

Leadership Team Times

March 2018

On the Road Again: Soaring to Success...Literally!

By Orin Moore, Board Consultant

At the start of a goal-setting session with Karnes City ISD (KCISD), I asked the board to share some highlights since my last visit with them. Highlights? How about an update on the aviation program at KCISD? Literally speaking, a highlight probably doesn't get any higher than an aviation program. Oh the puns to be made about an aviation program! I will be using several here, so prepare for takeoff.

I'm not sure how I managed to miss learning about the KCISD Aviation Program during my first visit to the district, perhaps the program was flying under the radar. But, since the success and resourcefulness of our public schools should never fly under the radar, I reached out to KCISD's David Purser for more details.

David Purser is KCISD's secondary science teacher, and he teaches physics and aviation. In David's words, the leadership team at KCISD has made this venture "overwhelmingly possible." While leadership may set the course and make resources available, frontline personnel are critical to any education endeavor. David and other KCISD employees worked with students during their lunch break to pilot the aviation program in its infancy. Squeezing in an aviation course during a lunch break is a perfect example of the resourcefulness and sacrificial nature of public school personnel. An even better example would be the time David and other employees, like the curriculum director, spent unpacking the Physics TEKS to ensure alignment with the aviation course.

The launch of this program has certainly been a community effort. The Karnes City ISD Education Foundation (one of the members happens to be a pilot) made the purchase of flight simulators possible. Meanwhile, board members support and promote the program throughout the community. Other community members and even the international Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) have done their fair share of work to get this program off the ground by making field trips and curriculum available and by networking with other aviators to provide some amazing experiences for students.

The career implications and the opportunity to collaborate with the community, other school districts, and universities align with the board's vision of providing KCISD students opportunities to fulfill their potential. I really appreciated David's final thoughts on the matter as I felt it captured the relentless effort of educators to make school engaging while preparing kids for the future. David expressed that this program not only prepares students with skills to take advantage of the need for workers in the aviation industry, but it also helps kids engage in those STEM subjects that historically tend to be more daunting and challenging. I want to thank the KCISD community for reminding us that the sky truly is the limit when we seek creative ways to give our kids the best future.

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Training, Events, & Reminders

Spring Workshops:

March 26—Wichita Falls
Region 9 ESC

March 28—Kingsville
Texas A&M University—
Kingsville

April 17—Lubbock
Region 17 ESC

April 19—Stephenville
Tarleton State University

April 25—Houston
Region 4 ESC

May 2—El Paso
Region 19 ESC

May 8—Alpine
Sul Ross State University

May 10—Uvalde
Uvalde ISD

May 15—Commerce
Texas A&M University—
Commerce

May 15—Nacogdoches
Stephen F. Austin State
University

May 16—Victoria
Victoria College Conference
& Education Center

May 16—Canyon
West Texas A&M University

May 17—Abilene
Region 14 ESC

May 18–19—South Padre
South Padre Island
Convention Center

May 22—Waco
Region 12 ESC

May 23—Huntsville
Region 6 ESC

Online Learning Center (OLC): Log in with your myTASB credentials and training credits will be added to your CEC report within 15 minutes. Courses are available 24/7 at onlinelearning.tasb.org.



Newly Required SB 1566 Training

Newly required SB 1566 training is now available through TASB. Contact LTS@tasb.org for more information.

Spring Workshops: Training Close to Home

TASB is hitting the road for 2018 Spring Workshops! These trainings are a wonderful way to take advantage of a whole board learning opportunity. Research indicates that team performance improves when boards learn as a whole team. Spring Workshops are informative, easy on the travel budget, and help keep trustees nearer to the responsibilities they have at home.

We'd love to meet your whole team at one of the workshops, so check out the listing to find the workshop closest to your district, and visit LTS.tasb.org for more details.

Election Focused, Policy Update 110 Hitting Districts Now

By Abby Chalmers, Policy Consultant

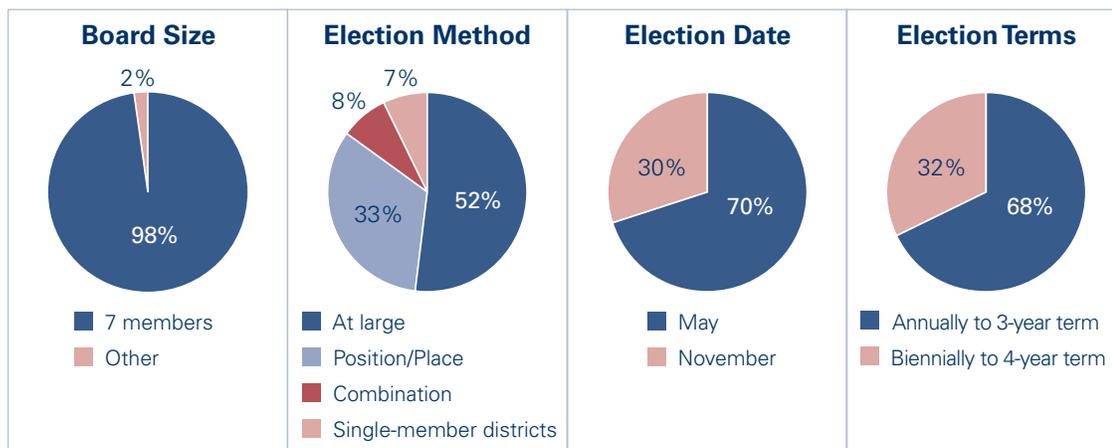
On the heels of the mammoth policy Update 109, superintendents and board members alike can look forward to the much smaller Update 110 arriving in districts now.

Update 110 focuses on updating and reorganizing several policies in the BB series of the policy manual addressing board member eligibility and qualifications, elections, and vacancies and removal from office. The policy on elections has been divided into several codes for ease of use, and district choices about election processes are now located in BBB (LOCAL) rather than in the LEGAL policies, which is consistent with the structure of the other policies in the manual.

Legal policies addressing bond elections and political advertising (CCA and CPAB respectively) were affected by changes from the 85th legislative session, but were not included in Update 109. Changes to these two policies are instead addressed as part of the Update 110 elections review.

In preparation for this Update, TASB sent a survey to all school districts to gather information regarding local election practices. Individual district responses are reflected in the BBB (LOCAL) policy included in Update 110, but below is a breakdown of school board elections across the state.

School Board Elections



Data is based on initial survey responses from 1,020 districts, prior to final confirmations and policy revisions.

Timely Resources

These TASB resources may be especially useful this time of year:

- The Board's Role in Improving Student Achievement
- Guide for School Board Candidates

Go to LTS.tasb.org for a complete list of resources.

Contact Us

Leadership Team Times is produced by the TASB Leadership Team Services (LTS) Division. For more information about LTS and its training opportunities and services, plus an electronic version of this newsletter, go to LTS.tasb.org. Contact Orin Moore at orin.moore@tasb.org with questions or comments.

Did You Know?

The annual Winter Governance and Legal Seminar turned 21 this year! The first two seminars were held at South Shore Harbour Hotel and Conference Center in League City. The conference moved to Corpus Christi in 1999 and was held there until 2017. The Winter Governance Seminar had a sister conference, Summer Governance Seminar was held in July and moved between the cities of Fort Worth, Arlington, and Austin until the early 2000s. It morphed into the second Summer Leadership Institute held in Fort Worth.