting](#) to help shape the Association's legislative voice. The 2020 meetings will kick off in January.

During the meeting, you will work with other local trustees and superintendents to identify your region's priorities. Representatives elected during the regional meetings will then meet in Austin during the spring to merge all regional priorities into a statewide list of priorities for the 2020–22 TASB Advocacy Agenda, which is the message TASB Governmental Relations delivers on behalf of all Texas school boards at the Texas Capitol, state agencies, and elsewhere.

Bring your entire school board! All Texas school board members and superintendents are invited to participate. The meetings are free, and dinner is provided at no cost. The schedule will be posted November 1 at [gr.tasb.org](http://gr.tasb.org).

## Are You Registered to Vote?

As part of the “I Care. I Vote.” campaign, TASB encourages all school board members to [check their voter registration](#) to make sure their voices count in the November election. Then, encourage everyone you know to register and vote; let them know that you take your responsibility as a voter seriously and they should, too. Read more about [promoting a culture of voting](#), and check out resources for school districts on the [Texas Educators Vote website](#). October 7 is the registration deadline for the November 5 election.

( The Texas Association of School Boards does not endorse or oppose any candidate for office.)

## BoardBook® Premier Coming Soon

TASA | TASB Convention attendees got a sneak peek at the new BoardBook® Premier, which will launch this fall. The all-new version of TASB's board packet preparation software includes improved features, such as board member voting, follow the leader, digital start and stop time, electronic hand raising, and more.

The new product will be supported by the same great customer service [BoardBook](#) is known for. TASB member districts will be able to upgrade during the 2019–20 school year with no increase in cost. See a demo now at [boardbook.org/premier](#). Tutorials also will be posted in the coming weeks, and training webinars are being scheduled.

## Advocacy Institute Stipends Awarded

A total of 36 trustees will receive stipends to participate in the [2020 Advocacy Institute](#), February 2–4, in Washington, DC. The selected trustees represent 30 of the 36 Texas congressional districts. At the institute, they will gain information and updates on important legislation

impacting public education at the federal level. The stipend is paid directly to a district as reimbursement for conference registration.

The stipend program was initiated in 2007 to boost trustee participation at the annual institute sponsored by the National School Boards Association (NSBA). The goal is to encourage at least one trustee from each congressional district in Texas to attend.

## **Update from the TASB Risk Management Fund**

The TASB Board heard an update on the [TASB Risk Management Fund's](#) membership renewal season. Although the Fund remains in a strong financial position, property claims over the past five years have exceeded contributions by more than \$60 million. Most of the property claims the Fund receives are weather related, with more than 90 percent caused by wind and hail.

With school roofs receiving the brunt of the impact, the Fund hosted a Roof Summit to help Fund members gain the fundamental knowledge they need to make the best financial decisions when planning for and buying roofs. Held on September 12 in Austin, the event was cohosted with the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool. A panel of experts covered topics such as understanding roof types that can better withstand wind and hail, roof planning and buying, and managing roles and responsibilities.

In addition, the Fund has an online course, [Roof Inspections 101: From the Inside Out](#). The training is designed to explain the fiscal benefits of investing in routine roof inspections and maintenance and show how to safely inspect roofs, identify potential damage, and create a follow-up plan. The training is available to Fund Property members through the [TASB Online Learning Center](#) with a myTASB login.

## **Enhancements Planned for BuyBoard**

The TASB Board received a briefing on planned enhancements to the customized online purchasing application used for the [BuyBoard@cooperative purchasing program](#). The new software and website are expected to include a robust search feature and updated, user-friendly interface. More details will be available this spring.

## Upcoming Training

### ***TASB Conference for Administrative Professionals***

Registration is now open for the [TASB Conference for Administrative Professionals](#), to be held in Austin October 24–25. The conference, which repeats February 6–7, 2020, allows administrative professionals to network with those in similar roles from across the state and provides training specifically designed for them

An optional early-bird session will be held October 23. This session will focus on BoardBook® Premier, the all-new version of BoardBook. Current subscribers who are ready to upgrade will get set up, learn new features, and move their district to the new version. Seating is limited.

[Check the event web page for hotel and session information](#).

### ***Legal Seminars***

Legal Services will be exploring legislation passed in 2019 and other surprises in the mystery-themed [Legal Seminar Series](#). Several topics will highlight 2019 legislative decisions, with sessions such as Student Safety and Discipline Update, Public Participation in and out of Board Meetings, 10 Things Boards Need to Know Now about Governance Laws, Employee Compensation, and Legal and Legislative Update.

[Check the Legal Services training page for locations and registration details](#).

### ***HR Administrators Academy***

The [Texas School HR Administrators Academy \(HR Academy\)](#) is the key training opportunity for new and aspiring human resources administrators and is cosponsored by TASB HR Services and the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators (TASPA). The 2019 HR Academy will be held November 4–5 at the Austin Marriott North.

Sessions cover the primary HR functions and critical issues every new administrator encounters. An electronic resource guide is provided to all attendees.

### ***Governance Camp***

Winter Governance Seminar (WGS) is moving on, and [Governance Camp, Powered by Student Voice](#), is moving in. Join us February 27–29 in Galveston for a revamped learning experience!

Historically, this conference has been described as feeling like being away at camp—with an informal, yet rejuvenating atmosphere, opportunities to get to know new people, and a feeling of reluctance when it's time to head home. Attend Camp to dive deeper into best governance practices and engage with students and board members to help you better serve your home district.

### **In Other Business, the Board Approved:**

- Minutes for July 20, 2019, Board meeting
- Members of the 2019–20 Nominations Committee
- Alternate nominees for Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer to present to the Delegate Assembly
- Board policy changes on expendable net assets target

The next meeting of the TASB Board of Directors is December 7 in Austin.

Editor: [Denise Schulz](#)  
**TASB Communications**