

# Leadership Team Times

April 2017

## Bucket List: Leadership TASB

Since its inception in 1993, Leadership TASB (LTASB) has been recognized as TASB's premier leadership program. With more than 700 graduates, LTASB is an issue-awareness/study program for leaders currently serving on Texas public school boards.

Applications for the 2017–18 class will be accepted May 1–July 1. Request an application at [leadershiptasb@tasb.org](mailto:leadershiptasb@tasb.org) or call **800.580.8272, extension 2452**. Scholarships for both tuition and travel may be requested on the application, so don't let fears of cost or economic uncertainty dissuade the leader inside. More details can be found at [LTS.tasb.org](http://LTS.tasb.org).



## Now Is the Time 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. It guides them in their new role and provides 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 board, now is a great time to plan their orientation. 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](http://LTS.tasb.org).

## Thank You!

Administrative Professional's Day (formerly known as Secretary's Day) falls on April 26 and serves as a perfect time for you to thank your superintendent's secretary for all that he or she does for your team, and for the difference that individual makes in your life. TASB's Conference for Administrative Professionals, held twice a year at TASB headquarters, is our way of recognizing their efforts and getting to



## Training, Events, & Reminders

**Summer Leadership Institute (SLI):** June 15–17, San Antonio; June 22–24 Fort Worth; Registration opens April 24. Complete details at [LTS.tasb.org](http://LTS.tasb.org).

### Spring Workshops:

- Abilene, May 11
- Alpine, May 9
- Canyon, May 17
- Commerce, May 16
- El Paso, April 13
- Houston, April 26
- Huntsville, May 24
- Kingsville, April 5
- Lubbock, April 18
- Nacogdoches, May 16
- South Padre, May 19–20
- Stephenville, April 27
- Uvalde, May 11
- Victoria, May 17
- Waco, May 23
- Wichita Falls, April 3

**TASA/TASB Convention:** October 6–8, Dallas

**TASB's Online Learning Center:** Courses available 24/7 at [onlinelearning.tasb.org](http://onlinelearning.tasb.org).

## Did You Know?

The Post-Legislative Conference held in conjunction with SLI satisfies the Tier One “Update” training requirement. Complete details at [LTS.tasb.org](http://LTS.tasb.org).

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know them a little better. We appreciate all they do for us, and we're sure you do, too! Don't forget to tell them—especially on April 26.

## Student Voices speak volumes

At last month's Winter Governance and Legal Seminar (WGLS), the program included 12 breakout sessions with student presenters. The presenters ranged from 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, including some recent graduates. A big thank you goes to students from Aledo, Alief, Bayview, Beeville, Grand Prairie, Houston, Kingsville, Knippa, Lasera, Lyford, Mineola, and Quanah ISDs for their participation. We received rave reviews about these sessions and plan to continue them.

Special recognition also goes to Rafiki Niyibizi, Del Valle ISD; Aracely Lopez, Lytle ISD; Naomi Alyafei, Northside ISD; and Kathryn Horton, Quanah ISD, for their participation in Friday's *Student Voices* panel. The four students applied and were selected to serve as panelists and share personal stories about their experiences in Texas public schools. Walsh Gallegos partners with TASB to provide \$1,000 scholarships to each of the students.



## On the Road Again

*By Kay Douglas, LTS senior consultant*

The last week of April is designated Administrative Professionals Week, with Wednesday as Administrative Professionals Day. If you're like most of us, you're scrambling to decide what would be appropriate recognition for the person who is the glue that holds the rest of us together. Well, at TASB, we don't wait until that day or that week to applaud your miracle-workers.

Twice a year TASB hosts a Conference for Administrative Professionals, once in the fall and again in the spring. This two-day conference provides intensive training and networking opportunities for administrative support personnel at the district level. This year, the conference also included an early-bird session the day before titled "Legal Basics for Administrative Professionals."

Although many of our participants come year after year, we also provide training specifically designed for new administrative staff. We arrange great hotels for them, feed them delicious food, and give them training on important aspects of their jobs. Maybe most importantly, we give them a chance to network with others who do the same thing they do in districts across the state. They get a chance to compare notes and form friendships with folks they can call when they have a question.

This year, the training included information on how to customize meeting agendas with BoardBook and how to plan and run effective meetings. They also learned the "ins and outs" of elections and got answers to their policy and legal questions. At the conclusion of each conference, I asked them to think about what they had learned, how that would affect their lives, and what they would do differently as a result. As always, they were anxious to get back home to put into practice all that they had learned to help their districts, superintendents, and boards work better.

We are convinced that as we all learn, work, and grow together, we will continue to do amazing things for Texas schoolchildren. Don't forget to thank your administrative professionals for all they do!

## Timely Resources

In anticipation of upcoming elections, these publications may be especially useful this time of year:

- New Board Member "Leadership to GO" Package
- Board Presidents "Leadership to GO" Package

Go to **LTS.tasb.org** for a complete list of resources. Order these publications at **store.tasb.org** or call **800.580.8272, extension 1068**.

## 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 Lisa Carothers at **lisa.carothers@tasb.org** with questions or comments.