

NEW BOARD MEMBER LAUNCH AGENDA

JANUARY 14, 2021

8–8:15 a.m.

Welcome

8:15–9 a.m.

Catching the Wave: Cycles of Board Work

Although everything in your first year may seem new, you'll notice over your term that much of your board work comes in cycles. This session will introduce those cycles and offer tips for engaging regardless of where in the cycle you jump in.

9–9:15 a.m.

Break

9:15–10 a.m.

School Boards Make a Difference: Evidence-Based Approach to Fulfilling a Moral Imperative

You joined your board to make a difference. This session will discuss what research on school governance suggests you can do to have the greatest impact on students in your community.

*Choice of
Breakout
Sessions*

.....

Election Detox

Board service is a great irony. You are elected as an individual, but you must now serve as part of a team. How do you transition quickly from a campaign mindset to a governance mindset? Successfully making this shift can make a tremendous difference in your overall effectiveness as a trustee and as a governance team.

.....

Public Information Act

By policy, most districts delegate Public Information Act (PIA) duties to the superintendent or other staff. Still, you'll want to know how the PIA works as you are accessing and creating public records in the performance of your board duties. This session provides an introduction to the Act and what it means for you as a trustee. This presentation does not qualify for the PIA training requirement in Texas Government Code section 552.012. (But don't worry, your board probably delegated the training obligation to the superintendent in Policy BBD(LOCAL).)

10–10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15–11 a.m.

Whose Job Is It Anyway? Roles and Responsibilities

The board and superintendent comprise the governance team. Understanding how these different but complementary roles contribute to the progress of the district is essential.

11 a.m.–noon

Leading in a Crisis Panel

It is an unprecedented time to lead a school district. Thank you for your willingness to raise your hand for service during these strange times. Hear from a panel of experienced trustees about how they have led during COVID-19 and other crises.

*Choice of
Breakout
Sessions*

What I Wish I Knew Then Panel

Hear from a panel of experienced trustees as they reflect on their years of service and share lessons they wish they had learned sooner in their board service.

Texas Open Meetings Act

Designed for new board members, this session is your chance to learn and ask questions about the Texas Open Meetings Act (OMA). A TASB Legal Services attorney covers OMA requirements relevant to school boards, including posting notices, conducting open meetings, and holding closed meetings. This presentation has been approved by the Texas Attorney General and satisfies the OMA training requirement found in Texas Government Code section 551.005. **NOTE: An interactive online version of this session is included in your event registration if you prefer to complete the required OMA training for new board members that way.**

Noon–1 p.m.

Lunch Break

1–2 p.m.

The Educational Ecosystem in Texas

As a new trustee, you have joined the ranks of one part of the system governing Texas public schools. Learn where local trustees fit into the educational ecosystem in Texas and how you can amplify your local school board service by advocating at the state level.

2–2:30 p.m.

Break

2:30–3:30 p.m.

Local Networking

Get to know other new trustees in your area in these breakout sessions led by TASB Directors or other regional leaders.

3:45–4:30 p.m.

Mindfulness from the Classroom to the Boardroom

Mindfulness practices help people focus during times of stress. In these unusually stressful times, districts continue to incorporate mindfulness for students and staff alike. This fun, interactive session will help you learn the benefits and how to model mindfulness in your own life and in the boardroom.

POST-EVENT RESOURCES IN THE ONLINE LEARNING CENTER (OLC)

- **Virtual Event Recordings**
- **Texas Open Meetings Act (required of new trustees)**
- **Child Abuse Prevention (required of new trustees)**
- **Top Ten Series: Short courses providing foundational information about key topics**

Top Ten Things to Know About:

- ◆ Vision and Goal Setting
- ◆ Budgeting and Local Finance
- ◆ State Finance
- ◆ Human Resources
- ◆ Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- ◆ Progress and Accountability
- ◆ Advocacy and Engagement
- ◆ Team Dynamics
- ◆ Policy
- ◆ School Law
- ◆ Special Education
- ◆ School Safety
- ◆ College, Career, and Military Readiness
- ◆ Getting Things Done