GOVERNANCE CAMP
POWERED BY STUDENT VOICE
February 26–29, 2020
GALVESTON CONVENTION CENTER
GALVESTON, TEXAS
KICKING OFF GOVERNANCE CAMP!

Move over Winter Governance Seminar, it’s time for Governance Camp! Don’t worry—you won’t need to pitch a tent on the beaches of Galveston, and bug spray and sunscreen won’t be necessary. You’ll still be enjoying the wonderful amenities of the Galveston Convention Center and surrounding hotels along with the fantastic content focused on student voice, leadership, and governance you’ve come to expect from this annual conference. The idea of Camp is that you will grow as a leader, leaving here refreshed and ready to head home with new ideas and tools, looking forward to coming back again next year to see the familiar faces of trustees from around the state you connected with during your time here.

In a nutshell, there are a number of things that make Camp a one-of-a-kind learning experience for attendees:

- **Beautiful venue:** Ocean views in an easy-to-navigate setting make for a stress-free learning experience.
- **Smaller crowds:** A more intimate setting is perfect for making friends with board members from across the state.
- **Face time with experts:** Opportunities to mix and mingle with session presenters and TASB staff.
- **Student Voice:** Texas students share their educational experiences, opinions, and ideas to help guide your work as a trustee.

### AGENDA

**Wednesday, February 26**
- Preconference Registration 1–2 p.m.
- Preconference Session 2–5 p.m.
- Regiception 4:30–6 p.m.

**Thursday, February 27**
- Breakfast 7–8 a.m.
- General Session 8–9:15 a.m.
- Breakout 9:30–10:45 a.m.
- Breakout 11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
- Lunch 12:15–1 p.m.
- Breakout 1:15–2:30 p.m.
- Breakout 2:45–4 p.m.
- Reception 4–5 p.m.

**Friday, February 28**
- Breakfast 7:30–8:30 a.m.
- General Session 8:30–9:15 a.m.
- Breakout 9:30–10:30 a.m.
- Students Inspired 10:30–11:15 a.m.
- Breakout 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
- Lunch 12:15–1 p.m.
- Breakout 1:15–2:15 p.m.
- Students Inspired 2:15–3 p.m.
- General Session 3–4 p.m.

**Saturday, February 29**
- Breakfast by the Bay 7:30–8:30 a.m.
- SB 1566 Training (required biennially) 8:30–11:30 a.m.

### STUDENT ATTENDEES

Districts can send up to 10 high school students and two chaperones on Friday, February 28, FREE of charge. For more information and guidelines for attendance, email kathy.dundee@tasb.org.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27
MERLYNA VALENTINE
EDUCATOR, SPEAKER

Merlyna Mathieu Valentine’s heart beats with passion for living a purposeful life. As an educator for the past 30 years, she has dedicated her life to making a difference in the lives of others. Merlyna received a BS in Elementary Education and an EdM in Educational Leadership and is a member of numerous professional organizations.

“MERLYNA IS AN INSPIRATION! A LIVING EXAMPLE OF INTERNAL STRENGTH AND DETERMINATION.”
—Ted Beard
Longview ISD, TASB First Vice-President

She has been a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and executive director of elementary schools for a high-performing school district and has been recognized with numerous awards and commendations, such as Teacher of the Year, Principal of the Year, and Louisiana Regional Principal of the Year. Merlyna has been featured in several articles and news stories at the local and national level, including an article by the world-famous author and educator Dr. Harry K. Wong. In honor of her story of survival, courage, and hope, she was featured in a segment on the Today Show and in an article in Ebony magazine.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
JUSTIN FORSETT
NFL PRO-BOWLER, ENTREPRENEUR, PERSEVERANCE EXPERT

Justin Forsett has a genuine desire to positively impact others with his message of perseverance through life’s disappointments. His witty and down-to-earth personality engages audiences from corporate environments to youth groups as he shares his inspirational journey of hope, focus, determination, and the importance of legacy.

A native of Mulberry, Florida, Justin moved with his family to Texas in his junior year of high school. He played collegiately at the University of California-Berkeley, where he ranked third in school history with 3,220 rushing yards and fourth with 26 touchdowns.

In his career, Justin has rushed for 3,890 yards on 820 carries with 19 touchdowns. He played in nine games for the Jaguars in 2013 before an injury forced him to miss the remainder of the season. He spent parts of four seasons (2008–11) with Seattle and the 2012 season with the Texans. No matter the challenge, he never gave up.

“JUSTIN FORSETT’S STORY IS UNIVERSAL. BELIEF IN ONESelf, KNOWING ONESelf AND PERSEVERANCE ARE KEYS TO OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES AND HURDLES THAT LIFE THROWS AT YOU.”
—Jim de Garavilla,
Silsbee ISD, TASB Immediate Past President
NEW!
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 26
PRECONFERENCE
(INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION FEE)

COULD YOU LAST A MONTH IN POVERTY?
Walk a mile in the shoes of your students in this unique, interactive poverty simulation that enables you to live for a “month” in poverty. Based on the recommendation of TASB staff who participated in the workshop, the session promises to be impactful and will include group discussion about the challenges your students and their families face and how that can factor into your board’s work.

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 28
9TH ANNUAL STUDENT PANEL AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
Always the highlight of the conference, come meet and listen to the recipients of the statewide Student Voice scholarships as they share their educational experiences. This is a great opportunity to hear directly from Texas public school students, and you will no doubt be inspired and encouraged by these young minds.

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 29
POSTCONFERENCE
(INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION FEE*)

SB 1566 TRAINING (REQUIRED BIENNALLY)
Senate Bill 1566 highlights the specific responsibility of school boards to provide oversight and strategic leadership regarding student academic achievement. This in-depth session enables trustees to embrace this essential board function with tools to understand available student performance data and what it means for student learning, set meaningful goals around student achievement, and make monitoring progress a central part of the board’s work.

*If you want to attend SB 1566 only, the cost is $75 and includes breakfast and materials. Parking at the Convention Center is free.

NOW ACCEPTING CONFERENCE PROPOSALS
If your board has something interesting to share or your district pioneers innovative programs, we want to hear about your success! Go to tasb.org/gov-camp for more information. Submissions are due November 22.

“Our students and board members had an amazing experience while representing Florence ISD at the governance conference in Galveston last year. The opportunity for our students to share some of the great things they are doing, as well as see and hear what others are doing, was a powerful learning experience.”

—PAUL MICHALEWICZ, SUPERINTENDENT, FLORENCE ISD
Research shows that dropout rates, student achievement, and workforce readiness will improve as a result of increased integration of student voice in the classroom and community.

Student congresses and student-led education reform movements are popping up all over the country as students actively work to influence positive change in their education experience.

In 2011, a Student Voice panel was added to the program and soon became one of the highlights of the conference. Attendees had the opportunity to hear directly from students about their experiences in Texas public schools.

2017 saw the expansion of Student Voice as a major focus of the program through the addition of sessions presented or copresented about initiatives, projects, and other activities students are doing to promote improved learning and showcase their educational experiences.

In increasing the presence of Student Voice, board members are able to hear from today’s students so they can better understand the students’ wants and needs when making important decisions.

We are pleased to continue Student Voice at our conference again this year with the following:

**STUDENT VOICE SESSIONS**

We are actively seeking sessions for Friday, February 28, presented or copresented by students. Each session is one hour in length. Students can focus on:

- Student-led initiatives that have transformed their school
- Projects that have had an impact on school culture and climate
- Technology development and findings
- And more!

**Submissions are due Friday, December 6.**

Depending on travel distance, hotel costs may be picked up by TASB. Students are invited to join attendees for breakfast and lunch Friday.

**STUDENT VOICE PANEL AND SCHOLARSHIP**

Currently enrolled high school seniors are invited to participate on the Student Voice panel to receive a $1,000 scholarship, plus a travel stipend for their participation in addition to the scholarship monies. **The application deadline is 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 15, 2020.**

**ALL SUBMISSION FORMS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE STUDENT VOICE LINK AT TASB.ORG/GOV-CAMP.**
Online registration begins **Monday, January 27, and closes Friday, February 14.** After February 14, attendees may register on site at the conference.

**Before you register online,** be sure to access the complete list of session offerings posted online to determine which sessions you will submit with your registration. **Registrations will not be processed without sessions selected.**

After reviewing session offerings, complete the session selection form and return it to your superintendent or designee so that he or she may complete your registration.

To speed up the process and to ensure accuracy, register through myTASB Event Registration, which automatically populates individual and district information from the TASB membership database.

**If you need to register on site, complete the on-site registration form before coming to the conference** to help speed up the process once you arrive.

To find either the session selection packet or on-site registration form, go to [tasb.org/gov-camp](http://tasb.org/gov-camp).

**REGISTRATION FEE OPTIONS**

Pick the schedule that works best for you—pay one fee!

We know your time is valuable. With the input of school board members and superintendents, we revised our schedule to offer additional learning opportunities, including the required SB 1566 training.

All-inclusive registration fee:

- **$395** – Wednesday afternoon through Saturday morning, which includes:
  - In-depth sessions for new and experienced board members and board officers
  - Required SB 1566 training on Saturday*
  - Breakfast Thursday–Saturday
  - Lunch Thursday and Friday
  - Refreshment breaks Wednesday–Saturday
  - Program materials
  - Up to 16.75 hours of continuing education credit

*If you’re not attending Governance Camp and would like to attend just the SB 1566 training, you may do so for a fee of $75.

**STUDENT ENTERTAINMENT**

Come play for us!

If you are interested, email kathy.dundee@tasb.org. Groups will be chosen based on size, space/AV needs, variety of performance type, etc. TASB will provide snacks and small honoraria to the district performers.
**HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION**

Housing opens Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 9 a.m. CT. TASB has reserved a block of rooms at several hotels near the Galveston Convention Center, ranging in price from $110 to $180 per night. View hotel options and reservation procedures at tasb.org/gov-camp. Housing closes on Friday, January 24, 2020 at 5 p.m. CT.

Note: Unlike previous years, there is a smaller window of time for making hotel reservations. Please let your district administrator know as soon as possible whether you plan to attend!

**QUESTIONS?**

Visit tasb.org/gov-camp for details, or contact TASB at 800.580.8272.
- Housing—email mandy.begley@tasb.org
- Registration—email registrar@tasb.org
- Additional questions—email kathy.dundee@tasb.org

**SPECIAL NEEDS?**

Would you like us to address any special needs? If so, let us know by February 16, to allow time to make needed arrangements. Call us at 800.580.8272, extension 2461, or send an email to mandy.begley@tasb.org.

“By incorporating student voice, TASB has made the question, ‘What can we do for you?’ the start of a two-way conversation. We have much to learn from each other.”

—DOUG WUNNEBURGER, TRUSTEE, BRYAN ISD
“I attended Winter Governance for the first time in 2019. I truly enjoyed the smaller conference setting, which provided plenty of time for networking with other trustees. I loved the articulate, passionate student voices as both the exhibitors and presenters. I learned so much about school climate and student issues from their perspectives. Changing Winter Governance to Governance Camp is so appropriate. The smaller, more intimate conference is energizing, engaging, and exciting.”

–Barbara Burns, Trustee, Denton ISD