

Leadership Team Times

June 2018

Leadership TASB—36 People, 5 Destinations, 1 Mission—Part Two

By Bill Rutherford, Board Consultant

In the May issue of *Leadership Team Times*, we focused on the **36 people** who participate in Leadership TASB each year. As the series continues, attention this month is given to the last two axioms—**5 destinations with 1 mission**.

LTASB is a 10-month commitment—yes, time is a critical consideration as one thinks about applying. During the LTASB class year, the class travels to **5 destinations**, and each is selected for the unique learning opportunity it offers. A partial listing of a few recent destinations include:

- West ISD—visited only months after the horrific 2013 fertilizer plant explosion
- Driscoll ISD—a hidden jewel in South Texas where student success is a reality despite considerable student disadvantages
- Tornillo ISD—the far West Texas cousin to Driscoll ISD, sitting on the international boundary between the US and Mexico
- Uvalde CISD—home to the longest active federal desegregation lawsuit
- Boys Ranch ISD—a unique district and residential setting for boys and girls
- Texas City ISD—a district that absorbed its rival La Marque ISD under a TEA-mandated annexation
- Galveston ISD—a vibrant district operating under the constant threat of another hurricane
- Frisco ISD—a district challenged with unprecedented increases in student enrollment

Along the learning journey through **5 destinations**, the class participants maintain a laser focus on three questions:

1. How do aspects of the challenges of this destination mirror mine?
2. What can I learn?
3. How will what I learn from this destination make me a better board member?

Since Leadership TASB's inception in 1993 and along each journey, the **1 mission** has remained steadfast—**making a difference for Texas public schoolchildren**. Leadership TASB provides an opportunity to learn and grow in a way that will better yourself, your board, and your district, ultimately benefiting the schoolchildren. During your time in the program, you will see how the mission is woven into everything we do, always in the forefront of our minds.

If you want to join this unique leadership program of **36 people, 5 destinations, 1 mission**, you are not too late! Request an application at leadershiptasb@tasb.org and don't forget to inquire about scholarships. The deadline for applying is July 1, so act now.



Training, Events, & Reminders

Summer Leadership Institute (SLI):

San Antonio, June 14–16
Fort Worth, June 28–30

SB 1566 Training:

TASB offers three options:

1. In-district training
2. SLI San Antonio & Fort Worth
3. TASB Online Learning Center

For more information e-mail LTS@tasb.org or call **800.580.8272, extension 2452**.

Did You Know?

TASA/TASB Convention registration opens June 19. Join us this year in Austin, September 28–30. Visit tasa.tasb.org for more information about this year's Convention and details on how to register, and follow [@tasatlasb](https://twitter.com/tasatlasb) on Twitter to stay up-to-date on the latest news and announcements.

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Don't Miss Out on Learning at SLI!

Don't forget that Summer Leadership Institute is this month. While online registration may be closed, you can still register on site at either of our locations. As a reminder, SLI will be in San Antonio June 14–16 and in Fort Worth June 28–30. For more information about all of this year's amazing offerings, visit tasb.org/sli.

There will also be an opportunity to watch some sessions via a Facebook livestream in Fort Worth on Thursday and Friday, so if you are hoping to be a part of SLI, tune in at facebook.com/tasbpage. For more information, visit tasb.org/sli.



Fun, but Focused

By Kay Douglas, Senior Board Consultant

Who says getting required training can't be fun? Sheryl Moore, superintendent of Sealy ISD, proved that it can. In order to complete the newly required Senate Bill 1566 training on Strategic Leadership and Oversight for Improved Student Achievement, she invited us to come to her district. Instead of just having us present to her leadership team, she invited three other area districts to join us; so, Brazos ISD, Bellville ISD, and Royal ISD were in attendance as well. In her opening remarks, the superintendent commended everyone for not only learning together but for presenting a united front for public education.

That was the backdrop for the training that my colleague David Koempel and I presented that evening. The training is designed to be highly interactive, and it generated great conversation among the participants. We discussed the research regarding what school boards can do to impact student achievement and took a closer look at the present and the future of the state accountability system.

Finally, we looked at setting student outcome goals and the need to stay engaged with the goals by monitoring progress. Participants took a short assessment and were encouraged to take our free online XG Board Self-Assessment of their current practices and in turn received the 28-page color report to use as a starting point. From there, boards can determine what specific actions they can incorporate to enhance their oversight and strategic leadership.

During the discussion, our host reminded us that the Texas Education Agency is supposed to provide dashboards to help districts with monitoring. Indeed, the same legislation that mandated the training says that "on request by the board of trustees of an independent school district, the agency shall create an Internet website that members of the board may use to review campus and district academic achievement data."

When it comes to SB 1566, please know that we are committed to assisting your district with governance for improved student achievement. Contact Leadership Team Services at LTS@tasb.org or **800.580.8272, ext. 2452** to let us know how we can help.

Timely Resources

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

- Developing Superintendent Performance Goals
- The Board's Role in Improving Student Achievement

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.