

Leadership Team Times

April 2018

It's SLI Time!

Start making plans for the 2018 Summer Leadership Institute (SLI), June 14–16 in San Antonio and June 28–30 in Fort Worth. Housing opens Wednesday, April 4, and registration begins Wednesday, April 25. The registration brochure was mailed to all districts at the end of February.

In addition to the traditional breakout sessions and focused board officer and new board member offerings, this year we have scheduled an all-day equity workshop, two BIG SLIdea sessions, several sessions dubbed as the "author series," as well as some fun and engaging activities during the breaks. Senate Bill 1566 training will also be provided at no charge to SLI attendees before, during, and after SLI. For non-SLI attendees, the cost is \$50 to attend the Wednesday evening or Saturday afternoon SB1566 training, which includes a meal and all materials. We're looking forward to seeing you in June!



2018 Spring Workshops Under Way

The first Spring Workshops kicked off just weeks ago. It's full speed ahead from now until the last one in May. Don't forget to learn when workshops are coming to your area. Spring Workshops are a fantastic way to get necessary training taken care of, and the sessions are all selected based on what board members in your area have determined is most relevant and helpful. As always, we're excited about coming to see you all in your respective regions. We love learning with you.



Don't Forget to Plan Local Orientation

New board members must receive a local orientation within 60 days of taking office (19 TAC §61.1). The orientation must be at least three hours long and address local district practices in curriculum and instruction; business and finance operations; district operations; superintendent evaluations; and board member roles and responsibilities. This is the legal requirement—there's much more to it.

A comprehensive orientation makes a huge difference for an incoming trustee by guiding him or her in the new role and providing valuable tools and resources for becoming a productive member of the team and serving the community effectively. If you have new board members coming on, now is a great time to plan their orientation to help ensure a smooth transition. Ask your superintendent how and when local orientation is usually conducted, and let him or her know if there are specific topics you would like to have included in the session. And of course, help the "newbies" along as they come on board after May elections. Find "Post-Election Resources" and other helpful information at LTS.tasb.org.

Training, Events, & Reminders

Spring Workshops:

Lubbock, April 17
Stephenville, April 19
Houston, April 25
El Paso, May 2
Alpine, May 8
Uvalde, May 10
Commerce, May 15
Nacogdoches, May 15
Victoria, May 16
Canyon, May 16
Abilene, May 17
South Padre, May 18–19
Waco, May 22
Huntsville, May 23

Online Learning Center (OLC):

Courses available 24/7 at onlinelearning.tasb.org.

Did You Know?

Leadership TASB program started in 1992 and now has over 900 graduates! It's inspiring to hear how Texas trustees engage in professional development and advocacy opportunities beyond their required duty as trustees. Applications for the 2018–19 class will be accepted May 1 through July 1. Visit LTS.tasb.org/LTASB to apply.

continued >



Administrative Professional's Day: Say Thank You!

Administrative Professional's Day is April 25 and serves as a perfect time for you to thank your superintendent's secretary for the important role that he or she plays in helping you be an effective board member, and for the difference that individual makes in your life. TASB's Conference for Administrative Professionals, held twice a year at TASB offices, is our way of recognizing their efforts, getting to know them a little better, and supporting them as they support you. We appreciate all they do for us, and we know you do, too! Don't forget to share that appreciation with them—especially on April 25.



On the Road Again

By Kay Douglas, Board Consultant

In March, our whole Leadership Team Services division was on the road experiencing a number of firsts. It was our annual Winter Governance and Legal Seminar, but it was very different than it has ever been. First, after seventeen years of being held in Corpus Christi, we moved it to a new venue in Galveston. Both our veteran attendees and our first timers found the Galveston Convention Center to be a very pleasant and accommodating location. We received a warm welcome from the city, beginning with the mayor, who just happens to be a former school board member.



Second, we rolled out our new training on Governance for Improved Student Achievement to satisfy the requirement of Senate Bill 1566. In three-hour sessions before and after the conference, we trained almost 100 board members on what their board can do to provide oversight and strategic leadership for maximum student achievement. Board beliefs and actions can have a profound effect on how well we prepare students for post-secondary life. Future sessions will be presented in-district, online, and at our future conferences like SLI.

Finally, in addition to repeating our successful Student Voices panel discussion, we invited students to present sessions and lend their voices to other sessions. The conversations generated in those sessions were rich and thought provoking. In our concluding Take-Away Talks, many of the participants spoke about wanting to include more student voices in their own districts. With a successful road trip to Galveston in our rear view mirror, we look forward to seeing and hearing what districts are doing with the lessons learned.

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.