

Leadership Team Times

March 2017

SLI Submission Deadline Extended

The annual Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) is the flagship training conference for TASB. Scheduled for June 15–17 in San Antonio and June 22–24 in Fort Worth, SLI is designed to meet the needs of school board members, school district personnel, and education service center board members. If you would like to present a breakout session at this year's conference, there's still time to submit an application. Go to LTS.tasb.org for details or e-mail kathy.dundee@tasb.org.



TASA/TASB Convention—Call for Presentations

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) and Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) are now accepting applications for the 2017 TASA/TASB Convention. We are seeking interactive sessions in the following categories:

- Board-Superintendent Partnerships
- Instructional Programs
- Community Engagement
- Digital Integration/Technology Applications
- Facilities and Design
- Governance and Oversight
- Leadership Development
- Legal
- Legislative
- Transformational Leaders

Because we receive so many outstanding submissions each year, we've established new guidelines for the process this year to ensure we get the "best of the best" to showcase at Convention. Get more information at tasa.tasb.org.



Superintendent of the Year

Since 1984, the Superintendent of the Year (SOTY) award program has honored outstanding administrators' achievement and excellence in public school administration. These school leaders exhibit exemplary and visionary leadership toward improving student performance. They are chosen for their strong leadership skills; dedication to improving the quality of education in their districts; and commitment to public support and involvement in education.

If you are submitting a nomination for SOTY this year, you need to send the entry form and other required materials to your district's education service center by May 15. TASB appreciates your district's participation in this program. Visit tasb.org/soty to access the entry form and get more information.

Training, Events, & Reminders

Webinar: Preparing to Serve: A Webinar for School Board Candidates, March 9. Registration and more information at LTS.tasb.org/candidates.

Summer Leadership Institute (SLI): June 15–17, San Antonio; June 22–24 Fort Worth; Housing opens April 4, registration opens in early April. Details at 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.

continued >



Texans for Strong Public Schools

Texans for Strong Public Schools is dedicated to educating Texas lawmakers on the importance of protecting the valuable role public schools play in not only educating students, but in supporting our neighborhoods and local communities. We believe public education should be the highest priority of the Texas Legislature. Get involved and learn more at texansforstrongpublicschools.org.

Paying it Forward

Earlier this month, a couple walked into Pflugerville ISD's Rowe Elementary School and offered to write a check to pay off all students' lunch balances. They had seen a story on the local news about someone who paid off student lunch balances and wanted to do the same for the Pflugerville campus of 960 students.

Maybe this random act of kindness will trigger other people to pay it forward as well. Have you seen similar acts of kindness in your community? Send your stories of good news to lisa.carothers@tasb.org.

On the Road Again

By Orin Moore, Leadership Team Services Consultant

A much anticipated visit to Huckabay ISD came to pass early this year. The leadership team at the district took advantage of a Transition Workshop as part of the TASB Executive Search Services package. Huckabay ISD welcomed a new superintendent, Troy Roberts, in August.

There are so many exciting currents swirling around any newly formed superintendent-trustee team. An entire community welcomes a new superintendent into the family and adopts that leader's family in as their own. Simultaneously, a new leader gains a new governance team, who will become co-laborers in fulfilling the district's mission. These currents are certainly creating positive swirls for Huckabay.

Huckabay ISD is doing an excellent job in capitalizing on the advantages of a district that serves approximately 300 students. When I asked how the district responds to a student who requires extra support, trustees informed me that teachers at Huckabay make a deliberate effort to connect personally with that student's family. When a trustee can confidently tell an "outsider" what the district is doing to improve student performance and to support its struggling students, that's a trustee who is appropriately informed and engaged.

As we learn more about the work that trustees can do to impact student performance, we observe positive correlations between student performance and trustees who are broadly aware of the measures district management is taking to achieve a collaboratively determined set of academic goals.

You don't have to take my word for it. Huckabay makes its own case with six academic distinctions earned last year and a bronze medal in *U.S. News and World Report's 2016 Best High Schools* national rankings. Roberts and the board are in the process of shifting their focus to "the next level" of academic performance. Let's wish this new team the best as they work hard to maximize the opportunities for all students in their district through exceptional governance.

Timely Resources

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

- Developing Superintendent Performance Goals
- Guide for School Board Candidates

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.

Did You Know?

Housing for Summer Leadership Institute opens on Tuesday, April 4, so mark your calendars now! Complete details are available at LTS.tasb.org.