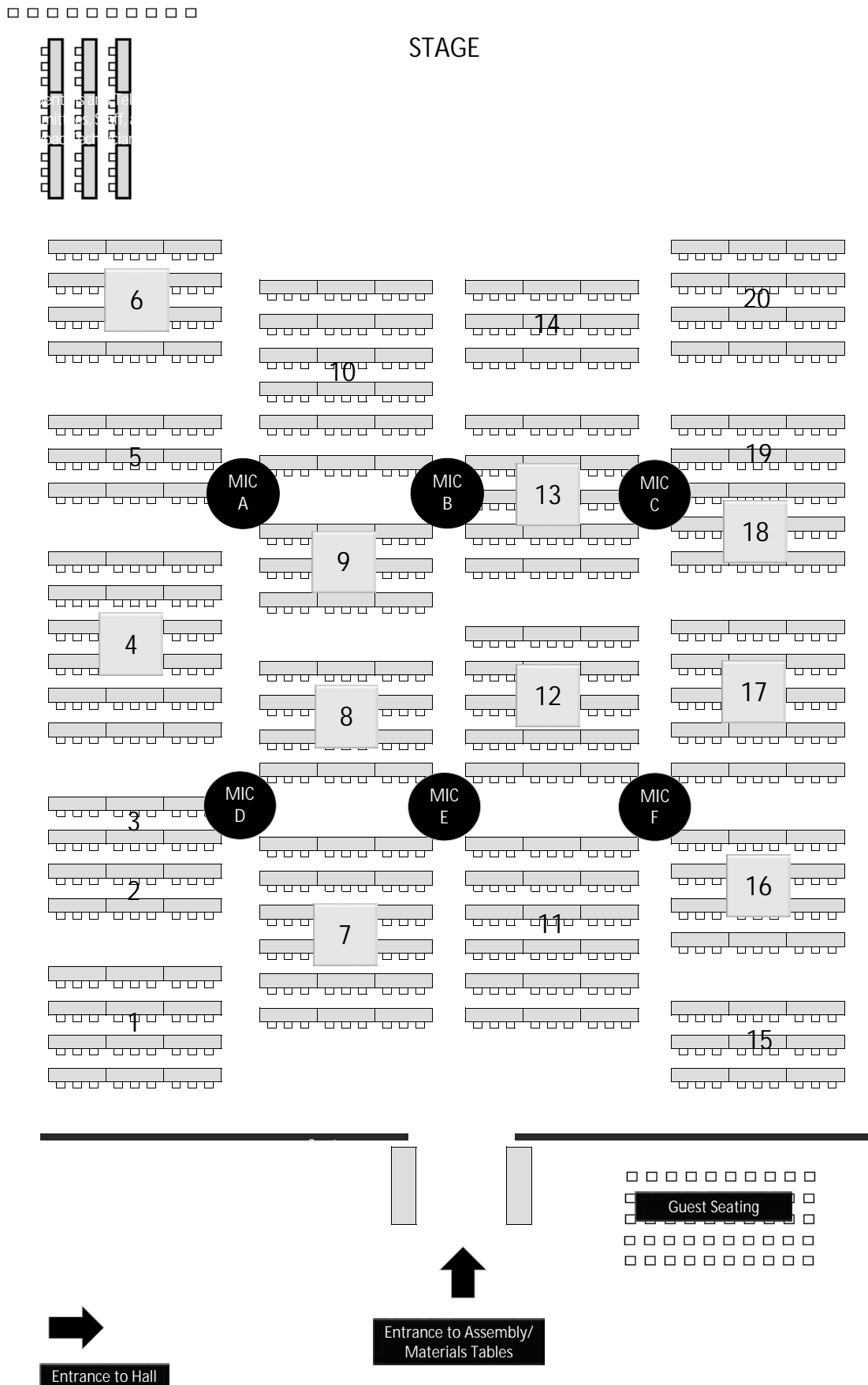


2017 Delegate Assembly Seating Chart



Seating on the Delegate Assembly floor is divided into the 20 TASB regions, each marked with signs. The placement of the TASB regions on the floor rotates each year to allow each region the opportunity to be placed near the front of the hall in some years. At any given time, more than 400 local boards are represented on the floor.

Seating is provided at the back of the hall for Delegates or alternates not on duty and others wanting to observe the Delegate Assembly's progress.

Agenda

2017 Delegate Assembly • October 7, 2017
 Dallas Ballroom, Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas
 President Charles R. Stafford, presiding

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Lunch and Regional Caucuses for Named Delegates and Alternates

Region	Room/Level	Region	Room/Level
1	Trinity 3, Level 3	11	Trinity 8, Level 3
2	Arts District 6, Level 2	12	Arts District 1, Level 2
3	Deep Ellum A, Level 2	13	Trinity 6, Level 3
4	Trinity 4, Level 3	14	Bishop Arts, Level 2
5	Deep Ellum B, Level 2	15	Arts District 2, Level 2
6	Greenville Ave., Level 2	16	Cedars, Level 2
7	Trinity 7, Level 3	17	Southside 1, Level 3
8	Arts District 7, Level 2	18	Arts District 4, Level 2
9	Arts District 3, Level 2	19	Arts District 5, Level 2
10	Trinity 8, Level 3	20	Trinity 5, Level 3

Final Call for Delegate Amendments, Pulls for Individual Consideration, or Primary Motions on Bylaws or Advocacy Items (where allowed by Delegate Assembly Rules). *All must be submitted to the Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center on the Action Form before the Call to Order.*

2 p.m.

Delegate Assembly Convenes (Dallas Ballroom, Level 3)

- A. Call to Order: Charles R. Stafford, President
- B. Invocation
- C. Adoption of Credentials Committee Report
- D. Adoption of 2017 Delegate Assembly Rules
- E. Adoption of Agenda
- F. 2016 Delegate Assembly Minutes
- G. Presentation of Service Awards
- H. Report from Board of Directors and Executive Director (video)
- I. Keynote Address: Evan Smith, CEO and co-founder of *The Texas Tribune*
- J. Report from Nominations Committee
 1. Election of Directors
 2. Election of Officers
- K. Adoption of Proposed Changes to TASB Bylaws
- L. Adoption of Proposed Changes to Advocacy Agenda
 1. Priorities
 2. Resolutions
- M. Adjournment

TASB Region	TASB Director
Active Member	
Count	
President	Charles R. Stafford, Denton ISD
President-Elect	Teresa Flores, Ingleside ISD
Immediate Past	Bret Begert, Fort Elliott CISD
President	
1 (38)	Sylvia P. Atkinson, Brownsville ISD Yolanda Cuellar, South Texas ISD
2 (43)	Carrie Gregory, Gregory-Portland ISD
3 (40)	John Green, Nordheim ISD
4 (51)	Rose Avalos, Aldine ISD Bob Covey, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Charles Cunningham, Humble ISD Benny May, Barbers Hill ISD Georgan Reitmeier, Klein ISD Jim Rice, Fort Bend ISD George Scott, Katy ISD Rhonda Skillern-Jones, Houston ISD
5 (33)	James de Garavilla, Silsbee ISD
6 (58)	Jason Dohnalik, Cameron ISD
7 (96)	Ted Beard, Longview ISD
8 (48)	Thomas Darden, Cooper ISD
9 (38)	Lanny Evans, Henrietta ISD
10 (83)	Don Gant, DeSoto ISD Debbie Gillespie, Frisco ISD Linda Gooch, Sunnyvale ISD Dan Micciche, Dallas ISD Ann Calahan, Stephenville ISD Bowie Hogg, Arlington ISD Christene Moss, Fort Worth ISD Bobby J Riques, Aledo ISD
12 (77)	Mildred Watkins, La Vega ISD
13 (57)	Jayme Mathias, Austin ISD Vernagene Mott, Pflugerville ISD Will Streit, Leander ISD
14 (43)	Greg Welch, Clyde CISD
15 (43)	Raymond P. Meza, San Felipe Del Rio CISD
16 (63)	Cindy Spanel, Highland Park ISD-Potter County
17 (58)	Kay Alley, Crosbyton ISD
18 (34)	Lee Lentz-Edwards, Kermit ISD
19 (13)	Dori Fenenbock, El Paso ISD
20 (55)	Armando Rodriguez, Canutillo ISD Karen Freeman, Northside ISD-Bexar County Sandy Hughey, North East ISD Rolinda Schmidt, Kerrville ISD Robert Westbrook, Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD
Education Service Center Representative	Cindy Purdy, ESC 17, voting <i>ex officio</i>

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Keynote Speaker: Evan Smith

Evan Smith is CEO and co-founder of *The Texas Tribune*, a nonprofit, nonpartisan digital news organization recently called “one of the nonprofit news sector’s runaway success stories.”

The *Tribune*’s deep coverage of Texas politics and public policy can be found at its website, **texastribune.org**, in newspapers and on TV and radio stations across the state, and in the print and online editions of *The Washington Post*. Since its launch in 2009, the *Tribune* has won international acclaim and numerous honors, including nine national Edward R. Murrow Awards from the Radio Television Digital News Association and six awards from the Online News Association.

Previously, Smith spent nearly 18 years at *Texas Monthly*, including eight years as editor and a year as president and editor-in-chief.



DAP Delegate Assembly Procedures

Schedule and Location

This year's Delegate Assembly will be held Saturday, October 7, in the Dallas Ballroom, Level 3, of the Omni Dallas Hotel. Delegates and alternates will meet at 12:30 p.m. for the TASB Regional Caucuses, located in assigned rooms on Levels 2 and 3, to review Delegate Assembly issues with TASB Directors. Lunch will be provided. The Delegate Assembly will convene in the Dallas Ballroom at 2 p.m.

Delegate Assembly Agenda

The Delegate Assembly will include reports from various TASB committees; election of Directors and Officers; action on proposed Bylaws changes; and action on proposed changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda. Continuing education credit will be granted for the keynote address and participation in the action on the Advocacy Agenda at the caucuses and Delegate Assembly.

Members of the Delegate Assembly and Voting

The Delegate Assembly shall consist of (1) either the Delegate or alternate of TASB Active Members (only one voting representative for each TASB Active Member shall be allowed on the Delegate Assembly floor at any one time), (2) members of the TASB Board of Directors, and (3) the four Legislative Advisory Council members of the TASB Legislative Committee. Each member of the Delegate Assembly shall be entitled to vote on each action item presented to the Delegate Assembly (see Rule 11 in the 2017 Delegate Assembly Rules regarding voting methods).

Delegate Assembly Materials

Certified Delegates and alternates will be mailed official TASB region buttons, ribbons, and materials in September. With these materials in hand, Delegates will go first to the TASB Regional Caucuses at 12:30 p.m. and then to the Delegate Assembly at 1:45 p.m.

Delegates or alternates who have forgotten or lost their materials or who need to make a change to the designated Delegate or alternate should consult with the Credentials Committee at the on-site Delegate/alternate registration. On-site registration

begins at noon on Saturday, October 7. Registration booths will be located in the Dallas Ballroom and near the escalators on Level 2 of the Omni Dallas Hotel. For more information on Delegate responsibilities, see Frequently Asked Questions on page 5.

The Delegate Assembly will include reports from various TASB committees; election of Directors and Officers; action on proposed Bylaws changes; and action on proposed changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda.

Delegate Nominations for TASB Directors and Officers

The process for Delegate (or “floor”) nominations for TASB Directors and Officers requires that a statement of the candidate's intent and consent to run for a Director or Officer position from the floor shall have been received in the Association office by October 2, which is five days prior to the Delegate Assembly (TASB Bylaws, Article VI, Section 2D(7), and Article VII, Section 2E). Only those individuals who complied with the submission requirements in Article VI, Section 2D(2) (for Directors), and Article VII, Section 2B (for Officers), shall be eligible for nomination in this manner. Information regarding nominations can be found in the 2017 Nominations Committee Report.

Delegate Assembly Seating

Members of the Delegate Assembly shall be seated by TASB region (corresponding to current education service center regions). TASB staff members, holding red clipboards, are assigned to each area to assist Delegates. Special seating will be available for guests and Delegates and alternates not participating in the business meeting.

FAQ Delegate Assembly Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the Delegate Assembly?

TASB's Delegate Assembly is the once-a-year opportunity for Texas school boards to determine the leadership, advocacy positions, and overall direction of the organization.

Held annually on the Saturday of the TASA/TASB Convention, the Delegate Assembly is the foundation of TASB's governance structure. Simply put, it is the annual business meeting for the Association in which Delegates vote on issues critical to TASB, such as:

1. Adopting TASB's Advocacy Agenda—the legislative “road-map” for issues critical to public education
2. Electing TASB's leadership—the Officers and members of the TASB Board of Directors
3. Amending TASB's Bylaws to ensure a responsive and effective association

The Delegate Assembly is the embodiment of “Many Voices, One Vision.” Each Active Member may select a Delegate and an alternate to attend the Assembly. Your service as a Delegate or alternate ensures your district has a voice in TASB's future.

Q. Who are my fellow Delegates?

Your fellow Delegates are also members of local school and ESC boards. Each TASB Active Member is entitled to name a Delegate and an alternate. Each board's Delegate and alternate may trade off time on the floor to permit one or the other to attend Convention sessions running concurrently. When you enter or leave the floor during the Assembly, check in with the TASB staff member assigned to your region; the staff member will be holding a red clipboard.

Seating is provided at the back of the Delegate Assembly hall for Delegates or alternates not on duty and others wanting to observe the Delegate Assembly's progress.

Q. So, what can I expect at Delegate Assembly?

There are two main parts to Delegate Assembly: the regional caucuses and the actual Assembly meeting.

12:30–1:45 p.m.

TASB Regional Caucuses/Lunch for named Delegates and alternates (see the agenda for the list of rooms), Omni Dallas Hotel

Prior to the Assembly, you will meet with other representatives from your region, including your TASB Directors, to discuss the issues coming before the Assembly and clarify the Assembly processes.

What does the TASB Board do?

The Delegate Assembly elects and empowers the TASB Board of Directors to actively promote the purposes of the Association, oversee its fiscal affairs, and establish Board policies. The TASB Board consists of 44 Directors, including six Officers, generally representing TASB's 20 geographical regions, as well as their own school boards. The ESC boards are represented by one voting *ex officio* Director.

Who can be on the Assembly floor?

Each Active Member may have a Delegate **or** alternate on the floor. However, the TASB Board and the four Legislative Advisory Council members on the TASB Legislative Committee also serve as Delegates, giving Active Members with representation on the TASB Board two voices on the Delegate Assembly floor. That's right! *They may be on the Assembly floor even if their local boards have Delegates or alternates on the floor at the same time.*

A free lunch is provided. Your Delegate credentials will grant you access to the lunch and caucus.

2–4 p.m.

Delegate Assembly, Dallas Ballroom, Omni Dallas Hotel

At 1:45 p.m., Delegates and alternates will gather in the Assembly hall. You will be seated in the area designated for your region; signs inside the ballroom will assist you. At 1:50 p.m., the Chair will request that only one representative from each school board remain on the Assembly floor. The Credentials Committee, consisting of Delegates appointed by the President, assisted by TASB staff, will count the Delegates for a quorum.

If you arrive late to the Assembly, proceed to the section of the Delegate Assembly floor reserved for your TASB region, where a TASB staff member holding a red clipboard will check you in.

Q. How can I prepare for the Delegate Assembly?

1. Review your *2017 Delegate Assembly Handbook*, paying special attention to the Nominations Committee Report (under separate cover), proposed changes to the Bylaws, and proposed changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda. You will be asked to act on each of these items.
2. Work with your fellow local trustees to determine how your board stands on these action items.
3. Study the Delegate Assembly procedures and rules, particularly those explaining the Advocacy Agenda adoption process. Familiarize yourself with the Action Form at the back of the *Handbook*.
4. Attend your regional caucus before the start of the Delegate Assembly.

Bring the materials mailed to you: your *Handbook* and related materials, ribbon, and numbered button.

You also will need your Convention registration badge and your board member continuing education credit form, which will be included in your general Convention registration.

Q. How do I propose amendments to issues the Delegate Assembly is considering?

You may use the Action Form at the back of the *Handbook* to amend a proposed change to the Bylaws or Advocacy Agenda Priorities, amend a recommended Resolution, move to adopt or amend a resolution not recommended for adoption, or request that a Bylaws change or Resolution be considered by the Delegate Assembly individually and not as part of the consent agenda vote.

The deadline for turning in the Action Form is before the call to Order of the Delegate Assembly at 2 p.m.

What about on-site registration?

If you forget your materials or if your ribbon or button is incorrect, check in at on-site Delegate/alternate registration. On-site Delegate/alternate registration begins at noon on Saturday, October 7. Registration booths are located in the Dallas Ballroom and near the escalators on Level 2 of the Omni Dallas Hotel. Last-minute changes in Delegate and alternate designations also can be made at the on-site Delegate/alternate registration.

Q. How do I vote?

Voting is handled several ways:

1. Voting for contested races for TASB Director and Officer positions will be by electronic keypads.
2. Voting on the Bylaws (requiring a two-thirds majority of the Delegates present and voting) and Resolutions (requiring a majority) also will be by electronic keypads.
3. All other votes will be by a show of Frisbees™. After scanning raised Frisbees, the Chair will declare whether a particular motion carries or fails. If the vote appears too close to call in this fashion, the Chair will ask for voting by electronic keypads.

Q. How is anyone heard or seen in such a large group?

There are four ways that ensure Delegates are heard: (1) strategically placed floor microphones, (2) a video projection system with cameras focused on each microphone and on the stage, (3) rules adopted by the Delegate Assembly itself, and (4) the cooperation of every Delegate and alternate in maintaining the tradition of decorum and fairness.

If you want to address the Delegate Assembly about an item under consideration, please move quickly to the floor microphone nearest you. When recognized by the Chair (by microphone letter), state your name and school district and deliver your message. Comments are limited to three minutes. A clock will be posted on the two screens on either side of the stage and will indicate the amount of time you have been speaking; a sound will be played by the timekeeper at the end of the three minutes.

Q. Let's talk about continuing education credit. How much will I earn?

With this year's keynote address, you may earn up to two hours of continuing education credit for participating in your regional caucus and Delegate Assembly. Board member continuing education credit may not be granted for organizational business. At the close of the Delegate Assembly, the Chair will announce the information that you will need to complete the board member continuing education credit form (found in your Convention registration materials).

Looking for more information about the Advocacy Agenda?

It's right at your fingertips in your *Handbook*! Check the tabs for the sections on the Advocacy Agenda. If you have any questions, you have two resources at the Assembly: your TASB Director and the TASB staff at the Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center. Your TASB Director will lead your regional caucus and will be seated near you on the Delegate Assembly floor. The Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center, open from noon until the end of the Delegate Assembly, will be located near the main entrance to the Assembly floor.

Still have questions about the Delegate Assembly? TASB staff is here to help! Contact Susan Tabbee at 800.580.8272 or **susan.tabbee@tasb.org**.

For questions specifically about the Advocacy Agenda, contact Dax González at 800.580.4885 or **dax.gonzalez@tasb.org**.

Remember: When you get to Convention, you also can stop by any of the Convention Info Booths located in the convention center. Also, the Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center, located in the Assembly hall, will be open from noon until the end of the Delegate Assembly.

DAR Delegate Assembly Rules

2017 Delegate Assembly Rules

The Delegate Assembly business meeting shall follow the rules in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, along with the following standing rules recommended by the TASB Bylaws Committee and presented to the Delegate Assembly for adoption by a two-thirds affirmative vote:

Rule 1. The initial credentials report shall establish the presence of a quorum, and thereafter the total number of Delegate votes cast for each vote shall serve as the revised credentials report automatically.

Rule 2. A member of the Delegate Assembly shall speak from a microphone, state his or her full name and school board, and limit debate on a motion to three minutes.

Rule 3. In uncontested races for Director or Officer positions, the President may declare the individuals are elected by the Delegate Assembly.

Rule 4. In a contested Director or Officer position, each candidate shall be allowed three minutes to speak in person in support of his or her candidacy. Candidates for each position shall speak in alphabetical order, except the Nominations Committee's recommended Director candidate and the Board's recommended Officer candidate shall speak last. The voting order of candidates for each election shall be listed alphabetically, except the Nominations Committee's recommended Director candidate and the Board's recommended Officer candidate shall be listed first. Candidate elections are not subject to further discussion from the floor.

Rule 5. Except as provided otherwise, no member of the Delegate Assembly shall be recognized again on the same question until all others wishing to speak have had the opportunity to speak.

Rule 6. Primary amendments to proposed Bylaws changes shall be submitted to the Chair (or designee):

- (a) On the Action Form provided at the end of the *Delegate Assembly Handbook*; and
- (b) No later than the beginning (Call to Order) of the Delegate Assembly.

Secondary amendments may be offered from the floor by Delegates using proper motions and seconds. Any amendment that conflicts with the existing Bylaws not under proposed change will be ruled out of order.

Rule 7. Only the proposed changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda (composed of Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, and Resolutions) as printed in the *Handbook* shall be considered by the Delegate Assembly. Delegates shall not be permitted to propose new Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, or Resolutions during the Delegate Assembly.

All primary amendments to proposed changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda shall be submitted to the Chair (or designee):

- (a) On the Action Form provided at the end of the *Handbook*; and
- (b) No later than the beginning (Call to Order) of the Delegate Assembly.

Secondary amendments may be offered from the floor by Delegates using proper motions and seconds.

Any amendment that conflicts with a component of the Advocacy Agenda previously adopted or that does not relate to the proposed change will be ruled out of order.

[A primary amendment must be germane to the proposed change as printed in the Handbook. A secondary amendment must be germane to the primary amendment as submitted on the Action Form.]

Rule 8. Proposed Resolutions **recommended for adoption** will be handled as a group. However, individual consideration shall be given to any Resolution as to which:

- (a) A primary amendment has been submitted in accordance with Rule 7; or
- (b) A Delegate has requested the Resolution be pulled for individual discussion and action; or
- (c) A Resolution **NOT recommended for adoption has been changed to recommended for adoption** by the TASB Resolutions Committee, following an appeal of the submitting board in accordance with the TASB Bylaws.

Rule 9. Resolutions **NOT recommended for adoption** by the TASB Board shall not be considered by the Delegate Assembly, in any form, unless any of the following occurs:

- (a) A Delegate makes a **motion to adopt** the Resolution no later than the beginning (Call to Order) of the Delegate Assembly by submitting the completed blue Action Form, provided at the end of the *Handbook*, to adopt the Resolution as printed in the *Handbook*. The Action Form must be signed by that Delegate and a seconder.
- (b) A **primary amendment** to a Resolution proposed pursuant to Rule 9(a) must be submitted no later than the beginning (Call to Order) of the Delegate Assembly by a Delegate completing the Action Form, provided at the end of the *Handbook*. The Action Form shall be signed by that Delegate and a seconder. *[These individuals must be a different set of Delegates from those in Rule 9(a).]*

Secondary amendments may be offered from the floor by Delegates using proper motions and seconds.

Rule 10. Resolutions that duplicate the Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, or Resolutions, as determined by the TASB Board, shall not be considered for discussion or action.

Rule 11. To the extent possible, and as applicable, voting shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) Voting shall be by electronic keypad for the following actions:
 - (1) Contested positions for TASB Directors and Officers;
 - (2) Bylaws changes; and
 - (3) Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, and Resolutions.
- (b) All other votes shall be by a show of Frisbees™. After scanning raised Frisbees, the Chair shall declare whether a particular motion carries or fails. If the vote appears too close to call by this method, the Chair shall take the vote by electronic keypads.

2016 Minutes

Texas Association of School Boards
Delegate Assembly

Saturday, September 24, 2016
George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston,
Texas

Call to Order. TASB President Bret Begert called the 2016 Delegate Assembly to order at 2 p.m. Begert welcomed Delegates and announced the Delegate Assembly will feature keynote speaker Thomas Ratliff, vice-chair of the State Board of Education. President-Elect Charles R. Stafford gave the invocation. Begert introduced TASB Executive Director James B. Crow and Parliamentarian Kirk Overbey. Begert then introduced TASB past presidents: David Sublasky (1997–98), George McShan (1998–99), Rick Ogden (2002–03), Robert R. Seward (2008–09), Sarah Winkler (2009–10), Gary Inmon (2011–12), Viola M. Garcia (2012–13), and Faye Beaulieu (2013–14).

Begert announced that each Delegate should have the *2016 Delegate Assembly Handbook*, the yellow Nominations Committee Report, a Frisbee™, an electronic keypad for voting, and a pink keypad instruction sheet.

Begert drew attention to the Stand Up for Texas Public Schools advocacy campaign and encouraged Delegates to pick up red Stand Up for Texas Public Schools wristbands at the entrance to the Delegate Assembly Hall. Begert also referred Delegates to pages 89–91 of the *Handbook*, which contains the names of individuals and school boards that contributed to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda process, and thanked them for their contributions.

Begert announced that keypads would be used to vote on the Director and Officer elections, proposed changes to the Bylaws, and the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda, while the Frisbees would be used on a few routine items to save time. The Assembly tested the keypads with three practice questions. Begert also announced that continuing education credit hours would only be granted for the keynote address and Advocacy Agenda portion of Delegate Assembly.

Credentials Committee. Begert introduced members of the Credentials Committee: Chair Brent Clark (Dumas ISD), Rhonda Davis-Crawford (Lancaster ISD), and Ginia Northcutt (Longview ISD). Clark reported that there were 323 Delegates in attendance. Begert declared that a quorum was present. He also noted that more Delegates might join the Assembly as the meeting progressed.

Teller Committee. Begert introduced members of the Teller Committee: Chair Jon Reyes (Lockhart ISD), Jennifer Davis (Temple ISD), and Rob Reyes (Pflugerville ISD).

Delegate Assembly Rules Adoption. Begert called the Delegates attention to the 2016 Delegate Assembly Rules proposed by the Bylaws Committee of the TASB Board, which acts as the Delegate Assembly's Standing Rules Committee.

Begert called special attention to the following proposed Delegate Assembly Rules: Rule 1 specifies that after receiving the initial credentials report, the total number of votes cast on an item will serve as the revised credentials report as long as the total number of votes is not below the quorum of 210 Delegates; Rule 3 states that there will be no vote or discussion in uncontested races for Director or Officer positions and the President is allowed to declare uncontested candidates elected; Rule 4 states that in contested races, only the candidates will be recognized to speak and addresses in what order candidates speak; and Rules 7 through 10 deal with voting on the Advocacy Agenda.

Begert called for a vote by Frisbees on the 2016 Delegate Assembly Rules. The Rules as presented were adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of Delegates.

Begert introduced Brittany Thornberry, TASB staff member and timekeeper, and asked her to test sound the time indicator. Begert said that the alert would be sounded when a speaker has used up the allotted time.

Agenda Adoption. Begert called attention to the agenda of the 2016 Delegate Assembly. With no objections made, the agenda was adopted as printed.

Minutes of the 2015 Delegate Assembly. Begert called the Delegates' attention to the 2015 Delegate Assembly minutes on pages 10–15 of the *Handbook*, which were approved by the TASB Board at its December 2015 meeting. No corrections were submitted, so the minutes stood approved as presented.

Service Awards. With the assistance of Crow, Begert presented service awards to former members of the TASB Board of Directors: Ashley Vann accepting on behalf of Joe Adams (Katy ISD), Ron Crier (Spring ISD), Gilbert Flores (Judson ISD), Maria G. Leal (South Texas ISD), Dan Micciche accepting on behalf of Mike Morath (Dallas ISD), Bob Payton (Wichita Falls ISD), Victor Contreras (Marion ISD), and Kevin Ellis accepting on behalf of Andra Self (Lufkin ISD). Begert also recognized the Legislative Advisory Council members whose terms ended this year: Thomas Darden (Cooper ISD) and David Stasney (Bryan ISD).

Nominations Committee Report. Nominations Committee Vice-Chair Begert stated that the Delegate Assembly is responsible for electing TASB Directors and Officers according to TASB Bylaws, Articles VI and VII. Begert explained that a Director candidate receiving endorsements from a majority of the Active Members in the region is automatically elected to that position and will take office at the end of the TASA/TASB Convention. This process includes large district positions because a large district is considered a region. Begert announced individuals automatically elected by this process to three-year terms: Teresa Flores (Ingleside ISD, Region 2), Henry Dibrell (Katy ISD, Region 4, Position E), Dan Micciche (Dallas ISD, Region 10, Position C), and Jayme Mathias (Austin ISD, Region 13, Position A).

Begert reported that members of the Committee interviewed candidates and reviewed nominations for other Director and Officer positions. He presented the Committee's slate of nominees for consideration by the Delegate Assembly.

Nominees for Director positions of three-year terms were Esparanza "Espie" Ochoa (La Joya ISD, Region 1, Position B), Jason Dohnalik (Cameron ISD, Region 6), Ted Beard (Longview ISD, Region 7), Lanny Evans (Henrietta ISD, Region 9), Ty G. Jones (Lancaster ISD, Region 10, Position B), Bobby J Rigues (Aledo ISD, Region 11, Position A), Cindy Spanel (Highland Park ISD-Potter County, Region 16), and Robert Westbrook (Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD, Region 20, Position D). The nominee for a Director position for a two-year term was Georgan Reitmeier (Klein ISD, Region 4, Position A). The nominee for a Director position with a one-year term was Rolinda Schmidt (Kerrville ISD, Region 20, Position A). Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Rules, Begert declared the individuals in uncontested races elected to the TASB Board.

In the contested race for Region 1, Position B, a three-year term, the Assembly heard candidate speeches from Yolanda Cuellar (South Texas ISD) and Ochoa. Begert called for a vote on the contested race, and J. Reyes reported the results to the Assembly. Region 1, Position B: Cuellar received 52.50 percent (189 votes), and Ochoa received 47.50 percent (171 votes).

Begert congratulated Cuellar on her election to the TASB Board.

In the contested race for Region 4, Position A, a three-year term, the Assembly heard candidate speeches from Carla Mills-Windfont (Crosby ISD) and Reitmeier. Begert called for a vote on the contested race, and J. Reyes reported the results to the Assembly. Region 4, Position A: Mills-Windfont received 38.12 percent (138 votes), and Reitmeier received 61.87 percent (224 votes).

Begert congratulated Reitmeier on her election to the TASB Board.

In the contested race for Region 10, Position B, a three-year term, the Assembly heard candidate speeches from Linda Gooch (Sunnyvale ISD) and T. Jones. Begert called for a vote on the contested race, and J. Reyes reported the results to the Assembly. Region 10, Position B: Gooch received 52.20 percent (189 votes), and Jones received 47.79 percent (173 votes).

Begert congratulated Gooch on her reelection to the TASB Board.

In the contested race for Region 20, Position D, a three-year term, the Assembly heard candidate speeches from Contreras and Westbrook. Begert called for a vote on the contested race, and J. Reyes reported the results to the Assembly. Region 20, Position D: Contreras received 22.16 percent (80 votes), and Westbrook received 77.83 percent (281 votes).

Begert congratulated Westbrook on his election to the TASB Board.

Begert stated that at the close of Convention, Stafford will assume the office of President by virtue of his election to the position of President-Elect at the 2015 Delegate Assembly. Begert will assume the position of Immediate Past President.

Begert announced the 2016–17 TASB Board nominees for Officer positions: T. Flores, President-Elect; James de Garavilla (Silsbee ISD), First Vice-President; Lee Lentz-Edwards (Kermit ISD), Second Vice-President; and Jim Rice (Fort Bend ISD), Secretary-Treasurer. Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Rules, Begert declared the individuals in these uncontested races elected to the Officer positions on the TASB Board.

Begert congratulated these individuals on their new positions.

Begert stated that the TASB Director for Region 13, Position B, had recently become vacant. Because the vacancy occurred too late in the process to fill the position, the Nominations Committee will issue a call for nominations in the fall and fill the position by interim Board appointment at the December TASB Board meeting. The position will be brought for election at the 2016 Delegate Assembly.

Begert presented a video on TASB's advocacy activities throughout the year. Ratliff gave a presentation entitled "Poking the Bear" to Delegate Assembly attendees. The presentation focused on anticipated school voucher legislation.

Bylaws Committee Report. Begert introduced Bylaws Committee Chair Don Gant (DeSoto ISD). Gant introduced

Committee Vice-Chair Gooch to assist with presenting the Bylaws Committee report. The Committee presented proposed changes grouped as seven proposals, shown on pages 17–25 of the *Handbook*:

Proposal 1: Establishes a deadline for notifying the Association of an appeal when the Board does not recommend adoption of a resolution, so that the members of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committees can plan their schedules accordingly. It also renumbers the section and makes other formatting changes.

Proposal 2: Clarifies how Association regional boundaries are created. The proposal deletes the second sentence in this section because it is inconsistent with the first sentence. The Association has historically relied upon the education service center (ESC) boundaries established by the Texas Education Agency to determine Association Regions. The Delegate Assembly has not considered or taken action on Association Regions.

Proposal 3: Grants authority to the TASB Board to establish campaigning protocols for Director and Officer elections.

Proposal 4: Clarifies the quorum requirement for the Nominations Committee.

Proposal 5: Defines a TASB Board year. Other changes are made for internal consistency and clarification purposes.

Proposal 6: Clarifies that the hold harmless language applies to the time served as a *pro tempore* in any Officer position, not just President-Elect. It also clarifies that the Board has the discretion to leave an interim Officer vacancy unfilled for the remainder of the term. Finally, it ensures that the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer continue during any vacancy by allowing the Executive Director to perform these duties within certain limits. Texas law requires that a corporation have a secretary. Finally, it deletes responsibilities of the Secretary-Treasurer that are handled by professional staff with monitoring by the Budget and Finance Committee.

Proposal 7: Changes the word “Handbook” to “meeting materials” for consistency throughout the Bylaws.

Begert called for a vote on all seven proposals to the Bylaws as presented. Delegates voted and approved the changes by a vote of 98.53 percent (Yes-334, No-5).

Begert referred Delegates to page 26 of the *Handbook* for an overview of the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda. Referring to pages 89–90 of the *Handbook*, he invited all those who served on the Legislative Advisory Council who formulated the proposed priorities, all Delegates from school boards that proposed resolutions, and all Delegates who spoke up for public education to stand and be recognized.

Legislative Committee Report. Begert introduced Legislative Committee Chair Lentz-Edwards. Lentz-Edwards introduced Committee Vice-Chair Rhonda Skillern-Jones (Houston ISD) to assist with presenting the Legislative Committee report. Pursuant to the TASB Bylaws, at the April 2, 2016, Board meeting, the Board approved for submission to the Delegate Assembly proposed changes to the Cornerstone Principles shown on page 27 of the *Handbook*, Lines 8–12. The Board recommended these changes to the Delegate Assembly for final adoption.

Begert called for a vote on the proposed Cornerstone Principles changes. Delegates voted and approved the changes by a vote of 97.93 percent (Yes-331, No-7).

Lentz-Edwards presented the proposed priorities for the 2016–18 biennium. The TASB Board recommends to the Delegate Assembly the proposed priorities as presented in the *Handbook* on page 28.

Begert called for a vote on the proposed priorities. Delegates voted and approved the priorities by a vote of 97.01 percent (Yes-324, No-10). Lentz-Edwards recognized and thanked the TASB Directors and Legislative Advisory Council members who served on the Legislative Committee.

Resolutions Committee Report. Begert introduced Resolutions Committee Chair Raymond P. Meza (San Felipe Del Rio CISD). Meza introduced Committee Vice-Chair Beard to assist with presenting the Resolutions Committee report. Beard reported that 29 individual school boards answered the call for resolutions, submitting 99 proposed resolutions. The proposals were considered by the TASB Resolutions Committee and the TASB Board at their July meetings. The TASB Board recommended three additional resolutions for submission to the Delegate Assembly. Three resolutions were not recommended by the TASB Board. Resolutions that duplicated Cornerstone Principles or proposed priorities were removed. Meza directed Delegates to pages 29–47 of the *Handbook* for the text of the proposed resolutions and the rationales offered by the submitting school boards.

Consent Agenda. Begert called for a vote on the resolutions recommended for adoption by the TASB Board. The Delegate Assembly approved by a vote of 97.32 percent (Yes- 327, No- 9) all resolutions recommended for adoption as presented by consent agenda with the exception of Resolutions 1, 4, 7, 47, and 48, which were pulled for individual consideration.

Individual Consideration.

Beard presented Resolution 7 pulled for individual consideration:

Resolution 7—Workforce App (Greenville ISD): “TASB supports legislation to encourage collaboration between school districts and local workforce commissions to create a mobile app for graduates to find employment.” The resolution was pulled for individual consideration by Tony Hopkins (Friendswood ISD). Begert called for any discussion. After much discussion, the Assembly voted to adopt the resolution by 57.19 percent (Yes-191, No-143).

Beard next presented the resolutions pulled for individual consideration along with the amendments submitted by Delegates, as shown in bold double underline and bold double strikethrough:

Resolution 1—English Language Learner Teacher Development (El Paso ISD): “TASB supports ~~a an~~ optional sheltered endorsement for teachers educating secondary English language learners.” Motion to amend the resolution was made by Marlene Bullard (Tornillo ISD) and seconded by Irene Jaquez (San Elizario ISD). Begert called for any discussion. With no discussion, the Assembly voted for the amendment by 82.17 percent (Yes-258, No-56) and then voted to adopt the resolution, as amended, by 89.56 percent (Yes-283, No-33).

Resolution 4—Student Transfers (Boles ISD): “TASB supports removing ~~‘transfer-annually’~~ from Texas Education Code Section 25.036 and allowing local education agencies to develop guidelines for termination or revocation of such transfers at any time whether such request is by a receiving district or the parent/guardian adding language making school transfer agreements terminable at any time by either the district or parent.” Motion to amend the resolution was made by Angie Cox (Lewisville ISD) and seconded by Debbie Gillespie (Frisco ISD). Begert called for any discussion. With no discussion, the Assembly voted for the amendment by 88.27 percent (Yes-286, No-38) and then voted to adopt the resolution, as amended, by 94.39percent (Yes-303, No-18).

Resolution 47—Bilingual Education (Irving ISD): “TASB supports granting local districts ~~total~~ flexibility in determining which bilingual/English language learner program structures are best for each individual student as long as the program is evidence based.” Motion to amend the resolution was made by Susie Byrd (El Paso ISD) and seconded by Arleen Parada (Clint ISD). Begert called for any discussion. With no discussion, the Assembly voted for the amendment by 87.31 percent (Yes-289, No-42) and then voted to adopt the resolution, as amended, by 93.5 percent (Yes-302, No-21).

Resolution 48—National Tests as Assessments (Irving ISD): “TASB supports replacing state and federally required ~~end-of-course~~ assessments with the ACT and/or the SAT for grades 3–12.” Motion to amend the

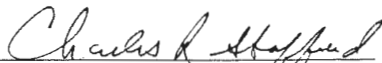
resolutions was made by Cox (Lewisville ISD) and seconded by Steven Jones (Irving ISD). Begert called for any discussion. After much discussion, the Assembly voted against the amendment by 70.43 percent (Yes-97, No-231). The Assembly then voted on the resolution as originally presented in the *Handbook* and adopted it by 65.45 percent (Yes-214, No-113).

Closing. Begert called on Stafford, the incoming President, and presented him with the president's gavel. Stafford then presented Begert with a personalized scrapbook.

Begert made closing remarks and announced the training credit information.

Adjournment. The Assembly adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

APPROVED BY TASB BOARD:



Charles R. Stafford, President

12-3-16

Date



Jim Rice, Secretary-Treasurer

12-3-16

Date

BC Delegate Assembly

Proposed Changes to TASB Bylaws

Proposed changes to the TASB Bylaws appear in legislative style, beginning on the next page. The proposed changes are organized topically as follows: **Proposal #1**, relating to proposed resolutions deadline (Lines 5–111), and **Proposal #2**, relating to committee appointments and composition (Lines 115–161).

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2017 Proposed TASB Bylaws Changes

[Underlined text is proposed new language and ~~strikethrough text~~ is proposed for deletion.]

Proposal #1, relating to proposed resolutions deadline.

Article V. Delegate Assembly, Section 9: Advocacy Agenda, Part C. Advocacy Agenda Resolution Process

Proposed Change	Rationale
<p>C. Advocacy Agenda Resolution Process</p> <p>(1) Except as provided in this section, new Advocacy Agenda Resolutions or changes to previously adopted Advocacy Agenda Resolutions proposed for consideration by the annual Delegate Assembly shall be submitted in writing by July 1 <u>June 15</u> to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, or its designee. Only submissions proposed by the Board or Active Members shall be considered by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.</p> <p>(2) Submissions received by July 1 <u>June 15</u> shall be studied by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall formulate recommendations to the Board. The Board shall have the right to affirm or change Bylaws and Resolutions Committee recommendations and to amend submissions for presentation to the annual Delegate Assembly, provided the amendment does not change the intent of the original submission and the amendment is approved by the submitting Active Member.</p>	<p><i>Establishing an earlier deadline of June 15 for Active Members to propose Resolutions. The earlier deadline will give staff sufficient time to prepare recommendations for consideration by the TASB Board at its summer meeting. TASB Board recommendations then go to the Delegate Assembly. (Lines 21, 27, and 42)</i></p>

40
41 (3) Active Member submissions
42 received after ~~July 1~~ June 15 and five days
43 before the Delegate Assembly convenes
44 shall be accompanied by a statement of
45 the nature of the emergency preventing
46 timely submission. They shall not be
47 presented to the annual Delegate
48 Assembly unless the Board affirms that
49 the submission is of an emergency nature.
50 The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee
51 and/or the Board shall have the right to
52 amend submissions granted emergency
53 status before their presentation to the
54 annual Delegate Assembly, provided such
55 amendment does not change the intent of
56 the original submission. Amendments
57 approved by the Board shall be
58 communicated to the submitting Active
59 Member, if time permits.
60
61 (4) The Board shall have the right to
62 submit new Advocacy Agenda
63 Resolutions or Advocacy Agenda
64 Resolutions proposing changes to
65 previously adopted Advocacy Agenda
66 Resolutions before publication of the
67 meeting materials for Delegates.
68 Advocacy Agenda Resolutions submitted
69 by the Board after this deadline require
70 approval by a vote of two-thirds of the
71 Delegates of the annual Delegate
72 Assembly present and voting.
73
74 (5) If the Board does not recommend
75 for adoption a resolution that was timely
76 submitted by an Active Member, the
77 Active Member may appeal the Board's
78 decision. Notice of appeal is timely if
79 provided to the Association in writing, no
80 later than five days before the Delegate
81 Assembly meeting. The Bylaws and
82 Resolutions Committee shall convene
83 before the beginning of the Delegate
84 Assembly to hear the appeal and shall
85 have the authority to sustain the Board's

86 decision or reverse and render a revised
87 recommendation to the Delegate
88 Assembly.

89
90 (6) The Board shall submit its
91 recommendations regarding Advocacy
92 Agenda Resolutions to the annual
93 Delegate Assembly for approval.
94 Adoption of Advocacy Agenda
95 Resolutions shall require a majority vote
96 of Delegates present and voting.

97
98 (7) Advocacy Agenda Resolutions
99 adopted by the annual Delegate Assembly
100 in even-numbered years shall remain in
101 effect for two years, subject to changes
102 adopted in odd-numbered years. Any
103 change in the odd-numbered year shall
104 remain in effect until the annual Delegate
105 Assembly next convenes.

106
107 (8) No Advocacy Agenda Resolution
108 may be adopted that is in conflict with any
109 Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principle
110 or Priority established in accordance with
111 Article V, Section 9A and B.

112
113
114
115 **Proposal #2, relating to committee appointments and composition.**

116
117 *Article VIII. Committees, Section 1: Standing Committees*

118 119 Proposed Change	118 119 Rationale
120 121 Except as otherwise provided in these 122 Bylaws, <u>and before</u> after the close of the 123 annual convention each year, the 124 Executive Committee shall appoint the 125 chair, vice-chair, and members of the 126 following Standing Committees: Budget 127 and Finance Committee, Bylaws and 128 Resolutions Committee, Legislative 129 Committee, Member Services Committee, 130 and Planning and Development 131 Committee. Committee members shall be	120 121 <i>Revising the deadline by which committee</i> 122 <i>appointments are made to reflect actual</i> 123 <i>practice. (Line 122)</i>

132 appointed from the Board. Each Standing
133 Committee shall have no fewer than seven
134 nor more than 13 members. The quorum
135 of each Standing Committee shall be one-
136 third of the committee membership but no
137 fewer than four. In making committee
138 appointments, the Executive Committee
139 shall ensure continuity of committee
140 operation, in accordance with Board policy.

141
142 No individual shall serve on more than
143 two Standing Committees at one time.
144 Standing Committees shall hold at least
145 one meeting during the year and report to
146 the annual Delegate Assembly. The
147 chairs, or designees, shall prepare reports
148 of all meetings. In the event that a chair
149 or vice-chair is absent from a meeting,
150 the President will appoint another member
151 of the Committee to serve in his or her place
152 for the meeting.

153
154 Except as provided otherwise in these
155 Bylaws, The the President, President-
156 Elect, and Executive Director shall serve
157 as be a nonvoting ex officio members of
158 all Standing Committees but shall not be
159 counted in their quorums or maximum
160 committee membership limits. and shall
161 not be counted in the quorums.

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Clarifying that the President and President-Elect, who are ex officio members of all committees, are not counted in the maximum committee membership number of standing committees. (Maximum count is 13.) Article VII, Section 6F, states the President is a voting, ex officio member of all committees; Article VII, Section 7C, states the President-Elect is a nonvoting, ex officio member of all committees; and Article IX, Section 2A, states the Executive Director is a nonvoting ex officio member of all committees. (Lines 154–161)

AA Delegate Assembly 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda

This year's Delegate Assembly will consider changes to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda that will guide the Association through the interim of the 85th Texas Legislative Session. The Advocacy Agenda serves as TASB's plan of action during the legislative biennium and consists of three parts:

1. Cornerstone Principles: overarching beliefs that guide TASB's advocacy efforts

2. Priorities: issues of greatest importance to the majority of Texas school boards as determined by statewide Grassroots Meetings

3. Resolutions: stances submitted by individual school boards that guide TASB staff when addressing issues that may arise during the biennium

Cornerstone Principles and Priorities require approval by at least two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting, while Resolutions require a simple majority.

The TASB Board recommends adoption of two new Advocacy Priorities and revision of a current Priority as presented on pages 22 and 23. The two additions originated from a June 2017 meeting of the Legislative Advisory Council, and the revision stems from recent legislative accomplishments.

Twenty individual districts submitted 68 proposed resolutions prior to the July 1 deadline imposed by TASB Bylaws. The TASB Resolutions Committee and the TASB Board reviewed these submissions during their July meetings. The Board's final recommendations and supporting rationales appear on pages 24–32.

Please note:

- A progress report on the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda can be found on pages 69–76.
- The fall of the gavel beginning the Delegate Assembly is the deadline for submitting Action Forms (to amend a proposed change to the Bylaws or Advocacy Priorities, amend recommended Resolutions, or pull a Bylaws change or Advocacy Resolution for individual consideration). The rules governing Assembly action may be found on pages 8 and 9.
- TASB Advocacy Agenda development and adoption follows a two-year cycle. The 2017 Delegate Assembly may adopt changes to the 2016–18 Agenda that will remain in effect until the 2018 Delegate Assembly. The 2018 Delegate Assembly will adopt a new Advocacy Agenda that will be in force for two years, until the 2020 Delegate Assembly.
- Any questions regarding the Advocacy Agenda may be directed to the Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center, located near the entrance to the Delegate Assembly floor in the Dallas Ballroom of the Omni Dallas Hotel. TASB staff members will be available in the center to answer questions on Saturday, October 7, from noon until the end of Delegate Assembly.

CP Delegate Assembly **Cornerstone Principles**

The Cornerstone Principles guide TASB's Advocacy Agenda and organizational conduct. The TASB Board did not propose any changes to the current Principles.

- Excellence in student achievement for all Texas students
- Locally elected trustees and locally governed and controlled public schools
- Rigorous accountability for academic progress
- Adequate and equitable funding levels to provide an exceptional education
- Efficient and effective school management
- Strong family and community engagement to create optimal opportunities for each child
- Fulfillment of public schools' unique constitutional duty to educate every child by preventing the diversion of public funds through vouchers, tax credits, education savings grants, and other mechanisms

AP Delegate Assembly Proposed Changes to Advocacy Priorities

The TASB Board recommends adoption of two new Priorities (lines 51–54) and revision of a current Priority (line 21).

- 1 • TASB advocates for a transformational, top-to-bottom reform of the school finance system by
2 developing a simplified and sustainable plan that provides for resources that promote educational
3 excellence for all Texas students.
4
- 5 • TASB supports a sustainable, equitable school finance system that provides substantially equal
6 access to similar revenue per student at similar tax effort, adjusting for disparate property values
7 throughout Texas.
8
- 9 • TASB advocates for additional support, to include adjustment of weights and allotments, for
10 educationally disadvantaged students, English language learners, and other students at risk of
11 dropping out.
12
- 13 • TASB advocates for an updated transportation funding formula to address the current and increas-
14 ing costs of transportation and maintaining vehicles to increase student safety.
15
- 16 • TASB advocates for a study of and funding formula change for the true cost of educating a child to
17 postsecondary readiness that takes into account the geographic, demographic, and size disecon-
18 omies of scale among Texas school districts.
19
- 20 • TASB advocates for the increase of the guaranteed yield for the Existing Debt Allotment and
21 Instructional Facilities Allotment programs and an increase in ~~per-student~~ funding for the New
22 Instructional Facilities Allotment.
23
- 24 • TASB advocates for an assessment and accountability system that values student growth and
25 achievement over standardized, high-stakes testing. The system should:
26
 - 27 — Focus on measuring and rewarding student growth rather than punitive sanctions;
 - 28 — Reduce the emphasis on high-stakes tests, especially for grades 3–8;
 - 29 — Be developmentally appropriate;
 - 30 — Reduce testing redundancy;
 - 31 — Provide a fair and understandable system for illustrating school performance that does not rely
32 on simple labels such as A through F
33
- 34 • Given the transition to the Every Student Succeeds Act, TASB advocates for increased opportuni-
35 ties for school districts to implement local initiatives, such as Districts of Innovation, and preven-
36 tion of measures that reduce or remove governance of districts from locally elected school boards.
37
- 38 • TASB advocates for increased state support of or flexibility in selecting active and retired teacher
39 healthcare programs.
40
- 41 • TASB advocates for innovations in school district taxing authority that allow school boards more
42 flexibility to raise and lower taxes within a voter-approved limit.

- 43 • TASB advocates for a comprehensive evaluation of the costs and related benefits of potential
44 legislation that identifies the total cost burden on local taxpayers and state funding to fully support
45 mandates.
- 46
- 47 • TASB advocates for strict adherence to the Texas Constitution's mandate for a system of public free
48 schools, which precludes the funneling of public tax dollars to private institutions or individuals by
49 means of vouchers, tax credits, education savings accounts, and/or any other mechanism.
50
- 51 • TASB opposes unfunded mandates.
- 52
- 53 • TASB supports working with stakeholder groups to increase informed voter participation with
54 respect to education issues.

AR Delegate Assembly

Proposed Advocacy Resolutions Recommended for Adoption

Resolution 1—TRS Return-to-Work Provision (Clarksville ISD)

TASB opposes the TRS requirement of a 12-full-month (consecutive calendar) break in service for retirees returning to full-time work with no monetary penalties.

District Rationale: Currently, Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) retirees must have a 12-full-month (consecutive calendar) break in service after the date of retirement in order to return to work full-time with no monetary penalties. With the shortage of teachers/administrators that public school districts are experiencing, the need is critical for Texas public school districts. With the required full-year break in service, school districts are not able to take advantage of local retired teachers/administrators due to the required break in service for full-time employment. If the time period requirement was waived so no monetary penalties were imposed, the retirees and the school districts would be of great assistance to each other. The knowledge and experience provided by the practiced teachers/administrators are valuable resources to our public school students. We do not want to lose these resources!

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Districts, especially in rural areas, can have difficulty in filling teaching positions in high-need subjects, such as math and science. Sometimes a district may think it is about to fill a position, but the candidate may take another position at a different school. This may leave a district with little choice but to reach out to retired teachers in the community to teach a class until a permanent replacement can be found. This is preferable to using substitutes or canceling the class. Further, the Employee Retirement System of Texas (ERS) has a required break in service of only 90 days before retirees may return to work if they choose to do so. If 90 days is an acceptable break for state employees, it should be, at the very least, the maximum required break for educators. Note that the 12-month requirement can be found at 34 Administrative Code 31.15 and at Texas Government Code 824.602.

Resolution 2—Instructional Minutes and Educator Workdays (Clarksville ISD)

TASB supports district flexibility to adjust or eliminate the 187-workday requirement for a 10-month contract employee to align with the state requirement of 75,600 minutes of instruction.

District Rationale: HB 2610 (84th Legislature) requires district students to attend a minimum of 75,600 instructional minutes, which are reported to the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) for calculation of ADA. TEC 21.401 requires an educator's contracted employment to be for a minimum of 10 months (187 days) of service. With the implementation of two different systems, additional record keeping is a necessity to ensure that both requirements are met. It would simplify the requirements if both students and contracted educators were reported using the same type of system or if a district could remove the 187-day requirement altogether. Caution is recommended that we not shortchange the instructional learning of the students through the implementation of a shorter school year.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Having to account for student attendance in one unit of time and teacher workdays in another unit is both inefficient and creates unnecessary costs. Aligning both in a singular unit of time, or removing the 187 days altogether, will streamline reporting, reduce costs, and increase efficiency. Legislation in the 85th session did not address the existing Education Code Chapter 21 requirement that 10-month contracts be at least 187 days. While it is expected that contracted employees would have more workdays than just the days (minutes) that school is in operation to receive professional development, training, and time for classroom preparation, an individual district should be able to decide this number based on its own local needs.

Resolution 3—90 Percent Rule (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports legislation to eliminate the state requirement for attendance for credit (90 Percent Rule) as currently mandated.

District Rationale: Content mastery is recommended over seat time, and credit recovery software programs override classroom time. Currently, campus administrators are required to submit additional burdensome documentation for each absence. Teachers are required to spend an inordinate amount of time redistributing assignments. Parents are required to attend meetings for already known absences due to academic issues. Compulsory attendance and truancy enforcement laws are already in effect (under FED and FEA). The attendance for credit law is in addition and is not needed. This allows a student to engage in socially responsible programs (i.e., Student Council) and public service projects.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Texas law currently requires a student to be present 90 percent of the days a class is offered to receive credit for the course. As the way students learn and are taught is becoming more innovative, we should be open to focusing on content mastery over seat time. If a student is capable of mastering the content without being present for an arbitrary percentage of time, then it should be left to the local district's discretion to determine the adequate amount of time that a student should need to be present in the classroom. Several districts of innovation have approved exemptions from the 90 percent requirement without negative effect on student learning. Additionally, compulsory attendance and truancy enforcement laws are also in effect, so this law is somewhat duplicative.

Resolution 4—Expansion of High-Quality Prekindergarten (El Paso ISD and Brownsville ISD)

TASB supports expansion of the High-Quality Prekindergarten program and daycare partnerships to include nonqualifying prekindergarten students and funding for a full-day program.

District Rationale: Per HB 4 (84th Legislature), the High-Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program allows districts and charters to receive funding for qualifying prekindergarten students in addition to the half-day Foundation School Program (FSP) funding that is already received for each eligible prekindergarten student. Currently, if students qualify for pre-K (unable to speak English, educationally disadvan-

tagged, homeless, parent is active-duty member of the armed forces, parent is a reserve member of the armed forces if injured or killed while serving, or has ever been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services), then the state funds a half day. School districts should receive ADA for all students. Funding should be made available for school districts that offer full-day pre-K in partnership with local daycare centers.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. It has been documented that high-quality prekindergarten substantially improves a child's readiness for kindergarten and sets the foundation for success in education. Expansion of this program to all students, along with enhanced funding to allow for a full-day program, would ensure that all Texas children have access to the early education they need to be successful in the K–12 system.

Resolution 5—State Credit for College Prep Courses (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports students receiving state credit for both college preparatory courses and college readiness courses.

District Rationale: This course would benefit students preparing for the SAT/ACT college readiness exams and also provide them with skills needed to become successful college students. The College Prep Course/College Readiness Courses prepare students for the Texas Success Initiative.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Current law requires districts to partner with institutions of higher education to develop and provide courses in college preparatory mathematics and English language arts for students who are not meeting college readiness standards. Students who successfully complete these courses may count this credit toward the curriculum requirements under the Foundation High School Program. If a district also develops a college readiness course to assist students in preparing for the SAT or ACT, then it would seem that that course should also be counted by the state as credit toward graduation. College readiness courses teach students the skills they need to be successful in college and the workforce. Only providing credit for these courses to students who are having academic problems is unfair. All students should have the same opportunity to develop college readiness skills and prepare for college readiness exams.

**Resolution 6—Internet and Wi-Fi Access
(El Paso ISD)**

TASB supports Internet and Wi-Fi services for each school district.

District Rationale: Options for partnering with stakeholders to provide Internet and Wi-Fi to all students.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Education is rapidly moving into the digital age, with many textbooks and some classroom instruction being available via digital means. Only 83 percent of the state’s school districts—a little more than 3.7 million students—meet Texas’s minimum connectivity goal of 100 kbps per student. However, for other areas of the state, access to the Internet and a Wi-Fi network are not readily available. Lack of Internet connectivity at home makes it difficult to keep up with peers that are connected to the Internet. The state should partner with school districts to offer Internet connectivity and Wi-Fi services to areas of a community that do not have access to the World Wide Web.

**Resolution 7—School District Property
(El Paso ISD)**

TASB opposes any efforts to force school districts to sell or lease district property to charter schools.

District Rationale: The State of Texas should not diminish the authority of local school boards to make decisions about the best use of excess or underutilized district property purchased with local tax dollars.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. School buildings are owned by the taxpayers; they pay the bonds and elect the board of trustees to oversee the governance of the district, including its facilities. Any state law that attempts to usurp the authority of locally elected trustees to make decisions in the best interest of their local students and schools should be opposed. Forcing districts to sell or lease to a charter school creates winners and losers by giving preferential treatment to charter operators over nonprofit or governmental entities that might better serve the community. The Delegate Assembly adopted a similar resolution in 2016.

**Resolution 8—Special Education Camera Mandate
(El Paso ISD)**

TASB supports legislation that would fund mandates related to cameras in special education classrooms.

District Rationale: Videotaping special education classrooms as mandated by SB 507 (84th Legislature) is cost prohibitive to districts. This is an unfunded mandate with serious financial implications of approximately \$1 million initial cost, with \$200,000 recurring annual costs for El Paso ISD.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. The issue of unfunded mandates comes up each legislative session when legislators pass programs and initiatives at the state level without providing financial assistance. Such mandates are a major element in any school district budget as they consume large amounts of limited resources, either in terms of personnel and administrative time or direct monetary outlays. In most instances, local taxpayers feel the fiscal impact of these unfunded mandates through increased tax rates. The requirements to install cameras in certain special education settings, store recorded video from those cameras for months, and create processes around who can view the video and how it may be viewed (when viewing is required) simply add to the financial and administrative burdens districts already face. If state legislators believe that cameras in special education settings are a priority, they should provide additional funding to schools for this purpose.

**Resolution 9—Charter School Facility Funding
(Crosby ISD, Huffman ISD, Lockhart ISD, and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD)**

TASB opposes charter school facility funding.

District Rationale: Until such time that state support for EDA/IFA programs reaches its peak level from 2000–01, introducing funding for charter schools should not be considered.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Charter schools were sold to citizens as laboratories of innovation that could deliver better education at a lower cost. Since the passage of the law creating charter schools, these same schools have abandoned that pitch and now receive more maintenance and operations money per student than independent school districts in the same cities. Charter schools are now asking for additional facilities funding after being granted access to the

Permanent School Fund Bond Guarantee Program. Charter operators knew the amount of funding to which they were entitled when they chose to apply to the state for approval to operate a school and that those funds were designed for instruction and facility needs. Further, charter schools are allowed to set limits on the number of students they can serve each year—enabling charters to plan, with certainty, their facility and other resource needs for the upcoming school year. Independent school districts must take all children and immediately accommodate them regardless of the availability of facilities or other resources. School districts must also appeal to voters to approve bonds to build new facilities, whereas charter funding would come directly from state dollars available for the general education of all public school students.

Resolution 10—Tax Ratification Elections (Crosby ISD, Huffman ISD, Lockhart ISD, and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD)

TASB opposes legislation that curtails tax ratification election (TRE) and bond election dates from current law, increases ballot language requirements, or creates additional requirements for voter-approved TREs and bond elections, such as voter turnout thresholds.

District Rationale: School districts need flexibility of election dates to meet the needed timing and optimum competitive pricing of projects. School districts are completely transparent with tax rate, debt, and financial information and exhaustively encourage voter turnout. Voter turnout and behavior cannot and should not be legislated.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. The state benefits from rising local property values even though property taxes are local and primarily controlled by school districts. However, a school district's local authority to hold bond and tax ratification elections is continuously assaulted every legislative session. Restrictions on these types of elections sought by some legislators are intended to make it harder for the bond proposition or TRE to successfully pass. Districts provide myriad ways for citizens to get involved in the bond process and more than enough financial data regarding revenue, expenditures, and indebtedness. Local taxpayers know what is best for their communities and should be trusted to make those decisions.

Resolution 11—Funding for Dual-Credit Support (Austin ISD)

TASB supports state funding for programs in which public school students are enrolled and receive credit in college courses.

District Rationale: Texas has launched 60x30TX, the new higher education strategic plan that aims to position Texas among the highest achieving states in the country and maintain its global competitiveness. The overarching goal of 60x30TX is that 60 percent of young adults (25–34) in Texas will hold some type of postsecondary credential by 2030. It also proposes that these graduates will have marketable skills regardless of major and that, state-wide, students will not graduate with debt exceeding 60 percent of their first-year wages.

Public school districts offer dual-credit courses, and many high schools have been designated by the commissioner of education as Early College High Schools (ECHS), innovative high schools that allow students least likely to attend college an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and 60 college credit hours. The Legislature recently passed SB 22 (85th Legislature) to create a work-based education program called Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program.

Increased burdens on school districts coupled with no additional funding from the state threaten the expansion of these programs and thus the opportunity to attain the 60x30TX goal.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Clearly, reaching the 60x30TX goal of achieving postsecondary credentials and doing it without a burdensome student debt load will be impossible without ISDs taking a prominent role. Dual-credit programs in which courses count for both high school graduation and college credit clearly reduce the number of classes needed to receive a college degree and therefore the overall expense of college. While ECHS performs the same function for a specific student population, the new P-TECH program can result in credentialing in industrial and work certifications before a student graduates high school. If Texas is serious about the 60x30TX agenda, funding for these programs is essential.

Resolution 12—Local Property Taxes and 50 Percent Operating Cost (Austin ISD and Denton ISD)

TASB supports keeping all local property taxes in public education and returning state funding to at least 50 percent of the cost of maintaining and operating public schools.

District Rationale: Since 2008, when the state and local districts each contributed 50 percent of school funding, the state’s level of funding per student has decreased \$339 per student (when adjusting for enrollment growth) and \$795 per student (when adjusting for enrollment growth and inflation). The state’s share of funding education from all funds has decreased from 50.4 percent in 2009 to 42.7 percent in 2017, while local property tax dollars to fund public education have increased from 49.6 percent in 2009 to 57.3 percent in 2017.

The Texas Education Agency estimates that it will “recapture” \$5.13 billion during the next budget period, up from \$3.69 billion in the current budget. At the same time, the agency’s official budget request to the 85th Legislature requested 8.4 percent less from general revenue than in the current budget—a drop that is partly attributable to the increase in recapture money available to the state. Local property taxes should be spent on public education, and the State of Texas should not use that money to supplant its contribution to public education, which, pursuant to Article 7 of the Texas Constitution, it is obligated to provide.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Current state policy for a decade, if not longer, has been to seek solutions to the property tax burden. It has long been recognized that meaningful property tax relief must be done through the school funding formulas. This session, the House budget returned all property tax money back to the schools, though this policy did not survive into the final budget. Instead, the money was used to support other functions of the state government, which drained resources from public education. This transfer of property tax revenue from public schools not only deceives the general public—which believes that the money they pay is to support schools and becomes confused when they don’t see a return on the increasing tax—but also makes the state dependent on increasing tax payments. This results in the state “talking” about wanting to reduce local property taxes but not actually “doing” something to make this happen.

Resolution 13—Toll Exemptions for School Buses (Austin ISD)

TASB supports legislation that exempts public school buses from paying tolls for use of toll roads operated by the state and regional mobility authorities or their contractors.

District Rationale: Many public school buses do not use toll roads because tight budgets make it prohibitive to pay tolls. If public school buses were allowed to use toll roads without charge, school districts could design more efficient routes in order to shorten times students are on a bus and save school districts fuel costs. Additionally, shorter routes may result in more students riding the bus, potentially keeping multiple cars off the road, which would reduce traffic congestion and fuel consumption. There is precedent for toll exemptions. The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority Board has exempted by policy public transportation vehicles owned or operated by the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Capital Area Rural Transportation System. The Texas Department of Transportation provides free use of its toll roads for disabled veterans as well as Purple Heart and Legion of Valor recipients.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Using toll roads in the daily transportation of students provides for an efficient and faster form of transportation. This past session (85th Legislature), Rep. Gina Hinojosa filed HB 2683, which would exempt school district-owned buses from paying toll fees. The bill was based on current exemptions afforded to local transportation authorities and to certain veterans by the regional mobility authority. An exemption from paying toll road fees could leave funds available for other purposes.

Resolution 14—Online Education and Advising Tool (Greenville ISD)

TASB supports the creation of a statewide online education and advising tool to assist students in making postsecondary and career plans, including certification tracking.

District Rationale: Advising students with targeted information will help them save money on the number of semester credit hours they take to earn a degree. In 2015, students averaged 139 semester credit hours to complete a four-year degree, though most programs of study require only 120 semester

credit hours. This contributes to greater student debt, fewer students graduating, and students taking longer to graduate. The Legislature should fund the creation of a mobile app that could track all the newly advertised jobs in an area.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Public schools do their part to prepare students for post-secondary success, but if students do not know which courses to take in college for a bachelor's degree, or which coursework is necessary to obtain a certification in the field of their choice, students may end up taking unnecessary classes. Therefore, school districts and the State of Texas, specifically the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, must partner to create an on-line education and advising tool portal that allows students and guidance counselors an easy-to-use format to search college and postsecondary courses. School districts can use the data from the app to keep track of graduates and how their certifications are helping them with their future careers.

Resolution 15—Human Sexuality Education (Del Valle ISD)

TASB supports policies that will allow districts to provide a medically accurate and age-appropriate curriculum in human sexuality education.

District Rationale: Texas ranked fifth in the nation for teen birth rates in 2015. Research indicates that requiring a comprehensive human sexuality curriculum in the area of abstinence, contraception, and STI/HIV prevention is more effective at delaying the onset of sexual intercourse and unwanted pregnancies. Texas public schools should be required to provide a curriculum based on accurate health science with medically accurate information, which promotes healthy relationships and life skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, effective communication, and responsible decision making about sexuality and relationships.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Each school district currently has a local school health advisory council (SHAC) established by the board of trustees that is responsible for recommending appropriate grade levels and methods of instruction for human sexuality education. The board, along with input from the SHAC, is then responsible for any course materials and instruction on this topic. The Education Code is very specific on how and what may be taught to students regarding human sexuality. Revising this section of the code

to allow local school boards and SHACs to have more authority over what kind of curriculum is most appropriate for their district would be beneficial to students and parents by promoting local control of a very personal and sometimes controversial subject.

Resolution 16—Nondiscrimination Legislation (Del Valle ISD)

TASB opposes legislation that would discriminate against any child and impede children's access to a quality education that enables them to achieve their full potential.

District Rationale: It is imperative to the well-being of Texas public schools that students feel safe and welcomed within their schools. A student should not feel unsafe or specifically targeted based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or disability. All children have the right to obtain, without impediment, a quality education that will enable them to achieve their potential and fully participate in the social, economic, and educational opportunities of our state.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Under Texas law, the mission of the public education system is to ensure that all children have access to a quality education that enables them to meet their full potential. School districts are required to take all students that come to them and cannot discriminate on any grounds. Any form of discrimination against a student would potentially prevent that student from receiving the best education possible.

Resolution 17—Retired Teachers as Substitutes (Cotulla ISD)

TASB supports that all retired school personnel be authorized to substitute in a vacant position for up to 90 school days instead of the current 20.

District Rationale: Students deserve the best-educated and most experienced substitutes. However, often the district is unable to fill a vacant position with a certified qualified teacher. Schools outside rural/urban settings struggle to find a degreed substitute, and therefore the students suffer. While trainings may be offered annually to substitutes, retired teachers (and other retired school personnel) are far better equipped to fill vacant classrooms than other types of substitutes. Therefore, retired person-

nel should be allowed to fill vacancies without fear of penalties, surcharges, or forfeiture of checks due to substitute wages earned.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Retired teachers and other school personnel will have an advantage over the average substitute in understanding a school district's operations and cultures. Additionally, experience matters. People who manage to make it to retirement can de facto be considered among the most experienced potential staff around. Current law and Teacher Retirement System rules allow such people to be employed as substitutes for only 20 days before they are required to move to a different status such as full time, combination of substitute and one-half time, or one-half time. Each of these statuses has potentially negative implications regarding the retirement annuity the retiree is set to receive. Of course, this serves to limit the potential pool of substitutes, which may pose particular problems in areas that lack a large and active labor market.

Resolution 18—Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports the continuation of property tax exemptions for disabled veterans and surviving spouses. TASB proposes the impact of these exemptions to be evenly distributed across the state rather than disproportionately impacting districts with high numbers of residents qualifying for the exemption. Furthermore, TASB supports legislation implementing a system of accountability, administered by the state, which includes appropriate oversight of property tax exemptions being granted to disabled veterans and surviving spouses.

District Rationale: School districts with the greatest numbers of residents qualifying for disabled veteran (DV) exemptions are disproportionately impacted by unrealized local tax revenues when compared to peer districts. The DV tax exemption program should remain; however, the state should assist with more evenly dispersing the impact of the exemptions and implement the program as a state-wide exemption, having an equal impact across the state. Also, appropriate oversight and a system of accountability should be implemented to ensure the integrity of the exemption program so that it operates within the intentions of the legislation.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. There are several regions of the state that house substantial military facilities. Military families that are

assigned to these bases often establish roots and raise families. Clearly, these are the same people who potentially can access the disabled veteran/spouse exemption, which can be as high as 100 percent of the property tax. School districts, because of their reliance on local property taxes, are negatively impacted by this state-granted exemption if they have high numbers of veterans with access to it. The negative impacts include having to spread the tax burden among fewer properties (resulting in higher taxes), higher interest and sinking rates for new facilities, and likely lower amounts of annual gain before the Foundation School Program recognizes the local property growth. Veterans should be supported, and the cost of supporting these tax breaks should be spread to all citizens. As these exemptions are to support veterans, it is incumbent on the state to make sure those claiming these tax breaks are not taking advantage of these exemptions.

Resolution 19—TRS as Defined Benefit Plan (Allen ISD)

TASB supports continuing the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) as a defined benefits plan and increasing state funding for state-mandated increases in districts' contributions to TRS.

District Rationale: The TRS is not a benefit; rather, it serves as social security for educators. Allowing it to be converted from a defined benefit system to a self-managed investment account jeopardizes its status, and educators may not be educated enough as investors to manage their own retirement funds to their best advantage to sustain their maximum income over their lifetimes. Also, the state must find a method of funding the increases in TRS contributions as that system continues to place more costs on retirees and districts.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Although the TRS serves as social security for educators, it is a benefit insofar as it provides security. TRS retirees know exactly how much money they are going to receive without needing to become investment savvy and without any worries about whether the market is performing or not. Additionally, an employee also knows exactly how long to work to receive the benefits, while those in defined contribution plans can see their time needed to work change day-to-day to receive an expected level of benefit. These features can attract highly skilled individuals to our school districts and should be protected for school staff. The state helped fund the increase in district contributions to the

retirement plan in fiscal year 2015, but since then districts have had to make the increased contributions from local funds that would otherwise have advanced other district priorities (increased wages, increased help with health insurance, better working conditions, etc.).

Resolution 20—Off-Campus Instruction and Daily Attendance (Allen ISD)

TASB supports including off-campus instruction in the calculation of the weighted average student attendance.

District Rationale: Flexibility is needed in seat-time requirements to allow students the opportunity to enroll in virtual online classes to meet their various needs, including, but not limited to, pregnancy, work schedules, competitive sports, health, or emotional-related issues. District-provided off-campus instruction may be online classes, providing access to modules for self-paced instruction, and other “blended learning” options. More students could participate in these if we were able to include them in our average daily attendance (ADA) count. Students could take required classes online to earn the credit and be able to better balance advanced classes in their schedules.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. Under current Texas Education Agency rules and policies, remote instruction (i.e., “virtual online classes”) that is not delivered through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) is not eligible for state funding and generation of ADA, except for classes taken through distance learning while a student is in attendance at a regular school campus. Limiting ADA generation to use of the TxVSN or being on campus has negative consequences. In the former case, it limits the universe of options available to learners when we should instead be broadening the options. In the latter case—that of requiring students to be at a “regular school campus”—we ignore 21st century innovations in how to deliver instruction and maximize facility usage. We must continue to monitor this issue now that the commissioner of education, through the passage of HB 2442 in the 85th Legislative Session, is required to adopt rules to calculate ADA for students participating in blended learning programs.

Resolution 21—Funding for Seat Belts on School Buses (Crowley ISD)

TASB supports state funding to retrofit existing school buses and purchase new school buses with three-point seat belts.

District Rationale: Senate Bill 693 (85th Legislature) requires three-point seat belts in new school buses unless a board of trustees determines that the district’s budget does not permit the purchase of buses equipped with seat belts and votes to approve that determination in a public meeting. This unfunded mandate places a burden on a board of trustees to either use the district’s already-limited financial resources to cover this additional expense or to make the difficult decision to not purchase buses with seat belts in what could likely be a divisive vote in a public meeting.

SB 693 does not address retrofitting a district’s existing fleet of school buses with seat belts or providing funding to do so. With the life expectancy of a school bus ranging anywhere from 12 to 20 years, this year’s kindergarten students will be finished with high school before every bus in a district’s fleet would be replaced with new buses equipped with seat belts.

The Crowley ISD Board of Trustees agrees with the language in SB 693 that states a commitment to the “safety of all students by taking every measure possible to protect the lives and well-being of students during transportation on a bus to and from school and extracurricular activities.” However, this will require state funding in order to ensure that every district across the state can purchase buses equipped with seat belts and retrofit current school buses.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. The issue of unfunded mandates comes up each legislative session when legislators pass programs and initiatives at the state level without providing financial assistance. Such mandates are a major element in any school district budget as they consume large amounts of limited resources, either in terms of personnel and administrative time or direct monetary outlays. In most instances, local taxpayers feel the fiscal impact of these unfunded mandates through increased property tax rates. The requirement that schools must now purchase school buses with three-point seat belts or hold a public meeting where the board decides that the district does not have the funding to acquire these buses really leaves only one option for districts: they will be forced to purchase buses with three-point seat

belts by reducing funding of other programs, services, or staff. If legislators believe that providing three-point seat belts on school buses ensures student safety, they should provide additional funding to help all districts accomplish this.

**Resolution 22—Texas Education Agency (TEA)
Audit Process (Canutillo ISD)**

TASB supports changes to the TEA audit process.

District Rationale: An internal audit department is an important and integral part of the management and oversight of school district operations. However, an internal audit department will not serve its stated goals or provide the expected benefit to a school board if a school district, or the TEA in this case, does not properly structure and manage its respective internal audit departments. The internal audit department of the TEA should directly report to the State Board of Education in the same manner that the internal audit departments of school districts report directly to school board trustees.

The TASB Board recommends adoption. The prevailing thought on having an internal auditor report to a board is that it prevents a district's chief executive from influencing the outcome of audits or, worse, burying bad audits. There are several recent and newsworthy cases where such behavior occurred and resulted in federal crimes being allowed to be played out with district resources. TEA has oversight over every school district and charter school in the state and manages billions in state resources each year. TEA's internal auditor reports directly to the commissioner, which could result in similar negative situations like those seen in the past.

NR Delegate Assembly

Resolutions NOT Recommended for Adoption

Resolution 23—Student Citations (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports the elimination of legislation that prohibits peace officers from issuing citations for specific school offenses and the disruption of class and/or transportation.

District Rationale: School administrators need accessibility to a variety of resources in an effort to maintain safe and orderly environments. Major disruptions, including serious verbal and physical altercations at school or school-related events or on school buses, pose significant threats to the safety of students and staff. The ability to issue citations to the most pervasive offenders provides the ability to help deter unsafe behavior.

The TASB Board does NOT recommend adoption. In 2013, the Texas Legislature had a clear intent to eliminate the use of tickets for Class C misdemeanor offenses in public schools. The Legislature's stated purpose was to reduce the referral of students to the criminal justice system for what amounted to low-level criminal misconduct on school campuses and school transportation; instead, schools must rely on local school disciplinary techniques to correct misbehavior. SB 1114, along with SB 393 (83rd Legislature), had this purpose and effect—and passed with overwhelming margins. The use of citations for disciplinary intervention is not favored by the Legislature and some school leaders.

Texas legislators also changed the law to make it more difficult for school district peace officers to issue citations to students who commit a school offense amid reports that districts were too quick to use the court system to remedy student misbehavior. Texas law still allows a peace officer to take a student into custody. A school district that commissions peace officers may choose to develop a system of graduated sanctions that may be required to be imposed on a child before a complaint is filed in criminal court for the offenses of disruption of class, disruption of school transportation, or disorderly conduct. A complaint alleging the commission of a school offense must include a sworn statement and underlying facts giving rise to probable cause. A sworn complaint is a more detailed process than a citation (which is essentially a ticket). According to the Office of Court Administration with the Texas

Supreme Court, a sworn complaint provides local prosecutors and judges valuable information as they make decisions that impact a student's criminal history record. While this may be more effort, this process offers greater protection for students in the criminal justice system. Local control is still protected in that school administrators are best positioned to use local discipline management techniques to deter and correct misbehavior.

The TASB Delegate Assembly has considered similar resolutions and did not adopt them in 2014, 2015, and 2016.

Resolution 24—Vouchers (Killeen ISD)

TASB opposes legislation creating private school vouchers, tuition tax credits, education savings accounts, tuition reimbursement, etc., which defunds and diverts resources from public education unless the following criteria are met: (a) All schools receiving state funding will be neither selective nor restrictive in their admissions process, effectively accepting all students; and (b) All schools or homeschools receiving state funding will be held accountable for all state and federal academic, special program, certification, financial, and other mandated requirements.

District Rationale: The diversion of funds from public education to promote the privatization of education exacerbates the challenges associated with an already dysfunctional school finance system. Providing financial assistance to private institutions, which benefits only a select few students, harms those with the greatest academic needs. Rather, additional funds should be provided to public education in an effort to promote and implement school choice through academic programming. If funds are to be diverted, the receiving entities should be held to the same accountability standards as public schools and should not be allowed to selectively exclude students for admission.

The TASB Board does NOT recommend adoption. While the first section of this resolution is consistent with TASB's Cornerstone Principle and Advocacy Priority on vouchers, any concession on this particular issue contradicts those same

positions. Including accountability requirements or other mandates does not nullify the negative effects vouchers have on public schools and students. Further, Texas public schools are inadequately funded, and any diversion of state funds takes money out of the public school system and moves it to a private enterprise.

RD Delegate Assembly Resolutions Duplicates

Resolution 25—TRS-ActiveCare (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports that school districts be given the option to opt out of TRS-ActiveCare.

District Rationale: Currently, school districts that are part of TRS-ActiveCare are not allowed to leave the program. Local government agencies and local school districts with self-funded programs have more competitive and more affordable benefits to offer employees. Because we cannot manage our program locally, we cannot design a program that best meets the needs of our employees and that can help contain costs. Additionally, El Paso ISD employees pay the same rates as employees in higher-cost areas, essentially subsidizing markets with higher reimbursement rates.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 26—Funding Weights (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports an increase in funding weights for students who require extra resources, such as those with disabilities, low-income students, or those with language barriers.

District Rationale: Accountability for special populations has increased in the state in that they now require more rigorous examinations in order for them to graduate; however, adequate funding to provide additional support has not been increased. For over 30 years, school districts have not received an increase in weighted average daily attendance (WADA) funding. Research shows that the best support of English language learners is to provide dual-language education through 12th grade. Additionally, many English language learners come to El Paso ISD in middle and high school.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 27—Assessments for Recent Immigrant Students (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports the availability of state assessments in Spanish through secondary for recent immigrant students.

District Rationale: Recent immigrant students are tested in English after only one year of English instruction. Data show that seven years are needed to acquire a new language. Testing in English is counterproductive to these students' education and significantly reduces their opportunity to graduate.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 28—English Language Learner Teacher Development (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports a sheltered endorsement for teachers educating secondary English language learners.

District Rationale: Requiring secondary teachers to earn a sheltered endorsement would benefit the academic success of English language learners (ELL). Teachers would have the instructional background to educate English learners in rigorous instruction of their content area. This endorsement would follow the same type of professional development requirements of the Gifted and Talented endorsement for teachers, counselors, and administrators, but would be customized to meet the needs of ELL.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 29—English Language Learner Definition and Tracking (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports the creation of the official state definition and tracking of long-term English language learners.

District Rationale: Texas is one of the states that does not define or track long-term English language learners. It is critical that these students be

identified and tracked as such by the state in order to provide the appropriate instructional programs and thus reduce their dropout rate.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 30—End-of-Course Assessment Options (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports the use of PSAT/SAT/ACT in lieu of end-of-course assessments.

District Rationale: These assessments are stronger indicators of student knowledge and ability to complete college coursework and therefore should be used as the appropriate measure for such.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 31—Vouchers (El Paso ISD)

TASB opposes any efforts that undermine the Texas Constitution’s guarantee of a system of free public schools by funneling public dollars to private institutions or individuals by means of vouchers, tax credits, education savings accounts, and/or any other mechanism.

District Rationale: School districts can’t maintain the promise of a system of free public schools if scarce public resources are funneled to private institutions or individuals.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Cornerstone Principle and Priority.

Resolution 32—Low-Bid Procurement (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports legislation that would allow school districts to use low-bid purchasing for goods.

District Rationale: Currently, school districts are required to consider a number of items in procuring goods that include price, reputation, quality, and past relationship with the district. In some cases, as long as a product meets minimum specifications, price is the only factor that is important for a school board’s decision making. Allowing school districts to use low-bid procurement for goods would cut down on staff time required to evaluate bids under

the current system. Other local government bodies such as municipalities and county government have this option.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 33—Solar Power Battery Storage (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports legislation that would allow school districts using solar systems to use batteries to store power.

District Rationale: Current state law prohibits school districts that own solar systems or that purchase power from a third-party solar operator from using batteries to store power. Allowing school districts to do this would make solar power a more viable, long-term investment to manage against volatile rate hikes that negatively impact budgets.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 34—Flexibility of IMA Funds (El Paso ISD)

TASB supports legislation that would allow school districts flexibility in the use of Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) funds to support digital transformation.

District Rationale: El Paso ISD (EPISD) is replacing traditional textbooks with Flexbooks. EPISD needs flexibility in the use of IMA funds to support the digital transformation to include use of funds for Flexbook development and infrastructure.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 35—Repeal of A–F Ratings (Rockwall ISD)

TASB supports the repeal of the A–F grading system/labeling system, which heavily relies on one high-stakes test (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, or STAAR).

District Rationale: The A–F rating system relies heavily on one high-stakes assessment—the STAAR. The development of an accountability system should empower school districts to design

comprehensive assessments that meet general state standards while allowing districts to innovate and customize curriculum and instruction to meet the needs and interests of each student and their communities.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 36—School Funding (Rockwall ISD)

TASB supports an improved and adequate public school funding system that considers student needs, district characteristics, all unfunded mandates, and adjusts for inflationary costs when determining appropriate levels of funding to meet state and local standards.

District Rationale: Rockwall supports an improved and adequate public school funding system that considers student needs, district characteristics, all unfunded mandates, and adjusts for inflationary costs when determining appropriate levels of funding to meet state and local standards.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 37—Vouchers (Rockwall ISD)

TASB opposes vouchers, taxpayers' savings grants, and education savings accounts.

District Rationale: Rockwall ISD does not support any state voucher plan, tax credits, taxpayer savings grants, tuition reimbursements, or any program that diverts public tax dollars to private school entities with little or no academic or financial accountability to the state, taxpayers, or local communities.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Cornerstone Principle and Priority.

Resolution 38—School Finance System (Highland Park ISD—Potter County)

TASB supports continued efforts to simplify the school finance system in Texas, while making it more equitable and adequate for all students attending public schools.

District Rationale: The system is overly complicated and, in many cases, outdated. Public education funds are currently diverted to other

state programs. Per-student funding should not be dependent upon where a student resides. Texas currently ranks 36th nationwide in per-pupil spending—\$2,555 less than the national average.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Cornerstone Principle and Priority.

Resolution 39—School Finance Study (North East ISD)

TASB supports an interim study on school finance to include analyzing the effectiveness of current weights and allotments, as well as identifying reliable and sustainable revenue sources beyond annual property value growth.

District Rationale: The 85th Legislature missed an opportunity to take a first step toward revamping the school finance system. HB 21 (85th Legislature) was a respectable attempt to begin the conversation of streamlining the outdated system while also increasing revenue for the majority of districts.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 40—Candidate Background Checks (North East ISD)

TASB supports criminal background checks for school board candidates to confirm candidate qualification and to support the disqualification standard of a candidate who has been convicted of a felony.

District Rationale: If a school district board candidate with an “unhirable” offense on his/her criminal history record is elected, then the school district may be compelled to chaperone the trustee at all school- and district-sponsored events or may have to limit access to certain events depending on the particular offense.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 41—Facilities Funding (Crosby ISD, Huffman ISD, Lockhart ISD, and Schertz-Cibola-Universal City ISD)

TASB supports an increase in state support for school facilities funding.

District Rationale: The peak of state support for the Existing Debt Allotment (EDA) and Instructional Facilities Allotment (IFA) programs was 45 percent in 2000–01. State support of these programs has now dwindled to less than 7 percent. Increasing state funding for these programs by current law will provide property tax relief for property taxpayers.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 42—NIFA Funding (Crosby ISD, Huffman ISD, Lockhart ISD, and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD)

TASB supports efforts to fund and increase the appropriation for the New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA).

District Rationale: NIFA provides operating funds for the first two years of a new campus. This program is subject to appropriation every biennium while the state continues to grow rapidly in student enrollment. NIFA funds help offset the operating startup costs for new ISD and charter school campuses.

This resolution is duplicative of a proposed Priority.

Resolution 43—CEI Update (Austin ISD)

TASB supports a cost of education index that accurately reflects increases in the cost of education and cost of living and that is updated at regular intervals.

District Rationale: Currently, the state system of public school finance in Texas uses a cost of education index (CEI) that was adopted by the Foundation School Fund Budget Committee in 1991. This index was based on research conducted by the Legislative Education Board (LEB) and the Legislative Budget Board (LBB). This index attempts to adjust for varying economic conditions across the state, based mainly on the size of the district, the teacher salaries of neighboring districts, and the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the district for the 1989–90 school year. The CEI has not been updated since.

Since the time of the CEI adoption over 25 years ago, the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the state has risen dramatically. This reality, along with the high cost of living in

many areas of the state, the need for some districts to compete with rising teacher compensation in surrounding districts, and increased health care costs, has widened the gap between the current CEI and what it should be, given current data.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 44—School Finance System (Austin ISD)

TASB supports a state system of public school finance that is based on multiple sustainable state revenue sources.

District Rationale: Following a 2005 Texas Supreme Court decision declaring the school finance system unconstitutional, the Legislature required districts to lower maintenance and operations tax rates. The lost local revenue was replaced with state aid and with an overhaul of the franchise tax, which was never enough to cover the one-third reduction in property taxes. The 85th Legislature proposed several bills to eliminate the franchise tax. SB 17 by Sen. Jane Nelson passed the Senate and HB 28 by Rep. Dennis Bonnen passed the House, in an already tight budget session. Proposals to cut revenue sources will increase the current over-reliance on recapture payments and local property taxes to fund education. Moreover, the federal government is proposing massive cuts to public education. The Legislature should be expanding the base of state revenue sources, rather than eliminating or reducing them.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 45—Transportation Funding (Austin ISD)

TASB supports adequate transportation funding for all districts.

District Rationale: The Legislature has historically provided funding assistance to school districts that provide student transportation. Basic funding is for home-to-school or school-to-home transportation provided to regular eligible students who live more than two miles from their campus of regular attendance and for special needs students who require special transportation to attend school. Chapter 41 districts that pay recapture have not received funding for transportation because the Texas Edu-

cation Agency interprets the statute, TEC section 42.155, as not permitting payment of the allotment to Chapter 41 districts. The transportation allotment statute was enacted in 1984, prior to the enactment of the recapture statute in 1995. Two allotment statutes that were enacted after the enactment of the recapture statute—the New Instructional Facility Allotment and the High School Allotment—permit a credit in the amount of the allotments to which the district is entitled against the total amount of recapture required. The addition of a similar credit in the transportation allotment statute would fairly distribute transportation funds to all districts.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 46—Behavioral Frameworks (Del Valle ISD)

TASB supports additional funding to develop and expand support systems for districts to implement a multi-tiered behavioral framework for improving behavioral outcomes for all students.

District Rationale: As more districts move toward alternative discipline and restorative justice models, it is critical that districts have the funding required to fully implement the desired programs. Unfortunately, most school counselors are increasingly spread too thin due to the increased workload from House Bill 5 (83rd Legislature) and are not able to fully implement additional programs. It is imperative that districts have the funds to hire additional school counselors and school psychologists with expertise in establishing innovative programs designed to address disruptive and problematic behavioral issues without the overuse of exclusionary discipline practices.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 47—Elimination of High-Stakes Tests Below Grade 7 (Presidio ISD)

TASB supports the elimination of all high-stakes testing below seventh grade.

District Rationale: Testing younger students should be for individual progress monitoring and diagnostic purposes only. Education is a cumulative process.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 48—Full-Day Prekindergarten (Presidio ISD)

TASB supports the state fully funding full-day prekindergarten.

District Rationale: Pre-K and all early childhood learning is the foundation of a good education. It sets the stage.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 49—Vouchers (Presidio ISD)

TASB opposes any form of vouchers or education savings accounts.

District Rationale: Vouchers and education savings accounts are just mechanisms for giving public money to elite private schools.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Cornerstone Principle and Priority.

Resolution 50—Basic Allotment Increase (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports increasing the Basic Allotment through an updated formula-funded school finance system that takes into account education program cost factors, such as fully funded, full-day prekindergarten programs.

District Rationale: Fully funding academic programs such as prekindergarten, bilingual, and English as a second language is necessary to provide access to equal educational opportunities to all students and to improve the academic performance of all learners.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 51—Facilities Funding (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports the provision of additional funding through the New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA) and Existing Debt Allotment (EDA) for districts to meet the needs of students in fast-growth areas.

District Rationale: Fast-growth districts requiring the opening of new facilities to accommodate additional students should receive additional funding to initiate these efforts. Texas school districts enroll approximately 82,000 new students annually, requiring more schools to be built and, in many instances, at a rate the local tax rate cannot sustain. Funding provided through the NIFA and EDA programs helps accommodate for these additional students.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 52—Meaningful Accountability System (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports a meaningful and thoughtful academic accountability rating system that provides a true and clear picture of campus and district academic performance, which is not reduced to an arbitrary A–F system, nor primarily focused on the lowest-performing student groups, rather one that provides meaningful assessment data used to improve academic performance.

District Rationale: Academic accountability ratings should include metrics that provide parents and shareholders with a clear representation of both the strengths and areas of needed improvement associated with academic progress and growth. These ratings should not be reflective of mere standardized test scores but rather inclusive of many other indicators, providing the public with a holistic vantage of progress indicators. Reducing accountability ratings to mere letter grades based primarily on standardized assessments provides a limited perspective of student progress and growth toward academic excellence.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Resolution 53—Middle School CTE (Killeen ISD)

TASB supports fully funding career and technical education (CTE) courses taught in middle school at the same funding level as courses taught in high school.

District Rationale: The costs associated with teaching CTE courses at the middle school level do not vary from the expenses associated with high

school CTE courses. The same funding weights should be applied universally across all CTE courses.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Resolution.

Resolution 54—Vouchers (Allen ISD)

TASB opposes any state voucher plan, tax credits, tuition reimbursements, or any program that diverts public tax dollars to private entities that are not held to the same academic standards as public schools or financial accountability to the state, taxpayers, or local communities.

District Rationale: Funds for education should be used to support public education, not to subsidize private providers who are not required to accept and educate all students and are not subject to accountability as public schools.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Cornerstone Principle and Priority.

Resolution 55—School Funding (Crowley ISD)

TASB supports additional state funding specifically designed to develop and expand support programs to close achievement gaps among subgroups.

District Rationale: Educators are committed to closing the achievement gaps among low-income and minority students. Districts and campuses are held accountable to this in Index 3 of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and are tracking this closely. The important responsibility of closing achievement gaps requires time and resources. There are support programs across the nation with a proven track record of closing achievement gaps. However, these programs require a financial investment that most public school districts in Texas are not able to afford. We request additional state funding that is designated solely to develop and expand support programs to close achievement gaps among subgroups.

This resolution is duplicative of a current Priority.

Appendix A

TASB Mission Statement

(As adopted by the TASB Board of Directors in its strategic planning process on December 2, 1995, and by the Delegate Assembly on September 28, 1996)

The Texas Association of School Boards promotes educational excellence for Texas schoolchildren through advocacy, visionary leadership, and high-quality services to school districts.

Appendix B

Statement of Beliefs

(Adopted by the TASB Delegate Assembly, September 2007)

- We believe the survival and success of public schools are essential to our society.
- We believe public schools must have adequate and equitable funding to provide a high-quality, well-rounded education.
- We believe all school districts should be safe and secure learning environments.
- We believe increased student academic achievement must be a top priority in Texas.
- We believe local control by school boards is the best method to govern public schools.
- We believe good governance practices result in efficient and effective school district operations and strong student academic performance.
- We believe parental and community involvement creates optimal opportunities for each child.
- We believe, as good citizens, the law must be obeyed and any changes in the law should be through advocacy and the democratic process.

Appendix C

Bylaws of the Texas Association of School Boards, Inc.

(As last amended on September 24, 2016)

ARTICLE I. NAME AND LOCATION

SECTION 1. NAME. The name of this corporation is the TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS, INC. (Association).

SECTION 2. LOCATION OF OFFICES. The principal office of the Association shall be located in Texas. The Association may have such other offices, either within or without the State of Texas, as the Board of Directors of the Association (Board) may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require.

ARTICLE II. MISSION AND PURPOSES

SECTION 1. MISSION. The Association promotes educational excellence for Texas schoolchildren through advocacy, visionary leadership, and high-quality services to school districts.

SECTION 2. PURPOSES. The purposes of the Association shall be as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and other corporate documents and shall include the following:

- A. To work for the adequate and equitable financial support of the Texas public schools.
- B. To conduct, independently or in cooperation with others, seminars, conferences, conventions, courses, research, and other projects in the various aspects of public education.
- C. To identify and provide those services that governmental units need and desire thereby lessening the burden of government.
- D. To bring about a spirit of cooperation among professional groups in providing superior educational opportunities for all children in Texas and the United States.
- E. To work for the advancement of public education in Texas and the United States and to increase public understanding of the function of school boards and board members in the public educational system.
- F. To encourage efficient and effective management and governance of the public schools and to provide a forum within which individual school boards may seek solutions to problems in public education.
- G. To provide current information concerning public education, including changes in school law, and developments in educational programs.
- H. To inform school boards about proposed legislation to promote a better working relationship between local boards and the federal and state governments.
- I. To encourage and provide services to relieve the burden of government by enhancing sound management and fiscal responsibility for the school districts and other governmental units of Texas, as well as school districts and other governmental units of other states in the United States.
- J. To do such other things as the Delegate Assembly or the Board may deem appropriate for the accomplishment of these and other purposes to improve public education.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERS

SECTION 1. MEMBERS. The Association shall have three classes of members. The designation and qualification of such membership classes are as follows:

A. **ACTIVE MEMBERS.**

- (1) School boards that pay annual dues are Active Members. Active Members participate in the governance of the Association through an annual Delegate Assembly, in accordance with Article V. Active Member trustees may hold office in the Association except as provided in Article VI, Section 4. Active Members shall be subject to Board policy and these Bylaws.
- (2) The term "school board" as used in these Bylaws shall include all Texas (a) boards of education of independent, common, municipal, or special-purpose school districts, (b) county boards of education, and (c) regional education service center (ESC) boards. Where allowed under Board policy, "school board" may further include any other Texas public school entity whose board is elected by the public or appointed by one or more public officials.

B. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.** Educational cooperatives, public community colleges, and central appraisal districts that pay annual dues are Associate Members. Associate Members and their representatives are not eligible to hold office in the Association or participate in the Delegate Assembly. Associate Members shall be subject to Board policy and these Bylaws.

C. **AFFILIATE MEMBERS.** The Board may establish one or more categories of Affiliate Members through Board policy, which shall be subject to and consistent with these Bylaws. Affiliate Members and their representatives are not eligible to hold office in the Association or participate in the Delegate Assembly.

SECTION 2. SUSPENSION.

Membership of a member whose annual dues are 90 days past due shall be suspended. Memberships suspended for nonpayment of annual dues may be reinstated upon payment of the current year's dues.

SECTION 3. TERMINATION.

- A. An Active Member's membership may only be terminated upon a recommendation adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at a Board meeting and ratified by a majority of the Delegates present and voting at the annual Delegate Assembly.
- B. An Associate or Affiliate Member's membership may be terminated upon a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at a Board meeting.

SECTION 4. REINSTATEMENT FROM TERMINATION.

- A. An Active Member's membership may be reinstated only upon a recommendation adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at a Board meeting and ratified by a majority of the Delegates present and voting at the annual Delegate Assembly meeting.
- B. An Associate or Affiliate Member's membership may be reinstated upon a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at a Board meeting.

ARTICLE IV. ANNUAL DUES AND FEES

SECTION 1. ANNUAL DUES.

- A. The Board will recommend to the Delegate Assembly for action the amount, or formula for calculating the amount, of annual dues for Active Members. Upon adoption by the Delegate Assembly, the dues amount or formula shall continue until such time as it may be changed by the Delegate Assembly. The Board, however, may authorize reductions or suspensions of dues for any one year. In addition, the Board shall establish the annual dues for Associate and Affiliate Members.
- B. The dues year of the Association shall be January 1 through December 31.
- C. The Association shall mail a dues statement to each member on or before the first day of the dues year. Annual dues shall be paid on or before January 31.
- D. By providing a petition showing need, an Active Member may request that the Board allow partial payment when billed and the balance to be paid at a specified later date within the dues year. Such a request shall be submitted to the Board in writing no later than the 45th day after the beginning of the dues year. The Board shall have the sole discretion to determine whether the extension shall be granted, and the Board, or its designee, shall advise the Active Member of the action taken.

SECTION 2. FEES. Each member shall pay such fees for elective meetings, services, activities, and materials as may be determined by the Executive Director, or designee.

ARTICLE V. DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

SECTION 1. GOVERNING BODY. The general governing body of the Association is the Delegate Assembly.

SECTION 2. POWERS OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY. The Delegate Assembly shall:

- A. Elect the Officers and Directors, except as provided by Article VI, Section 2D (5) and Section 9.
- B. Approve the termination of an Active Member's membership, as provided in Article III, Section 4A.
- C. Approve the annual dues for Active Members, as provided in Article IV, Section 1.
- D. Adopt beliefs pertinent to the mission and purposes of the Association, as provided in Article V, Section 8.
- E. Adopt the Association's Advocacy Agenda consisting of:
 - (1) Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles defined in Article V, Section 9A;
 - (2) Advocacy Agenda Priorities derived through the Grassroots Advocacy Process defined in Article V, Section 9B; and
 - (3) Advocacy Agenda Resolutions derived through the Advocacy Agenda Resolution Process defined in Article V, Section 9C.
- F. Amend these Bylaws, as provided in Article XVII.

G. Delegate to the Board any of its powers except:

- (1) Election of Officers and Directors, except as provided by Article VI, Section 2D(5) and Section 9.
- (2) Amendment of these Bylaws.
- (3) Termination of Active Member's membership.
- (4) Adoption of beliefs [Article V, Section 8] and Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, and Resolutions derived through the Advocacy Agenda Process [Article V, Section 9].

SECTION 3. COMPOSITION. Delegates of the Delegate Assembly shall include Active Member delegates, or in their absence their alternate delegates, the Board, and the Legislative Advisory Council (LAC) members of the Legislative Committee (Delegates). Each Delegate shall be entitled to one vote on any action item coming before the Delegate Assembly.

SECTION 4. CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES. The Executive Director, or designee, shall notify Active Members of the date before which certification of Delegates shall be made. The officials of Active Members shall certify to the Association's office the name of their Delegate and alternate delegate before the designated deadline for such certification. After the deadline, Delegates and alternate delegates shall be certified subject to Board policy.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS.

- A. The Delegate Assembly shall convene at least annually, in conjunction with the annual convention of the Association. The Delegate Assembly may also be convened by the Board at such other times and places within Texas as may be determined and for such purposes as warrant the call of special meetings.
- B. At least 20 days before the annual convention, the Association shall mail or electronically transmit notice of the date, place, and time of meeting of the annual Delegate Assembly to Active Members. The notice for a special meeting shall be made at least ten days before the meeting date.
- C. Copies of the agenda and related materials for the meeting shall be published at least 20 days preceding the annual Delegate Assembly.
- D. If, due to emergency circumstances, it is not feasible to schedule the Delegate Assembly in conjunction with the annual convention, the Delegate Assembly shall be scheduled as soon as practical or necessary votes may be taken outside of a meeting by any of the alternative methods permitted by these Bylaws. Notice of the meeting or vote to be taken outside of a meeting will comply with state law. In these circumstances, all actions that ordinarily would become effective at the close of the annual convention under these Bylaws shall become effective at the close of the Delegate Assembly meeting or five days after the Delegate Assembly votes outside of a meeting. If a candidate is elected to a Director position by an Association Region, as provided in these Bylaws, and the Delegate Assembly does not meet in conjunction with the annual convention, then such candidate will take office as of the date established by the Board, which shall be no later than November 30.

SECTION 6. VOTING.

- A. A Delegate shall have the right to vote on each action item coming before the Delegate Assembly. No proxy votes shall be permitted.
- B. A quorum for the transaction of business shall exist when Delegates from one-fifth of the Active Members are present at the meeting.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Bylaws, the Board may authorize Delegates to vote on one or more action items coming before the Delegate Assembly by mail, facsimile, or electronic

message, or by any combination of these alternative methods. The required majority on any vote shall be determined by the number of votes cast.

Voting by any of these alternative methods shall require the following:

- (1) The certification of Delegates by Active Members, as provided by Article V, Section 4;
- (2) The Board establishing a deadline for the receipt of votes;
- (3) Each vote stating the date of the Delegate's signature or transmission;
- (4) A record of Delegates' votes by alternative methods being included in the Association's corporate records; and
- (5) All Active Members being provided with written notice of any action authorized by the vote within 20 days.

SECTION 7. OFFICERS OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY. The Officers of the Association shall be the Officers of the Delegate Assembly.

SECTION 8. BELIEFS DEVELOPMENT.

- A. Proposals for changes to the beliefs of the Association shall be submitted in writing on or before July 1 to the Planning and Development Committee, or its designee. Proposals for changes to the beliefs may be submitted by the Active Members, Delegates to the annual Delegate Assembly, or members of the Board.
- B. The Planning and Development Committee shall study all proposals received on or before July 1 and shall prepare a report of its recommendations for the Board.
- C. Proposals for additions or changes to the beliefs that are not submitted in accordance with this section shall not be considered by the annual Delegate Assembly unless two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting elect to consider such late proposals.
- D. The adoption of additions or changes to the beliefs shall require a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present and voting.

SECTION 9: ADVOCACY AGENDA.

A. Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles

- (1) Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles guide the Association's advocacy efforts, including the development of the Advocacy Agenda. The Legislative Committee shall conduct a routine review of the Cornerstone Principles in every even-numbered year. Any proposed amendment or change to the Cornerstone Principles, whether in an even-numbered year or odd-numbered year, must be submitted to the Legislative Committee, or its designee, by July 1 before the annual Delegate Assembly. The Legislative Committee shall evaluate proposed amendments or changes received by July 1 and shall formulate a recommendation to the Board. The Board shall have the discretion to affirm, change, or reject the Legislative Committee's recommendation and to present the resulting proposed amendment or change, if any, to the Delegate Assembly.
- (2) Adoption of Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles, including any changes, shall require a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present and voting at the annual Delegate Assembly.

B. Grassroots Advocacy Process.

- (1) In even-numbered years, Grassroots Advocacy meetings shall be held in each Association Region, in accordance with Board policy, for the purpose of identifying Advocacy Agenda Priorities. Eligible participants are the Board and trustees of Active Members. At each regional meeting, participants shall formulate Advocacy Agenda Priorities and elect regional representatives to the LAC.

The LAC shall meet and study the array of regional priorities and shall develop a list of priorities of a statewide nature consistent with the mission and resources of the Association. The LAC shall submit its recommendations to the Legislative Committee, or its designee, prior to July 1 of even-numbered years.

The LAC also shall elect from among its members four Active Member trustees to serve as voting *ex officio* members of the Legislative Committee, in accordance with Board policy. These *ex officio* members shall serve for a two-year term beginning at the close of the LAC meeting at which they are elected, or until the *ex officio* member is no longer a trustee of an Active Member governing board. The LAC shall also elect an alternate *ex officio* member to fill any vacancy in the four positions. The President may appoint a trustee from the LAC to fill an *ex officio* vacancy for which an alternate is not available.

- (2) After the close of the regular Texas legislative session, the LAC shall reconvene to review legislative action on the Association's Advocacy Agenda and may offer changes (whether an amendment to a previously adopted Priority, the repeal of a previously adopted Priority, or a new Priority) to the Advocacy Agenda Priorities adopted the preceding year by the annual Delegate Assembly. Changes shall be submitted to the Legislative Committee prior to the summer Board meeting.
- (3) The Legislative Committee shall study the LAC recommendations, arising from the activities defined in Article V, Section 9B(1) and (2), and formulate committee recommendations for the Board's consideration. The Board shall have the right to affirm or change the Legislative Committee's recommendations.
- (4) The Board shall submit recommendations regarding Advocacy Agenda Priorities to the annual Delegate Assembly for approval. Adoption of Advocacy Agenda Priorities shall require a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting.
- (5) Advocacy Agenda Priorities adopted in even-numbered years, subject to changes adopted in odd-numbered years, shall remain in effect for two years until the annual Delegate Assembly next convenes in an even-numbered year. Any change in the odd-numbered year shall remain in effect until the annual Delegate Assembly next convenes.

C. Advocacy Agenda Resolution Process

- (1) Except as provided in this section, new Advocacy Agenda Resolutions or changes to previously adopted Advocacy Agenda Resolutions proposed for consideration by the annual Delegate Assembly shall be submitted in writing by July 1 to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, or its designee. Only submissions proposed by the Board or Active Members shall be considered by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.
- (2) Submissions received by July 1 shall be studied by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall formulate recommendations to the Board. The Board shall have the right to affirm or change Bylaws and Resolutions Committee recommendations and to amend submissions for presentation to the annual Delegate Assembly, provided the amendment does not change the intent of the original submission and the amendment is approved by the submitting Active Member.
- (3) Active Member submissions received after July 1 and five days before the Delegate Assembly convenes shall be accompanied by a statement of the nature of the emergency preventing timely submission. They shall not be presented to the annual Delegate Assembly unless the Board affirms that the submission is of an emergency nature. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee and/or the Board shall have the right to amend submissions granted emergency status before their presentation to the annual Delegate Assembly, provided such amendment does not change the intent of the original submission. Amendments approved by the Board shall be communicated to the submitting Active Member, if time permits.

- (4) The Board shall have the right to submit new Advocacy Agenda Resolutions or Advocacy Agenda Resolutions proposing changes to previously adopted Advocacy Agenda Resolutions before publication of the meeting materials for Delegates. Advocacy Agenda Resolutions submitted by the Board after this deadline require approval by a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates of the annual Delegate Assembly present and voting.
- (5) If the Board does not recommend for adoption a resolution that was timely submitted by an Active Member, the Active Member may appeal the Board's decision. Notice of appeal is timely if provided to the Association in writing, no later than five days before the Delegate Assembly meeting. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall convene before the beginning of the Delegate Assembly to hear the appeal and shall have the authority to sustain the Board's decision or reverse and render a revised recommendation to the Delegate Assembly.
- (6) The Board shall submit its recommendations regarding Advocacy Agenda Resolutions to the annual Delegate Assembly for approval. Adoption of Advocacy Agenda Resolutions shall require a majority vote of Delegates present and voting.
- (7) Advocacy Agenda Resolutions adopted by the annual Delegate Assembly in even-numbered years shall remain in effect for two years, subject to changes adopted in odd-numbered years. Any change in the odd-numbered year shall remain in effect until the annual Delegate Assembly next convenes.
- (8) No Advocacy Agenda Resolution may be adopted that is in conflict with any Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principle or Priority established in accordance with Article V, Section 9A and B.

ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. ASSOCIATION REGIONS.

The Association Regions shall correspond to the ESC region boundaries.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS, NOMINATION, ENDORSEMENT, AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

- A. Each voting Director shall be a trustee of the governing board of a school district that is an Active Member, except as provided below:
 - (1) The President and the Immediate Past President, and
 - (2) The ESC *ex officio* Director, in accordance with Article VI, Section 4F.
- B. No Active Member shall have more than one candidate running for a Director position, even if more than one Director position is subject to an expiring term or vacancy within the Active Member's Region. No person shall be a candidate for more than one Director position.
- C. For purposes of this section, an Active Member school district with an Average Daily Attendance (ADA) meeting the requirements of Article VI, Section 4C(1) shall be treated as an Association Region and referred to in these Bylaws as a Large District.
- D. Nominations and endorsements shall be accepted in accordance with the following requirements, in chronological order within the timeframes and deadlines set out in Board policy:
 - (1) Active Members in any Association Region in which there are expiring terms or vacancies in Director positions shall be notified, by the date established through Board policy, that the Active Member may nominate one of its trustees as a candidate for a Director position in which the term is expiring or a vacancy exists within the Active Member's Region.

- (2) The Nominations Committee's chair, or designee, shall have received the following in writing in the Austin office of the Association by the deadline established through Board policy:
 - (a) The Active Member's nomination, in such form as required by the Association, which shall include a verification by the Active Member's board president or other board officer as to the date of board action; and
 - (b) Candidate information required by the Association, which shall include (i) the candidate's written confirmation of his or her intent to be nominated as a candidate and willingness to serve if elected, (ii) biographical information, and (iii) responses to the questionnaire(s) developed by the Association.
 - (3) A listing of all candidates running for Director positions shall be sent to the superintendent and board president of each Active Member in each Association Region in which there are any expiring terms or vacancies in Director positions by the date established through Board policy. The candidate listing shall also be posted on the Association's Web site. Candidates, Directors, Delegates, and Active Members shall be subject to any campaign protocols or regulations established through Board policy.
 - (4) Active Member endorsements of candidates shall be received in the Austin office of the Association by the deadline established through Board policy in order for such endorsements to be considered. An Active Member may endorse only one candidate for each open Director position within its Association Region. Only candidates who have complied with the requirements of Article VI, Section 2D(2), may be endorsed. Endorsements adopted by an Active Member before the Association sends the list of candidates pursuant to Article VI, Section 2D(3), or endorsements that are not on the endorsement form provided by the Association in a given year shall not be accepted. An Active Member's nomination of one of its trustees [Article VI, Section 2D(2)] shall be considered the Active Member's endorsement for that Director position.
 - (5) If a majority of the Active Members in an Association Region endorses the same candidate, that candidate shall be elected to the Director position and shall take office at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention during the year in which the Director was elected.
 - (6) If no candidate receives endorsements from a majority of the Active Members in the candidate's Association Region [Article VI, Section 2D(4)], the official annual Delegate Assembly list of nominees shall include the following:
 - (a) Candidates nominated by the Nominations Committee [Article VIII, Section 2H] and
 - (b) Candidates receiving endorsements from at least 25 percent but less than a majority of the Active Members in an Association Region.
 - (7) Thereafter nominations may be made by the candidate's Delegate, provided the following conditions are met:
 - (a) The candidate's nomination was submitted in compliance with Article VI, Section 2D(2), and
 - (b) The candidate's intent and consent to run for the position by this alternate means is received in the Austin office of the Association five days prior to the annual Delegate Assembly.
- E. Except for a Director position filled in accordance with Article VI, Section 2D(5), the official annual Delegate Assembly list of nominees shall be prepared by the Nominations Committee as provided in these Bylaws [Article VIII, Section 2I]. The election shall comply with these Bylaws and any rules and procedures adopted by the Delegate Assembly at the start of the meeting. Such rules and procedures may allow uncontested nominees to be deemed elected without a vote.

- F. If there is more than one nominee for a Director position, the nominee receiving the majority of the votes of the Delegates present and voting shall be elected. If no nominee receives a majority vote of the Delegates, a run-off election shall be conducted between the two nominees receiving the greater numbers of votes, and the election shall be repeated for that position as many times as necessary to obtain a majority.

SECTION 3. DUTIES. The Board shall supervise, control, and direct affairs of the Association in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, beliefs, and Advocacy Agenda approved by the annual Delegate Assembly. The Board shall:

- A. Actively promote the mission, beliefs, and purposes of the Association.
- B. Adopt the Association's budget and have discretion in the disbursement of the Association's funds.
- C. Receive any devise, bequest, donation, or otherwise, either real or personal property, or both, and hold the same absolutely or in trust, and invest, reinvest, and manage the same, and apply said property and the income arising there from to the mission, beliefs, and purposes of the Association.
- D. Establish such Board policies, as it deems appropriate in fulfilling its responsibilities under these Bylaws.
- E. Appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.

SECTION 4. COMPOSITION.

- A. The Association's governing body shall be composed of Directors from Large Districts or Association Regions. No Active Member shall have more than one individual serving on the Board.
- B. All Directors shall represent their respective Association Regions, except the President, President-Elect, and the Immediate Past President.
- C. By virtue of student enrollment, individual Active Members or Association Regions may be eligible for a Director position as follows:
 - (1) (a) Not more than 14 Active Members shall be entitled to Large District Director positions. To qualify for a Large District Director position, the Active Member shall have had at least 1.25 percent of the total state ADA for two consecutive years. If more than 14 Active Members qualify for Large District Director positions under this provision, the 14 Active Members with the largest ADA shall qualify.
 - (b) If the Active Member's ADA falls below 1.25 percent of the total state ADA for two consecutive school years, or if an Active Member has qualified for a Large District Director position and that Active Member is no longer one of the 14 school districts with the ADA required under Article VI, Section 4C(1)(a), the Active Member's entitlement to a Large District Director position shall end with the expiration of the current representative's term.
 - (2) (a) An Association Region shall be entitled to Regional Director positions for each 4.25 percent or fraction thereof of the total state ADA contained within the Association Region for two consecutive years, and after the ADA of each Active Member qualifying for a position by virtue of Article VI, Section 4 C(1), has been subtracted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Association Region shall be entitled to no more than three Regional Director positions.

(b) If an Association Region becomes entitled to multiple positions by this provision and, subsequently, for two consecutive years, fails to sustain sufficient ADA for the entitlement, a Regional Director position shall be eliminated as follows:

- i. If a vacancy exists in the Regional Director position, that position shall be eliminated, or
 - ii. If there is more than one vacancy in the Regional Director positions, the vacant position with the first expiring term shall be eliminated, or
 - iii. If there is no vacancy in the Regional Director positions, the existing position with the first expiring term within the Region shall be eliminated at the end of that term, or
 - iv. If there is no vacancy and more than one Regional Director position having the first expiring term in the same year, the position being held by the individual with the least tenure as a Regional Director shall be eliminated at the end of that term, or
 - v. If there is no vacancy and more than one Regional Director position having the first expiring term in the same year and being held by individuals with the same tenure, there shall be a drawing of lots to determine which Regional Director position shall be eliminated at the end of the term.
- D. All calculations under this section shall be based on ADA data furnished by the Texas Education Agency available as of April 1 preceding the annual Delegate Assembly.
- E. The Executive Director shall be a nonvoting *ex officio* Director and shall not be counted in the quorum of the Board.
- F. The ESC boards shall be represented by one voting *ex officio* Director selected by a process and for a term prescribed by guidelines established by the ESC boards, but shall not be counted in the quorum of the Board.

SECTION 5. DURATION OF OFFICE.

- A. The term of office of each Director shall be three years and shall begin at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention during which the Director was elected by the annual Delegate Assembly.
- B. Terms of Directors shall be staggered to allow, to the extent possible, for the election of one-third of the Directors each year. New Director positions shall be assigned to terms to retain this balance; however, if this is not possible, the assignment of terms shall be decided by drawing of lots.
- C. Upon election to a three-year term, a Director may be reelected to no more than three additional terms. For purposes of determining a Director term limit, service time attaches to the individual and not the Association Region with which the Director is associated.
- D. Upon election or succession to the office of President-Elect, the Director position previously held shall be declared vacant and a successor elected, except as provided in Article VI, Section 4A. Once elected President-Elect, the term limit that applies to a Director position shall no longer apply and shall not prevent the individual from completing the term of one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

SECTION 6. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL.

- A. A Director may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the President. The resignation shall become effective upon receipt by the President.
- B. A Director who is absent from three consecutive regularly scheduled Board meetings or from three consecutive regularly scheduled standing committee meetings may be removed from the Director position by a majority vote of all of the Directors. A Large District Director removed pursuant to this section shall be ineligible to serve for the remainder of the term to which the Director was elected.

- C. Any Director may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board when, in the Board's judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served by removal.

SECTION 7. MEETINGS.

- A. A Board year or annual period commences at the official close of the annual convention and ends after the same event in the next year. The Board shall hold at least four regular meetings that shall be spread throughout the year, with one taking place during the summer and the last meeting taking place during the week of the annual Delegate Assembly. The Executive Committee of the Board shall determine the dates and locations of the meetings for the upcoming Board year and report the meeting schedule to the Board before the Board year commences. The Board also shall be given 30 days' notice before each regular meeting by electronic means, or by any other means accessible to the Directors.
- B. Additional meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by the written request of a majority of the Board, provided that a written notice is sent to each Director at least 10 days before the meeting.
- C. A meeting of the Board or a committee may be conducted in person or by alternate means, such as teleconference, videoconference, the Internet, or any other means by which each participant can communicate with all other participants.

SECTION 8. QUORUM AND VOTING.

- A. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Board.
- B. Unless otherwise specifically provided by these Bylaws, a majority vote of those present and voting shall govern. No proxy voting shall be permitted.
- C. Any action required to be taken at a meeting of Directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Directors or any committee, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action to be taken, shall have been signed or executed by the number of Directors or committee members as would be necessary to take that action at a meeting at which all of the Directors or members of the committee were present and voted. The Board, by policy or resolution, may increase the number of votes required for an action taken by written consent. A written consent shall be signed or executed and dated by each Director or committee member, and consent may be provided in multiple counterparts. Directors or committee members may provide written consent by facsimile, email (from the email address of record), or any other form of writing which comes from the Director or committee member.

SECTION 9. VACANCIES. By majority vote of those present and voting, the Board may fill vacancies that occur in Director positions by electing an individual to fill the vacancy until the next annual Delegate Assembly, in accordance with Board policy. At that time, a candidate shall be elected by the annual Delegate Assembly to fill the unexpired term in accordance with Article VI, Section 2D.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

SECTION 1. TITLES. The Officer positions of the Association shall consist of President, President-Elect, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS, NOMINATION, AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

- A. Each Officer shall be a duly elected Director [Article VI, Section 2A]. The President shall be a trustee of an Active Member governing board at the time of succession to the office of President but shall be permitted to succeed to the office of Immediate Past President even if he or she vacates service on such Active Member governing board.

- B. In accordance with Board policy, Officer nominations shall be submitted by Directors to the Nominations Committee and the Committee shall determine which candidates will be interviewed for Officer positions. Candidates, Directors, Delegates, and Active Members shall be subject to any campaign protocols or regulations established through Board policy.
- C. The Nominations Committee shall recommend to the Board at its regular summer meeting a candidate for each Officer position to be filled. The Board shall approve candidates from among recommendations of the Nominations Committee or others interviewed in accordance with Article VII, Section 2B, and Board policy.
- D. Candidates approved by the Board shall be presented to the annual Delegate Assembly to fill each Officer position in which an expiring term or a vacancy exists.
- E. Thereafter nominations for any Officer position subject to election by the annual Delegate Assembly, shall be made by the candidate's Delegate, provided the following conditions are met:
 - (1) The candidate was interviewed for an Officer position by the Nominations Committee in the current year's process in accordance with Article VII, Section 2B, and
 - (2) The candidate's intent and consent to run for the position by this alternate means is received in the Austin office of the association five days prior to the annual Delegate Assembly.
- F. The Nominations Committee shall prepare the official list of Officer nominees as provided in these Bylaws [Article VIII, Section 2I]. The election shall comply with these Bylaws and any rules and procedures adopted by the Delegate Assembly at the start of the meeting. Such rules and procedures may allow uncontested nominees to be deemed elected without a vote.
- G. If there is more than one nominee for an Officer position, the nominee receiving the majority vote of the Delegates present and voting shall be elected. If no nominee receives a majority vote of the Delegates, a run-off election shall be conducted between the two nominees receiving the greater numbers of votes, and the election shall be repeated for that position as many times as necessary to obtain a majority.

SECTION 3. DURATION OF OFFICE.

- A. The Officers shall be elected each year for terms of one year by the annual Delegate Assembly except for the President-Elect, who shall be elected to serve for a term of one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.
- B. The term of office of each Officer position shall begin at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention during which the Officer was elected. Each Officer shall serve until a successor is elected. No Officer shall serve for more than one full elected term in the same office. An Officer's eligibility to serve a full elected term in an office is unaffected by any time served in that office under the conditions specified in Article VII, Section 5.

SECTION 4. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL.

- A. An Officer may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the Board. The resignation shall become effective upon receipt by the Board.
- B. Any Officer of the Association may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association would be served.

SECTION 5. VACANCIES.

- A. If there is a vacancy for any reason in the office of President, the President-Elect shall succeed to the office immediately and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the office. If, at the annual Delegate Assembly, the office of President-Elect is currently filled by an Officer *pro tempore*, the position of President shall be considered vacant and the position shall be filled by an election by the annual Delegate Assembly.
- B. If there is a vacancy for any reason in any other Officer position, upon recommendation by the Nominations Committee, the Board may elect an Officer *pro tempore* from the Board to perform the duties of the vacated office until the office is filled by an election of the annual Delegate Assembly.
- C. If the vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary-Treasurer, the duties of that office, except the right to vote and chair the Budget and Finance Committee, are delegated to the Executive Director until the Board elects a *pro tempore* or the current term of office expires.

SECTION 6. PRESIDENT.

- A. The President shall preside at all Delegate Assembly and Board meetings and perform duties as provided in these Bylaws and as assigned by the Board.
- B. The President or the President's representative shall attend the annual convention of the National School Boards Association and shall be one of the Association's voting delegates at the convention.
- C. The President shall be the official representative of the Association at state and national meetings. If the President is unable to attend such meetings, then the President's designee shall represent the Association.
- D. The President shall make all appointments with due consideration given to representation by school district size and geographic location.
- E. The President shall annually convene the Executive Committee for the purposes of reviewing the Board's evaluation of the performance of the Executive Director and recommending appropriate compensation for the Executive Director to the Board for consideration.
- F. The President shall serve as a voting *ex officio* member of all committees, but shall not be counted in the quorum of any committee.

SECTION 7. PRESIDENT-ELECT.

- A. The President-Elect shall serve as chair and voting member of the Planning and Development Committee and shall be counted in the quorum of the Planning and Development Committee.
- B. In the event of the President's absence, the President-Elect shall temporarily perform the duties of the President. In the event of the President's inability or refusal to act, the President-Elect may be asked, by unanimous consent of all members of the Executive Committee (other than the President) to temporarily perform the duties of the President until such time as the members of the Executive Committee (other than the President), unanimously consent to withdraw the temporary authorization. When thus acting, the President-Elect shall have the powers of and be subject to all restrictions placed upon the President. The President-Elect shall perform other duties as provided in these Bylaws and as assigned by the President or the Board.
- C. Except as provided in Article VII, Section 7A, the President-Elect shall serve as a nonvoting *ex officio* member of all committees and shall not be counted in the quorum of the committee.

SECTION 8. VICE-PRESIDENTS. The First and Second Vice-Presidents shall perform duties as provided by these Bylaws, Board policy, or other Board action, and as assigned by the President.

SECTION 9. SECRETARY-TREASURER.

- A. The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.
- B. The Secretary-Treasurer shall make a report to the annual Delegate Assembly and other reports as requested by the Board.
- C. The Secretary-Treasurer shall perform duties as provided in these Bylaws and as assigned by the President or the Board.

SECTION 10. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT.

- A. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a voting Director and Officer and as voting member of committees as assigned and shall be counted in the quorums, unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws.
- B. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a member and the chair of the Nominations Committee and shall be counted in the quorum.
- C. The Immediate Past President shall perform all other duties as assigned by the President or the Board.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. STANDING COMMITTEES. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, after the close of the annual convention each year, the Executive Committee shall appoint the chair, vice-chair, and members of the following Standing Committees: Budget and Finance Committee, Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, Legislative Committee, Member Services Committee, and Planning and Development Committee. Committee members shall be appointed from the Board. Each Standing Committee shall have no fewer than seven nor more than 13 members. The quorum of each Standing Committee shall be one-third of the committee membership but no fewer than four. In making committee appointments, the Executive Committee shall ensure continuity of committee operation, in accordance with Board policy.

No individual shall serve on more than two Standing Committees at one time. Standing Committees shall hold at least one meeting during the year and report to the annual Delegate Assembly. The chairs, or designees, shall prepare reports of all meetings. In the event that a chair or vice-chair is absent from a meeting, the President will appoint another member of the Committee to serve in his or her place for the meeting.

The Executive Director shall be a nonvoting *ex officio* member of all Standing Committees and shall not be counted in the quorums.

- A. **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.** The Budget and Finance Committee shall be chaired by the Secretary-Treasurer and shall:
 - (1) Prepare recommendations on the annual budget for the Board.
 - (2) Submit to the Board a report and analysis of the finances of the Association.
 - (3) Recommend an investment policy and monitor the investment of Association funds.
 - (4) Present an annual financial report.

- (5) Study the financial implications of expanding or renewing services, programs, service agreements, or administrator contracts for recommendation to the Board.
- (6) Prepare recommendations on the annual audit for the Board.
- (7) Participate in other activities in accordance with Board policy.

B. **BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE.** The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, may be divided into two committees for the purpose of concentrated effort on particular tasks as assigned by the President. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall:

- (1) Recommend to the Board for submission to the annual Delegate Assembly any proposed amendment to these Bylaws, as provided in Article XVII.
- (2) Recommend to the Board for submission to the annual Delegate Assembly Advocacy Agenda Resolutions in accordance with Article V, Section 9C.
- (3) Consider and recommend to the Board resolutions for purposes not associated with Advocacy Agenda Resolutions.
- (4) Recommend to the Board proposed Board policies or changes to existing Board policies.
- (5) Participate in other activities in accordance with Board policy.

C. **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.**

The Legislative Committee shall be composed of not more than nine Directors, appointed by the Executive Committee, and four voting *ex officio* members appointed by the LAC, in accordance with Article V, Section 9B(1). The Legislative Committee shall:

- (1) Monitor legislative and regulatory activities at the state and federal level.
- (2) Coordinate the development of the Association's Advocacy Agenda Cornerstone Principles and Priorities in accordance with Article V, Section 9A and B.
- (3) Coordinate the implementation of the Association's Advocacy Agenda in accordance with Article V, Section 9.
- (4) Participate in other activities in accordance with Board policy.

D. **MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE.** The Member Services Committee shall:

- (1) Review and monitor activities associated with the current services and programs available to Texas school districts.
- (2) Develop and coordinate recognition and awards programs.
- (3) Coordinate planning for Association and national conventions.
- (4) Monitor school board education activities.
- (5) Participate in other activities in accordance with Board policy.

- E. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.** The Planning and Development Committee shall be chaired by the President-Elect and shall:
- (1) Review, analyze, and recommend to the Board new programs and services.
 - (2) Review, analyze, and recommend building and equipment needs.
 - (3) Annually review, update, and report on an annual basis Association goals and priorities.
 - (4) Monitor the enhancements of programs and services.
 - (5) Review the evaluation of existing programs and services.
 - (6) Recommend to the Board for submission to the annual Delegate Assembly any proposed changes in the beliefs of the Association, as provided in Article V, Section 8.
 - (7) Review and coordinate the activities of the Board and its committees in accordance with Board policy.
 - (8) Monitor and evaluate the Association's relationship with other associations and entities.
 - (9) Participate in other activities in accordance with Board policy.

SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE.

- A. The Nominations Committee shall be composed of eleven voting Directors, including the President. An additional nine Directors shall serve as alternates, who shall fill committee vacancies in a designated order. The alternates shall serve in the order and manner as provided in Board policy. Reasonable efforts shall be made to have 11 voting Directors participating; however, six shall constitute a quorum.
- B. Nominations Committee members shall be elected by the Board at the meeting the week of the annual Delegate Assembly and assume their duties at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention.
- C. In the election of the Nominations Committee, the Board shall give due consideration to representation by school district size, geographic location, and wealth per student.
- D. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a member and the chair and shall be counted in the quorum of the Nominations Committee.
- E. The President shall serve as a voting *ex officio* member and vice-chair of the Committee; the President-Elect shall serve as a nonvoting *ex officio* member of the Nominations Committee. Neither the President nor the President-Elect shall be counted in the quorum of the Nominations Committee.
- F. In accordance with Board policy, the Nominations Committee shall meet prior to the regular summer Board meeting to nominate a candidate for each Officer position with an expiring term or vacancy. Nominations shall be submitted to the Board for approval.
- G. As soon as feasible after the August 29 deadline for Active Member endorsements and prior to the annual Delegate Assembly, the Nominations Committee shall meet and shall nominate one or more candidates for each Director position to be filled and shall report the nominations to the President and the Executive Director.

H. The slate of nominations shall be prepared as follows:

- (1) At least 20 days before the annual Delegate Assembly, or as soon thereafter as feasible, the Executive Director shall provide Active Members and Delegates with the Board's slate of nominees for Officer positions and the Nominations Committee's slate of nominees for each Director position with pertinent biographical information on each nominee.
 - (2) In the event a Director nominee becomes unable to serve, the Nominations Committee, at the call of its chair, shall select an alternate nominee and notify Active Members and Delegates of the amended report as soon as feasible, but no later than the opening of the annual Delegate Assembly.
 - (3) In the event an Officer nominee becomes unable to serve, the Board, at the call of the President, shall select an alternate nominee from among the Officer candidates interviewed by the Nominations Committee pursuant to Board policy at the regular summer Board meeting and notify Active Members and Delegates of the amended report as soon as feasible, but no later than the opening of the annual Delegate Assembly.
- I. An official list of the names of all Officer and Director nominees up for election shall be prepared before the opening of the annual Delegate Assembly, as provided and applicable in Article VI, Section 2D(6)-(7); Article VII, Sections 2D and E; and Article VIII, Section 2H. No person may be a candidate for more than one Director position and no person may be a candidate for more than one Officer position on this list.

SECTION 3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

- A. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers. The Executive Director shall serve as a nonvoting *ex officio* member of the Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee shall have only the authority given by these Bylaws or such authority that is granted to the Executive Committee by specific Board action.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL COMMITTEES. Upon Board approval, the President may create special committees to properly perform or more effectively carry out the mission and purposes of the Association, in accordance with Board policy. The Executive Committee shall appoint the members of such committees. Unless the Board has authorized otherwise, such committees shall cease to exist at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention held during the year the special committees were created.

ARTICLE IX. EXECUTIVE STAFF

SECTION 1. EMPLOYMENT. An Executive Director shall be employed by the Board.

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

- A. The Executive Director shall manage, supervise, and direct the operations of the Association within the authority delegated by the Board. The Executive Director shall be a nonvoting *ex officio* member of the Delegate Assembly, Board, Executive Committee, and all standing and special committees and shall not be counted in the quorums.
- B. The Executive Director, or designee, shall be the custodian of the records and proceedings of the Association and Board and shall see that all notices are duly given as provided in these Bylaws or as required by law.
- C. Other executive staff and personnel as may be employed shall undertake such duties, responsibilities,

and authority as may be delegated by the Executive Director and shall be responsible to the Executive Director. The Executive Director, or designee, is authorized to employ, supervise, and discharge all personnel.

- D. The Executive Director shall sign all authorized contracts and other obligations and undertakings in the name of or on behalf of the Association unless specifically prohibited by these Bylaws or by further resolutions, Board policies, rules, or regulations as may be adopted by the Board. At the discretion of the Board, the Executive Director may be designated to perform the duties of Secretary-Treasurer, except the right to vote or chair the Budget and Finance Committee.

SECTION 3. VACANCY. If there is a vacancy for any reason in the position of Executive Director, the President with the unanimous consent of all other members of the Executive Committee may designate an Acting Executive Director to serve until an Executive Director shall be employed by the Board. The Acting Executive Director shall have all the power and perform all the duties of the Executive Director.

ARTICLE X. FISCAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURES

SECTION 1. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the Association shall be September 1 through August 31.

SECTION 2. NONCOMPENSATION.

- A. No individual acting in the capacity of an Officer or Director shall receive compensation for services rendered. In accordance with Board policy, the Association may reimburse certain expenses incurred by Officers or Directors in attending to the business of the Association and may pay for personal use of Association-provided equipment, either of which may be characterized as "compensation" to Officers and Directors for federal tax purposes.
- B. No Officer or Director shall serve for compensation as an employee, consultant, or independent contractor of the Association.

SECTION 3. CONTRACTS. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Board may authorize any Officer or agent to enter into contracts and to execute or draw any instruments on behalf of the Association.

SECTION 4. LOANS. No loan shall be contracted on behalf of the Association, and no negotiable paper other than checks shall be issued in its name, except as authorized by the Board.

SECTION 5. DEPOSITS.

- A. All funds of the Association shall be deposited to the credit of the Association in such depositories as the Board may select or as may be selected by an Officer or agent designated by the Board.
- B. All funds of the Association, except for investment accounts, shall be in depositories covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and shall be withdrawn in accordance with procedures specified by the Board.

SECTION 6. INCOME. All Association income shall be collected by an Officer or agent designated by the Board.

SECTION 7. DISBURSEMENTS. All bills, drafts, acceptances, checks, endorsements, or other evidence of indebtedness shall be signed by the Officer or agent designated by Board resolution.

SECTION 8. INVESTMENTS. Funds of the Association may be invested and reinvested in a manner and for purposes in accordance with law and policy.

SECTION 9. DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS FUNDS. Any surplus in excess of normal operating requirements, and in excess of reasonable reserves to be determined by the Board, shall be used to further the purposes of the Association. The Budget and Finance Committee or Planning and Development Committee shall make recommendations to the Board for specific allocations of such funds.

SECTION 10. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT. The Executive Director, or designee, shall provide annually to the Board a report of all receipts and disbursements of Association funds. Subsequently an annual financial report shall be published.

SECTION 11. INCURRING INDEBTEDNESS. No Officer, Director, committee, committee member, or employee of the Association shall incur any indebtedness in the name of the Association or make any commitment involving the Association unless authorized by Board action.

SECTION 12. FIDELITY INSURANCE. At Association expense, fidelity insurance coverage shall be secured for the Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Director, and any other Officers or agents of the Association as determined by the Board or Executive Director.

SECTION 13. LEGAL COUNSEL. The Board may retain outside legal counsel to advise it in the legal affairs of the Association.

SECTION 14. AUDIT. The Board shall designate an independent certified public accountant to audit the financial records of the Association and to submit an annual audit report.

SECTION 15. FINANCIAL BOOKS AND RECORDS. Any member of the Association, upon written request, stating the purpose of the request, shall have the right to examine and copy, in person, or by agent, accountant, or attorney, at any reasonable time, for any proper purpose, the financial books and records of the Association relevant to that purpose, at the expense of the member.

SECTION 16. SEAL. The Association may have a seal of such design, as the Board shall adopt.

ARTICLE XI. LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

SECTION 1. LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY.

No Director shall be personally liable to the Association for monetary damages for any act or omission in the Director's capacity as a Director; provided, however, that the foregoing provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a Director for (1) a breach of Director's duty of loyalty to the Association, (2) an act or omission not in good faith or that involves intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, (3) a transaction from which the Director received an improper personal benefit, whether or not the benefit resulted from an action taken within the scope of the Director's office, or (4) an act or omission for which the liability of a Director is expressly provided by statute. Any amendment or repeal of this Article shall be prospective only and shall not adversely affect any limitation on the personal liability of a Director existing at the time of such amendment or repeal. A Director is entitled to any protections from liability set out in Texas statutes.

SECTION 2. INDEMNIFICATION.

The Association shall defend and indemnify its Board, Officers, and employees to the greatest extent permitted by law.

The Association may purchase insurance providing coverage for the Officers, Directors, and employees. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent settlement of any litigation where the settlement is deemed advisable in order to prevent greater expense or cost in the defense or prosecution of such litigation.

Indemnification for any damages or expenses of any Officer, Director, or employee by way of this Article shall apply only to such amounts that are not paid by the errors and omissions insurance (E&O) provider pursuant to the terms and conditions of the E&O insurance policy purchased in favor of the Association, its Officers, Directors, and employees. The indemnification provided by this Article shall not be deemed to be exclusive of any other rights to which any person indemnified may be entitled under any regulation, agreement, or otherwise. The indemnification provided by this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other power to indemnify or right to indemnification that the Association or any person referred to in this Article may have or acquire under state or federal laws. Indemnification shall continue and inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, successors, and administrators of persons entitled to indemnification under this Article.

In a criminal proceeding, the person may be indemnified only if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful. The Association shall not indemnify a person who is found liable to the Association or is found liable to another on the basis of improperly receiving a personal benefit from the Association.

ARTICLE XII. COUNCILS

SECTION 1. FORMATION OF COUNCILS. The Board may create Councils to study and advise on specific aspects of public education. The objective of a Council within its specific area of concern shall be to gather and share information and develop and implement recommendations.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY. The Board may determine eligibility for participants in any Council that may be created.

SECTION 3. GOVERNING BODY. Each Council shall have a representative governing body. When appropriate, the Board shall seek to have its President and the Association's Executive Director, or their designees, serve as non-voting *ex officio* members of the Council's governing body but not counted in that governing body's quorum.

SECTION 4. ADMINISTRATION. The governing body of each Council shall administer, through its chair, the business of the Council; shall be responsible for its programs, progress, and activities, and shall establish policies for the conduct of its business, provided that actions of the Council are consistent with the Association's Bylaws and Board policy.

SECTION 5. ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATION. The Board may withdraw the Association's further participation whenever it determines that such participation would not be in the Association's best interests.

SECTION 6. FINANCES.

- A. The Executive Director, or designee, may determine fees and charges incurred through a Council's use of Association staff and facilities.
- B. Each Council may establish charges for the meetings and individual activities of the Council.
- C. All funds relating to the operation and activity of each Council shall be administered through the general fund of the Association and shall be governed by these Bylaws and as may be determined by the Board.

SECTION 7. STAFF LIAISON. The Executive Director shall assign staff to provide assistance and serve as liaison in Council operations and in the coordination of Association and Council activities.

ARTICLE XIII. FOUNDATIONS, TRUSTS, AND OTHER ENTITIES

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUNDATIONS, TRUSTS, AND OTHER ENTITIES. The Board may create entities, or facilitate the creation of entities, to serve as vehicles for delivering specialized services that support the mission and purposes of the Association.

SECTION 2. GOVERNING BOARDS. The governing body of each entity, if any, shall be a board appointed in accordance with the bylaws of that entity.

Each board shall be responsible for business affairs of the entity.

When appropriate, the Board shall seek to have its President and Executive Director serve as nonvoting *ex officio* members of the entity's board but not counted in that board's quorum.

SECTION 3. ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATION. The Board may condition the Association's participation, such as the use of the Association's name, good will, and resources, on the receipt of consideration (monetary or non-monetary), and may withdraw the Association's participation whenever it determines that continued participation would not be in the Association's best interests.

ARTICLE XIV. COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

The Board may organize and participate in nonprofit associations or other legal entities whose mission and bylaws the Board determines to be consistent with Association beliefs, mission, and purposes, and these Bylaws. The Board may withdraw from further participation whenever it determines that further participation would not be in the Association's best interest.

ARTICLE XV. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

In the event of dissolution of the Association, dissolution shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), the Articles of Incorporation, and Texas law. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, upon dissolution of the Association, assets shall first be used to pay all debts and obligations; remaining funds shall be distributed for Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) of the public purposes through pro rata distributions to such Association Active Members, which are school districts of the State of Texas as have contributed to the Association and which are Association Active Members for the year(s) of dissolution. The precise formula for distributions and the timing thereof shall be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE XVI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. RULES. All proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* as most recently revised and other rules of procedure consistent with these Bylaws.

SECTION 2. INTERPRETATION.

- A. The Board shall be the final authority on the interpretation of these Bylaws. If any Bylaws provision is rendered invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability will not affect the remaining provisions and, to the greatest extent possible, the Bylaws will be construed as if they had not included the offending provision.
- B. In the event the Association fails to comply with a required date or deadline or carry out a required action set out in these Bylaws due to impossibility of performance, mistake, inadvertence, or other reason, the Board shall be authorized to remedy such failure to the extent possible. The remedy shall

give effect to the intent and purpose of the non-observed Bylaws requirement and attempt to mitigate any harm as much as possible.

SECTION 3. TIME PERIODS. If the conclusion of any time period provided for in these Bylaws falls on a weekend or a federal holiday, the conclusion of such time period shall be deemed to be extended until the next business day. Otherwise, references to time periods measured by days shall mean calendar days unless business days are specifically designated.

SECTION 4. NOTICE AND DELIVERY.

- A. Any notice required or permitted by these Bylaws to be given to any Member, the Board (or a committee thereof), or any person may be given by U.S. mail, express courier service, facsimile, e-mail, or other transmission commonly used in commerce when sent to the address or portal of record with the Association. If sent by first-class U.S mail with postage prepaid, notice is deemed delivered three days after mailing. If sent by express courier service, notice is deemed delivered on the date confirmed by the courier. If sent by facsimile transmission, notice is deemed delivered when printed confirmation of receipt is obtained from the facsimile mechanism. If sent by e-mail or other electronic transmission, notice is deemed delivered at the moment it is sent.
- B. Any notice or record required or permitted by these Bylaws to be received in the Austin office of the Association shall be deemed received if transmitted electronically through the portal or mechanism designated by the Association for such action.

ARTICLE XVII. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. DELEGATE ASSEMBLY. These Bylaws may be amended at the annual Delegate Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting. Proposed amendments may be submitted by Association staff, Board, or Active Members and shall be submitted in writing to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, or its designee, by July 1 prior to the annual Delegate Assembly. Proposed amendments received by July 1 shall be studied by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall formulate recommendations to the Board. The Board shall have the right to affirm or change Bylaws and Resolutions Committee recommendations and to amend the recommendations for presentation to the annual Delegate Assembly.

SECTION 2. CONFORMING AND STYLISTIC CHANGES. Upon amendment of the Bylaws by the Delegate Assembly, the Board shall have the authority to make conforming changes to the Bylaws, in order to fully implement the amendments adopted by the Delegate Assembly. The Board also shall have the authority to make non-substantive, stylistic changes to the Bylaws in order to enhance their grammatical quality. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee shall make all such conforming and stylistic recommendations to the Board for its approval.

Appendix D

Budget and Finance Committee

Oversees financial health of the Association.

Major Work 2016–17

- **Budget and Financial Statements**

During the year, the Committee monitored actual activities as compared to the budget and reviewed interim financial statements at each of its regularly scheduled meetings. The Committee also reviewed and recommended approval of the 2017–18 budget in a special meeting coordinated with the timing of TASB’s Summer Leadership Institute.

- **Investments**

The Committee reviewed quarterly investment reports and reviewed the rebalancing of TASB’s investment portfolio to the new targets outlined in TASB’s investment policy.

- **Annual Financial Audit and Internal Control Review**

The Committee reviewed TASB’s annual financial statement and audit for 2015–16 with the independent auditor. The Committee reviewed and monitored progress on implementing recommendations from ongoing internal control reviews and TASB’s activities related to data security. The Committee recommended changes to TASB’s audit policy to allow future internal control reviews to focus on controls over financial accounting and reporting processes or data security, and discussed plans for the review in 2017–18 to focus on data security.

- **Affiliated Entity Agreements**

Agreements and annual fee amounts were reviewed and recommended for approval for several affiliated entities including the TASB Risk Management Fund, TASB Legal Assistance Fund, and TASB Energy Cooperative.

- **Designation of Net Assets**

The Committee recommended the designation of net assets for future significant repairs or improvements to TASB’s headquarters building.

Committee Members

Jim Rice (Chair)
Charles Cunningham
(Vice-Chair)

Yolanda Cuellar
Thomas Darden
Jason Dohnalik
Rolinda Schmidt
George Scott
Rhonda Skillern-Jones
Will Streit
Mildred Watkins
Greg Welch
Charles R. Stafford
(voting *ex officio*)
Teresa Flores
(nonvoting *ex officio*)
James B. Crow
(nonvoting *ex officio*)

Bylaws and Resolutions Committee

*Recommends revisions to TASB's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and recommends new or revised Board policy. Reviews and recommends new or revised Advocacy Agenda Resolutions.**

*When considering resolutions, the Committee convenes separately with the same committee membership but different committee members serve as chair and vice-chair.

Major Work 2016–17

- **TASB Bylaws**

The Committee considered and recommended several revisions to the TASB Bylaws, which were approved by the TASB Board for submission to the 2017 Delegate Assembly (see p. 16–19).

- **Board Policy**

The Committee considered and recommended several revised or new TASB Board policies, including policies relating to the following:

- Association Region adjustments when a district changes its education service center affiliation
- Structure of TASB programs that involve payments or benefits to district officials (e.g., Leadership TASB scholarships, NSBA Advocacy Institute stipends, Superintendent of the Year awards)
- Authority of the plan administrative committee for the TASB staff retirement plan
- Use of net expendable assets and scope of internal control reviews
- Campaigning protocols for TASB Director and Officer elections
- Operational guidelines of TASB standing committees, including the mentoring program for new TASB Directors

- **Advocacy Agenda Resolutions**

The Committee reviewed the 68 resolutions submitted by Active Members by the deadline set in the TASB Bylaws and made recommendations to the TASB Board.

- **Other Activities**

The Committee, serving as the Standing Rules Committee for the Delegate Assembly, proposed the 2017 Delegate Assembly Standing Rules (see pages 8 and 9).

Committee Members

Ted Beard (Chair, Bylaws)
Cindy Spanel (Vice-Chair, Bylaws)

Vernagene Mott (Chair, Resolutions)

Armando Rodriguez (Vice-Chair, Resolutions)

Kay Alley

Lanny Evans

Don Gant

Carrie Gregory

Benny May

Charles R. Stafford (voting *ex officio*)

Teresa Flores (nonvoting *ex officio*)

James B. Crow (nonvoting *ex officio*)

Legislative Committee

Monitors legislative and regulatory activities at the state and federal level and coordinates the development and implementation of the Association's Advocacy Agenda.

Major Work 2016–17

- **2017 Legislative Session**

Committee members participated in weekly conference calls with TASB Governmental Relations staff to review legislative developments and provide guidance on issues not addressed by the TASB Advocacy Agenda. Some committee members also traveled to Austin to testify before legislative committees or visit legislators and their staff with TASB GR staff.

- **2016–18 Advocacy Agenda**

The Committee oversaw the revision of the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda by reviewing and making recommendations regarding Advocacy Priorities and advising the Resolutions Committee on recommendations for Advocacy Resolutions.

- **Legislative Advertising Campaign**

The Committee oversaw the implementation and maintenance of TASB's legislative advertising campaign to generate support for education issues important to Texas public schools—specifically additional state funding for public schools and opposition to private school vouchers. The campaign generated more than 34,000 letters during the regular session and about 14,500 letters during the special session.

- **National School Boards Association Advocacy Institute Stipend Program**

The Committee discussed methods to increase trustee interest in the Advocacy Institute and the stipend application and adopted new policy language to align the program with legal advice regarding gifts to trustees. A stipend subcommittee vetted applicants and proposed a slate of districts to which stipends should be awarded for granting to trustees. Attendance at the 2017 Advocacy Institute was strong, with 66 trustees traveling to Washington, DC.

Committee Members

James de Garavilla (Chair)
Christene Moss (Vice-Chair)

Dori Fenenbock

Bowie Hogg

Sandy Hughey

Jayme Mathias

Raymond P. Meza

Georgan Reitmeier

Bobby J. Rigues

Charles R. Stafford (voting
ex officio)

Teresa Flores (nonvoting
ex officio)

James B. Crow (nonvoting
ex officio)

Tracy Fisher (LAC Member,
voting *ex officio*)

Cynthia Najera (LAC Member,
voting *ex officio*)

Becky St. John (LAC Member,
voting *ex officio*)

Michael Vargas (LAC Member,
voting *ex officio*)

Member Services Committee

Reviews, provides feedback, and, as needed, makes recommendations regarding the Association's programs to ensure that they are responsive to member needs.

Major Work 2016–17

- **Member Services**

The Committee heard program overviews from the following TASB program areas: HR Services, Leadership Team Services, Risk Management Services, Facility Services, Special Education Solutions, Executive Search Services, and Field Services.

- **Training**

The Committee received regular reports on the TASA/TASB Convention, approved the new class and scholarships for Leadership TASB, and heard timely news about recent and upcoming training at each meeting. These discussions included Summer Leadership Institute, Winter Governance and Legal Seminar, Spring Workshops, Post-Legislative Conferences, Risk Management Members Conference, and others.

- **Superintendent of the Year**

The Committee oversaw the entire selection process—announcing the call for nominees, establishing selection protocols, interviewing 19 regional winners, selecting five finalists and interviewing them a second time, and choosing the 2017 Superintendent of the Year.

- **Additional Member Services Committee Topics**

- The Committee heard updates from the Joint Subcommittee on Governance.
- The Business Recognition Program, which is designed to help districts recognize and honor local businesses and community organizations that stand up for public schools, recognized more than 2,300 business and community groups this year.
- Business/Education Forums were hosted in Houston and Amarillo in 2016–17.
- This year the Online Learning Center was completely revamped, with a new, easy-to-use platform and freshly constructed, expanding content.
- Hosted every other year, the Student Video Contest showcased 118 videos from all 20 regions of the state, attracting more than 63,000 views.
- This year the Committee heard reports on the XG Project, the XG Summit in January, and the creation of XG board development, a five-session whole-board learning experience that strengthens essential perspectives, builds governance capacity, and equips boards to act confidently with a focus on improving student outcomes.

Committee Members

Karen Freeman (Chair)
Ann Calahan (Vice-Chair)

Sylvia P. Atkinson
Rose Avalos
Bob Covey
Debbie Gillespie
Linda Gooch
John Green
Dan Micciche
Robert Westbrook
Cindy Purdy (ESC representative, voting *ex officio*)
Charles R. Stafford (voting *ex officio*)
Teresa Flores (nonvoting *ex officio*)
James B. Crow (nonvoting *ex officio*)

Planning and Development Committee

Oversees efforts to strategically position the Association for the future.

Major Work 2016–17

- **Strategic Plan**

The Committee monitored progress on TASB’s 2016–20 Strategic Plan. The plan is a rolling five-year plan that provides overarching goals for the Association and guidance to TASB staff as they develop and update their divisions’ five-year business plans.

- **Organization Scorecard**

The Committee reviewed the results of TASB’s Organization Scorecard. The scorecard, which is divided into four quadrants and is based upon a balanced scorecard methodology, is used to assist the TASB Board and staff in measuring and assessing TASB’s annual overall performance. In 2016 TASB met 12 of its 14 scorecard targets.

- **Organizational Values**

The Committee reviewed preliminary ideas for updating TASB’s Organizational Values, which are included in the Association’s Strategic Plan. The current values and value statements were adopted in 2005. The Committee will continue work in 2017–18.

- **Member Survey**

The Committee reviewed the results of the annual TASB Member Survey. In addition to informing TASB about its members and their attitudes toward the Association, certain survey results are used as measures in TASB’s Organization Scorecard.

- **Additional Planning and Development Committee Topics**

- Former TASB President and current NSBA Director Viola Garcia reported throughout the year to the Committee on NSBA activities and federal education initiatives.
- The Committee reviewed information pertaining to the Texas Classroom Connectivity “EducationSuperHighway” initiative and opportunities to increase broadband to support digital learning in the classroom.
- The Committee received notice of bylaws changes to the Risk Management Fund and approved waivers of notification for the Benefits Cooperative regarding various bylaws changes.
- The Committee reviewed the results of the TASB Board Self-Evaluation. Annually the TASB Board conducts a self-assessment of its performance to ensure improvements are continually being made to the TASB governance process.

Committee Members

Teresa Flores (Chair)

Lee Lentz-Edwards
(Vice-Chair)

Ted Beard

Bret Begert

Ann Calahan

Charles Cunningham

James de Garavilla

Karen Freeman

Christene Moss

Vernagene Mott

Jim Rice

Armando Rodriguez

Cindy Spanel

Charles R. Stafford (voting
ex officio)

James B. Crow (nonvoting
ex officio)

Appendix E

PROGRESS REPORT: 2016–18 TASB Advocacy Agenda Reflecting new laws passed in the 85th Regular Legislative Session

TASB Advocacy Priorities	Status
<p>1. TASB advocates for a transformational, top-to-bottom reform of the school finance system by developing a simplified and sustainable plan that provides for resources that promote educational excellence for all Texas students.</p>	<p>The Legislature failed to pass meaningful school finance reform. HB 21, which would have begun the process of reforming the system, did not pass after the Senate attached a voucher program for children with special needs to the bill.</p>
<p>2. TASB supports a sustainable, equitable school finance system that provides substantially equal access to similar revenue per student at similar tax effort, adjusting for disparate property values throughout Texas.</p>	<p>The Legislature failed to make the school finance system more equitable. In fact, school finance will increasingly rely on local property taxpayers, throwing into doubt its long-term sustainability.</p>
<p>3. TASB advocates for additional support, to include adjustment of weights and allotments, for educationally disadvantaged students, English language learners, and other students at risk of dropping out.</p>	<p>The Legislature failed to address the issue of providing more support for educationally disadvantaged students, English language learners, and other students at risk of dropping out. HB 21 did include an additional weight for students with dyslexia and increased the existing weight for English language learners.</p> <p>HB 1886 requires ESCs to retain dyslexia specialists and TEA to provide training to support schools in educating children with dyslexia.</p>
<p>4. TASB advocates for an updated transportation funding formula to address the current and increasing costs of transportation and maintaining vehicles to increase student safety.</p>	<p>The Legislature passed SB 195 to provide transportation funding to additional students within a two-mile radius of a school. However, HB 21, which did not pass, eliminated transportation funding ostensibly in lieu of a higher basic allotment.</p>
<p>5. TASB advocates for a study of and funding formula change for the true cost of educating a child to postsecondary readiness that takes into account the geographic, demographic, and size diseconomies of scale among Texas school districts.</p>	<p>The Legislature did not call for a study of the true cost of education but did pass a law calling for a commission to study school finance reform.</p> <p>TEA Budget Rider 73 (Public Education State Funding Transparency) calls for TEA to study state aid provided through the Foundation School Program for school districts per student in average daily attendance and per student in weighted average daily attendance to compare state aid with the rate of inflation and other factors impacting school district costs.</p>

<p>6. TASB advocates for the increase of the guaranteed yield for the Existing Debt Allotment and Instructional Facilities Allotment programs and an increase in per-student funding for the New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA).</p>	<p>HB 1081 increases the maximum NIFA allotment from \$250 to \$1,000 for each student in average daily attendance at an eligible facility. The practical NIFA allotment rate will be determined by the amount appropriated for this program.</p>
<p>7. TASB advocates for an assessment and accountability system that values student growth and achievement over standardized, high-stakes testing. The system should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus on measuring and rewarding student growth rather than punitive sanctions; ● Reduce the emphasis on high-stakes tests, especially for grades 3–8; ● Be developmentally appropriate; ● Reduce testing redundancy; ● Provide a fair and understandable system for illustrating school performance that does not rely on simple labels such as A through F 	<p>HB 22 makes several tweaks to the state accountability system to include a reduction in accountability domains from five to three, a lowering in the overall weight of state exams to near 50 percent of ratings, and allowing for local accountability plans for eligible schools. The bill does not significantly change the A–F rating system.</p> <p>HB 657 limits the retesting of students receiving special education services who fail state exams.</p> <p>HB 2130 calls for a study on the impact of state exams on students receiving special education services.</p>
<p>8. Given the transition to the Every Student Succeeds Act, TASB advocates for increased opportunities for school districts to implement local initiatives, such as Districts of Innovation (DOI), and prevention of measures that reduce or remove governance of districts from locally elected school boards.</p>	<p>Aside from an amendment to SB 1566 mandating the posting of DOI plans, no bills passed that limited the flexibility of Districts of Innovation.</p>
<p>9. TASB advocates for increased state support of or flexibility in selecting active and retired teacher healthcare programs.</p>	<p>HB 3976 increases state, district, and retiree contributions to healthcare plans. SB 1 includes funds to address the TRS-Care shortfall.</p>
<p>10. TASB advocates for innovations in school district taxing authority that allow school boards more flexibility to raise and lower taxes within a voter-approved limit.</p>	<p>The House passed HB 486, allowing tax authorization elections. The Senate Education Committee passed the bill out of committee, but the bill did not pass.</p>
<p>11. TASB advocates for a comprehensive evaluation of the costs and related benefits of potential legislation that identifies the total cost burden on local taxpayers and state funding to fully support mandates.</p>	<p>TEA Budget Rider 73 (Public Education State Funding Transparency) calls for TEA to study state aid provided through the Foundation School Program for school districts per student in average daily attendance and per student in weighted average daily attendance to compare state aid with the rate of inflation and other factors impacting school district costs.</p>

<p>12. TASB advocates for strict adherence to the Texas Constitution’s mandate for a system of public free schools, which precludes the funneling of public tax dollars to private institutions or individuals by means of vouchers, tax credits, education savings accounts, and/or any other mechanism.</p>	<p>Vouchers, in the form of education savings accounts, were passed by the Texas Senate but were soundly rebuffed by the Texas House by a 2-to-1 margin. No voucher legislation passed.</p>
<p>TASB Advocacy Resolutions</p>	
<p>1. TASB supports the creation of the official state definition and tracking of long-term English language learners.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>2. TASB supports granting local districts flexibility in determining which bilingual/English language learner program structures are best for each individual student as long as the program is evidence-based.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>3. TASB supports that the Texas Education Agency recognize that a student’s poor attendance be added as an additional at-risk factor.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>4. TASB supports additional funding to develop and expand support systems for districts to implement a multi-tiered behavioral framework for improving behavioral outcomes for all students.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>5. TASB supports congressional reauthorization and full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.</p>	<p>The National School Boards Association (NSBA) adopted the TASB Resolution. No congressional action has occurred.</p>
<p>6. TASB supports state policies and funding to support campus-based mental and behavioral health services for students.</p>	<p>HB 4056 and SB 179 call for state agencies to provide school personnel with information regarding programs and supports designed to improve students’ mental and behavioral health.</p>
<p>7. TASB supports legislation to encourage collaboration between school districts and local workforce commissions to create a mobile app for graduates to find employment.</p>	<p>SB 2105 requires the Texas Workforce Commission to provide certain employment information to TEA.</p>

<p>8. TASB supports funding to support local district purchases of online filters to protect students from pornographic sites, funding for districts to provide digital safety and citizenship curriculum regarding online safety and social media, and requiring all pornographic sites to register with a .xxx domain.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>9. TASB supports state programs and funding to attract people to the Texas teaching profession.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>10. TASB supports an increase in the number of teachers certified to teach dual-credit courses in Texas.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>11. TASB supports an optional sheltered endorsement for teachers educating secondary English language learners.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>12. TASB supports a sunset review of bilingual teacher certification requirements.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>13. TASB supports permanent replacement of the current federal Windfall Elimination Provision with a fair formula.</p>	<p>NSBA adopted the TASB Resolution. HCR 101 (85th Session) passed the House. No congressional action has occurred.</p>
<p>14. TASB supports a public school finance system with an updated cost of education index.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>15. TASB supports funding to eliminate the financial consequences for districts that are scheduled to lose Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>16. TASB supports the elimination of the small district adjustment (SDA) penalty for districts under 300 square miles and recommends the SDA be made uniform at .0004.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>17. TASB supports funding for education service centers that is sufficient to avoid program reductions and cost increases to districts that use their services.</p>	<p>SB 1, the state budget bill, contains continued funding for education service centers.</p>
<p>18. TASB supports a requirement for excess proceeds to the Economic Stabilization Fund to be dedicated to public education.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>

19. TASB supports state funding for full-day prekindergarten.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
20. TASB supports legislation that provides for funding of prekindergarten facilities.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
21. TASB supports enhanced funding for the high-quality prekindergarten grant program.	SB 1 dedicates a portion of appropriated prekindergarten funds for districts to implement high-quality standards.
22. TASB supports additional resources and flexibility to assist districts in successful implementation of House Bill 5 (83rd Session).	SB 826 allows students to take math and English courses out of sequence to accommodate different graduation paths created by HB 5.
23. TASB supports additional transportation funding for intradistrict schools of choice.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
24. TASB supports additional funding for middle school career and technical education (CTE).	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
25. TASB supports legislation that adequately funds the Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) to ensure districts are able to meet increasing costs and adequately fund required materials adoptions, including instructional technology. Legislation also should be explored that would serve to tie funding under IMA to the state board proclamations that are issued. Finally, the statute governing IMA should be revised to include an element of permanency as the current language leaves funding to the whim of each legislative session.	SB 1 includes \$1.1 billion for IMA and technology purposes.
26. TASB supports a study on the use of local property taxes to fund public education and its effects on educational quality and on Texas taxpayers.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
27. TASB supports the return of revenues generated through annual property growth back to local school districts while ensuring that all students have access to quality public schools.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
28. TASB supports changing legislative fiscal notes to include all public funds instead of stopping at the state budget.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.

<p>29. TASB supports a fair accountability system that provides parents with accurate information about school quality and recognizes the diversity of the state.</p>	<p>HB 22 makes several tweaks to the state accountability system to include a reduction in accountability domains from five to three, a lowering of the overall weight of state exams to near 50 percent of ratings, and allowing for local accountability plans for eligible schools.</p>
<p>30. TASB supports a reduction in the number of STAAR tests by providing exemptions to annual testing requirements in mathematics and reading in grades 3–8 for students who have demonstrated prior mastery.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>31. TASB supports transition to a Texas Community School model as a campus turnaround plan option available to the commissioner under Subchapter E, Chapter 39, Texas Education Code.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>32. TASB supports the availability of state assessments in Spanish through secondary for recent immigrant students.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>33. TASB supports the elimination of state assessments unaffiliated with federal requirements.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>34. TASB supports legislation that provides a state assessment system for special education students that measures progress and growth instead of meeting a grade-level passing standard.</p>	<p>HB 657 allows a student’s admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee to meet before a student in special education is administered a state exam for a second time to determine whether that student has made sufficient progress to enter the next grade without having to retake the state exam.</p>
<p>35. TASB supports limits to the scope and breadth of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>
<p>36. TASB supports flexibility in assessing student eligibility/readiness for dual-credit coursework.</p>	<p>HB 1638 requires the state to develop goals for dual-credit programs that would allow districts and colleges flexibility to create a memorandum of understanding for a dual-credit program that addresses those goals.</p>
<p>37. TASB supports permitting a student’s individualized education program (IEP) team to determine the level of participation in statewide assessments.</p>	<p>HB 657 allows a student’s ARD committee to meet before a student in special education is administered a state exam for a second time to determine whether that student has made sufficient progress to enter the next grade without having to retake the state exam.</p>
<p>38. TASB supports study of the relationship and discrepancies between the Texas Success Initiative and end-of-course/STAAR testing.</p>	<p>No legislation passed regarding this issue.</p>

39. TASB supports the removal of the sunset provision in Senate Bill 149 (84th Session).	SB 463 does not eliminate the sunset provision for individual graduation committees but does extend the sunset date to September 1, 2019.
40. TASB supports responsible parameters to expansion of virtual education, including fiscal impact on districts and exclusion of campus and district accountability for student performance.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
41. TASB supports replacing state and federally required end-of-course assessments with the ACT and/or SAT.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
42. TASB supports the modification of the proposed district accountability system for the purpose of including a larger percentage of community-based measures.	HB 22 makes several tweaks to the state accountability system to include a reduction in accountability domains from five to three, a lowering of the overall weight of state exams to near 50 percent of ratings, and allowing for local accountability plans for eligible schools.
43. TASB supports legislation that leaves decisions about school consolidation to local boards of trustees.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
44. TASB supports legislation that returns full control over calendars to local boards.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
45. TASB opposes the requirement under Texas Education Code Section 11.1542 that requires a district, before offering a facility for sale or lease to any other specific entity, to offer it first to an open-enrollment charter school.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
46. TASB supports legislation to authorize school bus stop arm cameras to be placed on school buses and managed by local law enforcement agencies.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
47. TASB supports legislation and rulemaking that ensures that the greatly expanded local control provided for in the Every Student Succeeds Act is transferred to local education agencies and locally elected boards rather than simply transferring to state agencies.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
48. TASB supports criminal background checks for school board candidates to confirm candidate qualifications and to support the disqualification standard of a candidate who has been convicted of a felony.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.

49. TASB supports legislation that would allow school districts to utilize low-bid purchasing for goods.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
50. TASB supports legislation that would allow school districts utilizing solar systems to use batteries to store power.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
51. TASB supports removing “annually” from Texas Education Code Section 25.036 and allowing local education agencies to develop guidelines for termination or revocation of such transfers at any time, whether such request is by a receiving district or the parent/guardian.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
52. TASB supports modification or elimination of the 50-cent debt test.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
53. TASB supports legislation that holds open-enrollment charter schools to the same transparency standards to which traditional public schools are held.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
54. TASB supports legislative and regulatory oversight of charter schools to ensure they adopt true open-enrollment practices, provide academic and other required services to economically disadvantaged students and those with special needs, and comply with student disciplinary elements of Texas Education Code Chapter 37.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
55. TASB supports legislation that prevents the use of the Permanent School Fund to back charter school bonds with a low underlying rating.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.
56. TASB supports legislation that requires politically active organizations to disclose their donors.	No legislation passed regarding this issue.

Appendix F

Many voices, a common good, a consistent message...

These three ideas are the foundation upon which the Texas Association of School Boards builds and executes its **Advocacy Agenda**, a two-year action plan focusing the efforts of the TASB Board of Directors, Association staff, and the more than 1,000 boards that compose TASB.

Two developmental paths come together with the adoption of the Advocacy Agenda by the TASB Delegate Assembly for the legislative biennium:

- Development of the 2016–18 **Advocacy Priorities** began in January 2016 with regional Grassroots Meetings involving hundreds of board members throughout the state. Participants formulated regional priorities and elected representatives to the Legislative Advisory Council. The Council met in Austin and San Antonio to meld these agendas into specific, statewide Advocacy Priorities for which the Association will pledge resources and energy. These priority statements were considered by the TASB Legislative Committee (which includes four voting *ex officio* members elected by the Council), the TASB Board of Directors, and the 2016 Delegate Assembly—which ultimately adopted the current Advocacy Agenda.

This year marks the second year of the biennial TASB Advocacy Agenda. The adopted Priorities will remain in effect until the end of the 2018 Delegate Assembly. The proposed changes to the current Advocacy Priorities may be found on pages 22 and 23.

Serving on the Legislative Advisory Council (LAC) for the 2016–18 legislative biennium are:

**Indicates LAC member elected to serve on the TASB Legislative Committee for the 2016–18 biennium*

Region 1

Jessica Cantu—Raymondville ISD
Caty Garcia—Brownsville ISD
Jesus Martinez—Laredo ISD
Sam Saldivar—McAllen ISD
Miguel Salinas—Lasara ISD
Michael Vargas—San Benito CISD*
Jesus Vela—Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD
Yolanda Cuellar—South Texas ISD (Alt)

Region 2

Tony Diaz—Corpus Christi ISD
Liz Gutierrez—West Oso ISD
Pedro Rodriguez—Taft ISD
Yvette Saenz—Agua Dulce ISD
Eric Ramos—Brooks County ISD (Alt)

Region 3

Michael DiSanto—Victoria ISD
Will Johnson—Karnes City ISD
Tami Keeling—Victoria ISD
Glenn Mueller—Nordheim ISD

Region 4

Chris Bell—Spring ISD
Hal Biery—Texas City ISD
Don Davis—Spring ISD
Justine Durant—Spring ISD

Kim Janke—Needville ISD
Page Rander—Clear Creek ISD
James Steenbergen—Lamar CISD
Kristin Tassin—Fort Bend ISD
Tiffany Wennerstrom—Alvin ISD
Steven Dennis—Channelview ISD (Alt)

Region 5

Paul Bingham—Spurger ISD
Ruth Hancock—West Orange-Cove CISD
Rebecca Rutledge—Bridge City ISD
Kenny Willis—Deweyville ISD
Van “Bo” Henley—Orangefield ISD (Alt)
Marlene Courmier—Little Cypress-
Mauriceville CISD (Alt)

Region 6

Joe Gonzales—Somerville ISD
Creg Mixon—New Caney ISD
Sam Moak—Huntsville ISD
David Stasny—Bryan ISD
Audrey Young—Apple Springs ISD

Region 7

Jay Nelson—Hallsville ISD
Pamela Raney—Overton ISD
Tony Raymond—Sabine ISD
Thomas Stewart—Neches ISD

Karen Wright—Spring Hill ISD
Chris Mack—Longview ISD (Alt)
Helen Warwick—Marshall ISD (Alt)

Region 8

Thomas Darden—Cooper ISD
Jason Hudson—Cumby ISD
Rhonda Jones—Jefferson ISD
John Kelso—Greenville ISD
Tony Aguilar—Cumby ISD (Alt)

Region 9

Blake Jurecek—Holliday ISD
Susan Robertson—City View ISD

Region 10

Bobby Amick—McKinney ISD
Michael Anderson—Royse City ISD
Charles Axe—Garland ISD
Justin Bono—Richardson ISD
Tracy Fisher—Coppell ISD*
Barbara Green—Forney ISD
John Hawkins—Red Oak ISD
Nancy Humphrey—Plano ISD
Jimmy Trotter—Allen ISD
Elaine Whitlock—Mesquite ISD
John Hoxie—Frisco ISD (Alt)
Robert Selders Jr.—Garland ISD (Alt)

Region 11

Corinne French—Valley View ISD-Cooke County
Ruthie Keyes—Keller ISD
Karen Marcucci—Mansfield ISD
Kecia Mays—Arlington ISD
Cole Gilliam Parks—Stephenville ISD
Mia Price—Denton ISD
Ryan Ray—Crowley ISD
William Seybold—Castleberry ISD
Becky St. John—Grapevine-Colleyville ISD*
Kristi Hassett—Lewisville ISD (Alt)
Donna Hutson—Lake Worth ISD (Alt)

Region 12

Harry Byrd—Copperas Cove ISD
Larry “Doc” Hawthorne—Hubbard ISD-Hill County
Jennine Jarolik—Troy ISD
Sue Jordan—Belton ISD
Karen Morgan—Rogers ISD

Region 13

Rebecca Birch—Del Valle ISD
Ken Bovio—Jarrell ISD
Brittany Cheateam—Granger ISD
Julie Cowan—Austin ISD
Edward Navarette—Florence ISD
Willie Tenorio—Hays CISD
Beth Walterscheidt—Elgin ISD
Carol Fletcher—Pflugerville ISD (Alt)
Amy Freund—Comal ISD (Alt)

Region 14

Ronnie Anderson—Snyder ISD
Jim Drake—Snyder ISD
Brenda Madore—Ranger ISD
Joel Torres—Haskell CISD
Sarah Jamison—Snyder ISD (Alt)

Region 15

Jennifer Hewitt—Veribest ISD
Michael McClure—Paint Rock ISD
Ami Mizell—Flint—San Angelo ISD
Michael Riley—Ballinger ISD
Gerard Gallegos—San Angelo ISD (Alt)

Region 16

Scott Flow—Amarillo ISD
Joe Garcia—Highland Park ISD-Potter County
Stacey Johnson—River Road ISD
Kay Thompson—Miami ISD
Glenn Perky—River Road ISD (Alt)

Region 17

Donna Arnold—Crosbyton CISD
Connie Maxwell—Olton ISD
Sonya Raney—Lamesa ISD
Tony Serbantez—Brownfield ISD
Karen Davidson—Sundown ISD (Alt)
Tania Moody—Levelland ISD (Alt)

Region 18

Daniel Eaton—Marathon ISD
Lorina Lujan—Kermit ISD
Mary McCallister—Alpine ISD
Charles Simpson—Andrews ISD
Rebecca Campbell Burns—Grady ISD (Alt)
Paul Uranga—Culberson County-
Allamoore ISD (Alt)

Region 19

Marlene Bullard—Tornillo ISD
Susie Byrd—El Paso ISD
Mary Jones—Anthony ISD
Cynthia Najera—Socorro ISD*
Mike Rosales—Ysleta ISD
Laure Searls—Canutillo ISD (Alt)

Region 20

Florinda Bernal—Southwest ISD
Kenneth Bouldin—Southside ISD
Amy Driesbach—Schertz-Cibolo-
Universal City ISD
Arnoldo Salinas—Judson ISD
Eric Smith—Natalia ISD
Lynn Thompson—Alamo Heights ISD
Sandra Waldrum—Pearsall ISD
Rochelle Camacho—Pearsall ISD (Alt)

- **Advocacy Resolutions** guide TASB's response to issues that may arise before the Legislature and various regulatory authorities during the biennium. Advocacy Resolutions follow a different pathway to adoption by the Delegate Assembly. Each spring, TASB invites individual member boards to propose resolutions for the Advocacy Agenda. Submissions received in accordance with TASB Bylaws are studied by the TASB Resolutions Committee and the TASB Board. The TASB Board votes on whether to recommend adoption of each new Advocacy Resolution. All proposed resolutions are then referred to the Delegate Assembly. The resulting recommendations appear on pages 24–32. If adopted by a majority vote of Delegates, an Advocacy Resolution will be added to the 2016–18 Advocacy Agenda. Resolutions that duplicate current Cornerstone Principles, Priorities, or Resolutions will not be presented for consideration at the Delegate Assembly.

The 20 member school boards that proposed resolutions represent:

Allen ISD	Del Valle ISD	North East ISD
Austin ISD	Denton ISD	Presidio ISD
Brownsville ISD	El Paso ISD	Rockwall ISD
Canutillo ISD	Greenville ISD	Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD
Clarksville ISD	Highland Park ISD–Potter County	
Cotulla ISD	Huffman ISD	
Crosby ISD	Killeen ISD	
Crowley ISD	Lockhart ISD	

The Association is deeply indebted to all those involved in the development of the Advocacy Agenda:

- Local board members participating in the 2016 Grassroots Meetings
- Local board members representing their regions on the Legislative Advisory Council (LAC)
- The four LAC members serving on the TASB Legislative Committee
- Local boards taking the initiative to formulate and propose Advocacy Resolutions

Development represents only part of the challenge.

The Advocacy Agenda guides TASB staff in representing to the Legislature and regulatory agencies the Priorities and Resolutions of Texas school boards as adopted by the Delegate Assembly. TASB staff will pursue legislation to fulfill the Priorities and, when legislative and regulatory deliberation permits, will express positions defined by Resolutions approved by the Assembly.

Activities in Austin may be important, but there is no power like—or substitute for—board members interacting with their elected representatives at the federal and state levels to advocate their districts' interests. One poll shows that communication from constituents (particularly face-to-face contact and insightful, thoughtful letters) and opinions expressed in the local media are the top two influences on how a legislator votes. Individual trustees fulfill their role by joining TASB's School Board Advocacy Network (SBAN), encouraging local community involvement in support of legislation favorable to public schools, establishing networks of community leaders in support of public schools, and eliciting the commitment of lawmakers in promoting key legislation.

Further information about SBAN and your role in fulfilling TASB's Advocacy Agenda may be found at gr.tasb.org/sban. In addition, you may contact TASB Governmental Relations at 800.580.4885.

Appendix G

Financial Report

In accordance with Article X, Section 14, of the Bylaws, the financial statements of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) for the fiscal year 2016 were audited by Moss Adams LLP, Certified Public Accountants, Dallas, Texas. The final report was reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee and approved by the TASB Board of Directors on December 3, 2016. The complete report, including notes to the financial statements, is on file at TASB Headquarters in Austin, and copies are available on request.

TASB Fiscal Year 2016

Statement of Financial Position

As of August 31, 2016

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,014,259
Investments.....	28,912,121
Accounts receivable, net	3,328,260
Accounts receivable from related organizations	32,756
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,655,552
Fixed assets, net.....	<u>23,472,252</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u>63,415,200</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts payable	\$ 2,172,339
Accrued liabilities.....	4,988,001
Deferred revenue	3,244,222
Capital lease obligations	12,933
Mortgage payable	<u>10,003,224</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>20,420,719</u>
Board designated net assets	14,293,346
Undesignated net assets	<u>28,701,135</u>
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>42,994,481</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ <u>63,415,200</u>

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended August 31, 2016

Unrestricted Revenue

TASB membership fees	\$ 3,881,763
Risk Management Services	26,078,491
First Public	4,403,380
Business Services	14,149,603
Governance Services	12,265,862
Communications	155,862
Organization and Planning Services	650,922
Sponsorships and royalties	2,801,763
Other	<u>488,346</u>
Total Unrestricted Revenue	<u>64,875,992</u>

Expenses

Employee compensation and benefits	45,656,361
Purchased and contract services	7,729,697
Supplies and materials	1,234,951
Other operating	6,614,791
Depreciation and amortization	<u>2,723,459</u>
Total Expenses	<u>63,959,259</u>

Change in Unrestricted Net Assets Excluding Investment Income	916,733
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Investment income, net	<u>1,689,375</u>
------------------------------	------------------

Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	2,606,108
--	------------------

Unrestricted Net Assets, Beginning of Period	<u>40,388,373</u>
---	--------------------------

Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Period	\$ <u>42,994,481</u>
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This form must be submitted to staff at the Bylaws/Advocacy Agenda Information Center at the rear of the floor prior to the Call to Order of the Assembly.

Appendix H – Action Form

1. Pull for Individual Consideration (so that the item may be discussed and acted upon individually):

(a) Bylaws Proposal Number _____ (b) Priorities Proposal Line numbers _____

(c) Resolution Number _____ recommended for adoption

Requested by _____
District Delegate/Alternate (Print) Region

Please use a separate form for each item pulled from group consideration. If you submit an amendment for this item, there is no need to also pull the item because amendments will be considered individually.

2. Amend Bylaws or Priorities

(a) _____ Amend Bylaws Proposal Number _____ /Line numbers _____

(b) _____ Amend a Proposed Change to the Priorities/Line numbers _____

Write your proposed amendment below.

Submitted by _____
District Delegate/Alternate (Print) Region

Second by _____
District Delegate/Alternate (Print) Region

3. Resolutions

(a) _____ Amend Resolution Number _____ that is recommended for adoption

(b) _____ Move for Adoption of Resolution Number _____ that is **not recommended for adoption***

(c) _____ Amend Resolution Number _____ that is **not recommended for adoption****

If amending, write your proposed amendment below.

Submitted by _____
District Delegate/Alternate (Print) Region

Second by _____
District Delegate/Alternate (Print) Region

**When the Chair calls the Resolution for consideration, the Delegate submitting the motion via this Action Form shall rise and address his or her motion to adopt the Resolution as printed in the Handbook.*

***Before any amendment of a Resolution formerly **not recommended for adoption** can be considered by the Delegate Assembly, a Delegate other than the Delegate submitting the amendment shall move to adopt the Resolution as described in item 3(b) of this Form.*



• **SAVE THE DATE** •

2018 Delegate Assembly • September 29, 2018

Be the voice of Texas public schools.



Texas Association of School Boards
P.O. Box 400 • Austin, Texas 78767-0400
512.467.0222 • 800.580.8272
tasb.org

