



SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2019

San Antonio • June 13–15, 2019 • Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Fort Worth • June 20–22, 2019 • Omni

Sessions at SLI are primarily for school board members, and most topics are appropriate for ALL audience types and experience levels unless noted for newly elected school trustees in their first year of service.

The following topic notations have been added at the end of each descriptor to provide attendees with a quick glimpse of the session's focus. Also noted are which sessions will be presented by TASB staff.

-  District Culture
-  Engagement and Advocacy
-  Fiscal Responsibility
-  Policy and Legal
-  Student Achievement
-  Visionary Team
-  TASB Staff Presentation

Fort Worth

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

Breakfast will automatically be added to each agenda.
7–8 a.m.

General Session will automatically be added to each agenda.
8–9:15 a.m.

All-Day Session: New Board Members
9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

TASB ISD: An In-Depth Overview of the Role of a School Board Member

Join other newly elected trustees in learning how school board members can support student achievement in their districts. We'll cover the essentials you need to succeed in your first year, including:

- Data-driven research on how to support student achievement
- Legal requirements and ethical components unique to school board service
- An overview of HR and finance rules — and how they differ from the private sector
- The latest on critical education policy and advocacy issues

Developing into a knowledgeable and skilled trustee takes time. TASB ISD lays a valuable foundation for your future and continued learning, and you'll leave the session with plenty of tips and resources to assist you in your service.  

— OR —

Breakout Session: Board Officers

9:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Legal and Governance Answers to Common Questions About Board Officers

A TASB attorney and governance consultant will answer common questions about being a board officer, including officer duties, meetings, public participation, and closed sessions among others.

We'll address questions from workshop participants on a variety of topics. Participants are encouraged to take Board Officers Forum: Directing Your Focus as a Board Officer in the TASB Online Learning Center (onlinelearning.tasb.org) before taking this class. (*Board Officers' Academy*) 🏛️ ★

— OR —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Creating a Collaborative Culture

There are so many organizational technology tools and programs that are currently being used, and many of them are expensive. This session provides an opportunity to learn about three of the most valuable tools to keep your district communicating, collaborating and organized, all for free. 🧑‍🤝‍🧑

Developing a Mental Health/Intervention Program to Prevent School Violence

In this session, Anna ISD (Region 10 ESC; 3,259 ADA) will discuss the proper implementation of a mental health intervention program for their district. We will discuss the origin and process, and provide the schools with necessary information to start a program. The presenter will also outline training methods and outcomes of having a mental health intervention program. 🏛️

Serving and Protecting beyond the Uniform: The Edgewood ISD Approach

This session by Edgewood ISD (Region 20 ESC; 8,956 ADA) will examine how our community resource team services our community beyond the everyday policing. We take a different approach by supporting the social and emotional aspects and focusing on the whole child and family, extending that approach to the training our officers receive. Find out what resources we provide officers and how we get outside organizations to help in our vision and mission. 🌸

How On Earth Do I Read All This Data?

All those rows of numbers—what do they mean? This session will help you as a trustee better understand the data so you can create meaningful academic goals specific to the students' needs.

To get the most out of this session, attendees should bring a copy of their district TAPR to review or use a laptop to access your TAPR online. Join us to learn how to read assessment data so your board can create meaningful goals that impact your students. 🎓

My Way, Your Way, Right Way (*Mastermind Session*)

Do you avoid, accommodate, or collaborate? Improve your board culture by discovering your conflict management style. Participants will discover and discuss different styles of conflict engagement. This interactive session provides an opportunity for trustees to recognize and work with others who approach conflict differently. Join this Mastermind session to talk about conflict before we face it. 🌸

Book Study: *Strong Enough* (Advance reading and homework required.)

For the seventh consecutive year, we're featuring a group book study session during TASB's Summer Leadership Institute. For 2019, the book is *Strong Enough* by Anne Grady.

If you have ever felt stuck, overwhelmed, or at the end of your rope, you are not alone. Author Anne Grady knows what it is like to overcome unbelievable odds. In her latest book, she shatters preconceived notions of strength and shares a formula to help you cultivate courage and build resilience so that you can overcome any obstacle or setback. With thought-provoking assignments and self-assessments, Anne provides a tool kit to help you challenge the status quo and use adversity as a catalyst to help you grow *Strong Enough*. 🌀

Going Beyond the Requirements: Increasing College and Career Readiness

Find out how United ISD (Region 1 ESC; 40,321 ADA) gradually implemented a program of preparation for grades 3–12 to increase the number of college acceptances and scholarships for their students, seeing an average increase in SAT scores by 140 points and ACT scores by 3 points, and earning the Designated Postsecondary Readiness Distinction from TEA.

You'll have the opportunity to work together and reflect on how your district might use nine different grade opportunities to increase student achievement and school progress, close gaps, and dramatically increase English and math proficiency while raising test scores. 🏡

Elevate Learning with Ed-Spec-Driven School Design

Come learn how educational specifications define learning spaces, help contain costs, and provide a roadmap for success. Attendees will get a technical and practical understanding of ed specs, informed design, and the charrette process.

This session is led by an experienced school designer and an administrator who have recently been through the design and construction process. Their case study will be examined as well as an "ask the expert" large group discussion. *Session presented by sponsor Claycomb & Associates.* 🏡

Your Tweeting Rights: Balancing Trustees' Online Free Speech Rights with the Law

The legal rules of the road can seem unclear for school board members with a social media presence. This session is aimed at providing trustees with an overview of the legal parameters of their constitutional rights, as private citizens, and the limitations on those rights, as public officials.

Attendees will get an overview of recent court decisions on social media and public officials. We'll also provide trustees with legal guideposts for online issues ranging from political advocacy and open records laws to online critics and potential open meetings issues on social media. *Session presented by sponsors Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo and Kyle, P.C.* 🏠

Do School Facilities Impact Student Achievement?

As districts, are we providing the facilities necessary to increase the opportunity for our students to excel in academics? Are we using our educational facilities to their fullest potential to help our students reach theirs?

This session will explore best practices, innovation, and real-world examples from various districts of how school facilities can do more than you may think to help promote opportunity and close achievement gaps for Texas students. 🏡★

Recognizing, Responding, and Reporting: Strategies for Addressing Inappropriate Employee-to-Student Relationships

News reports of inappropriate employee-to-student relationships in US schools are increasing. The increasing reports of sexual misconduct in Texas may be attributed in part to stricter penalties, including fines and criminal sanctions on principals and superintendents who fail to report this improper behavior. This presentation will provide school districts with practical strategies for recognizing, responding to, and reporting inappropriate employee-to-student relationships. 🏠★

Breaking from Tradition: Changing Your District's Fiscal Year Start

New Diana ISD (Region 7 ESC; 1,042 ADA) is now entering its sixth year of a July 1 fiscal year start date, and while it may not be a good fit for every everyone, it has been a definite success story for our district.

Learn from our experience of how we weighed the pros and cons, hear about some of the advantages we have found since making the switch, and gain an awareness of what's possible. We'll discuss examples of what prompted our district to initiate this change and include some excersises for attendees to do together. \$

— AND —

Breakout Session: Board Officers

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Important Tools for Meeting Preparation

This session will introduce two important tools for meeting preparation: an agenda calendar and a customizable background information form for agenda items. We'll also provide you with tips for reviewing draft agendas. (*Board Officers' Academy*) ★

— OR —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

School Mental Health to Improve Academics, Attendance, and School Safety

This session will highlight a Central Texas school district's efforts and lessons learned in the process of fostering a comprehensive model of care to meet the needs of everyone in the school community.

Participants will learn about:

- The core values the district and its partnering mental health provider share
- How shared values lead to a successful implementation of school mental health programming
- Strategies for practical application of core values in the educational setting

Presenters will specifically focus on the importance of a school district commitment to Trauma Informed ideology, providing tips for how to promote a Trauma Informed mindset in schools.

Participants will also learn how this innovative mental health programming has created opportunities for dialogue with state legislators, focusing policy makers on prioritizing the promotion of school-based mental health innovation and access to care throughout the state. 🎓

Building a Stronger Governance Model Through Neighborhood Pláticas

Transparency is critical to building strong relationships among the board, superintendent, and community. In this session, presented by Edgewood ISD (Region 20 ESC; 8,956 ADA), we will show how district leadership can maintain open lines of communication with the community, keeping the focus on our district goals.

Participants will learn more about:

- Local governance
- Building transparency with internal and external stakeholders
- Community involvement
- Safety and security initiatives

Participants in this session will get an insider's view of how Edgewood ISD, a district that was selected to move from a local governance model to a state-initiated board of managers, has intentionally worked with local neighborhood members to begin discovering leadership potential in the district. 🗨️

Creating a Board Data Dashboard

Do you want more than STAAR data and TAPR data? Lewisville ISD (Region 11 ESC; 49,227 ADA) has spent more than three years creating a dashboard that reports on student achievement beyond STAAR. LISD's dashboard is used from the board room to the classroom.

Attendees will walk away with realistic next steps for creating a dashboard that meets the needs of their district. Learn from our mistakes and successes in this ongoing journey. 🎓

A Board's Role in Transforming the Organizational Culture: A Look at Professional Learning Organizations (Author Series)

How can school boards transform district culture? It takes a systemic approach led by the board working collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders to improve organizational culture and impact student achievement. Much attention has been given to the need for Professional Learning Communities while little attention has been given concerning the role of the board.

Presented by the author of *Equity from the Boardroom to the Classroom: Transforming Districts into Professional Learning Organizations*, this session focuses on how the school board can ensure the academic success of all students by using an organizational systemic approach to learning. *The book is for sale in the TASB Store. No pre-reading required.* 🌸

Detecting and Preventing Fraud in Your District

A current school board member from Kountze ISD (Region 5 ESC; 1,071 ADA) and certified fraud examiner will discuss with board members the areas in their district that are more susceptible to fraud. Learn from a fellow board member how to ask the right questions about whether controls are in place to prevent fraud. Examples will be shared in this interactive discussion. 🏛️

Protecting the Learning Environment by Restoring the Culture and Disrupting the School Suspension Pipeline

This workshop provides an overview of the impact of Restorative Practice and Cultural Responsiveness in an urban middle school in Texas.

The goals of the project were to:

- Improve school cultural climate and increase school safety
- Reduce suspension rates in order to protect students' class time
- Further improve academic performance.

The preliminary results of this ongoing and in-depth study revealed significant progress in decreasing time spent out of class due to suspension rates. We'll share an implementation guide and the strategic

processes that reveal both effective and ineffective practices when engaging in this type of work. Actual footage of student and staff community-building circles, video testimonials, and evidence-based practices will give participants an intimate look at this school's transformation. 

Who Will Follow Your Lead When You Step Down? Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (*Mastermind Session*)

You've served in various leadership capacities in your community. What made you take the first step? Did you have a mentor instill the idea of community leadership in you? When you step down, will there be someone in the community ready to take your place? We'll explore these questions of mentoring and succession, and the most powerful decision a leader can make: Knowing when to step aside and hand the reins to a new generation of leaders. 

The New and Improved Superintendent Evaluation Instrument and Process

This session will feature the new TASB-recommended superintendent evaluation instrument—what it is and how to use it.

From a three-pronged approach, the session will feature:

- TASB board development staff who created the instrument
- TASB Legal staff who offered legal guidance
- A school superintendent and board president who put it into action.  

Navigating the Noise

How many tough decisions do you make in a year? Each of those decisions is especially difficult, considering the expectations and suggestions of stakeholders from every angle.

In this revamped version of “pin the tail,” attendees will attempt to make sound decisions amid a sea of competing voices. You'll need to navigate the noise successfully in order to justify your decision in these scenarios.  

Employee Compensation and Teacher Pay Raise

This presentation covers your most pressing compensation questions, including:

- How to legally increase and decrease employee pay
- The board's role in compensation decisions
- Legislative changes impacting employee compensation

Join TASB Legal Services and TASB HR Services in this discussion of common issues related to employee compensation.  

The Transparent Superintendent

Communication and trust are important factors in making a great team. As the CEO of the district, this is especially important for the superintendent. Hear how Carthage ISD (Region 7 ESC; 2,493 ADA) uses technology and communication systems to increase transparency and teamwork between the superintendent, the board, and the community.

The Future of Learning with Apple

How do we help our students learn today and prepare them for a rapidly changing world? A driving force behind this change is technology. It affects the way we live, the way the world works, and the kind of skills needed to thrive. And technology presents a unique opportunity for a new approach to learning. Join Apple as we explore design principles that can help shape the future of education and learning, and what we're doing to help schools get there. *Session brought to you by event sponsor Apple.* 

Lunch will automatically be added to each agenda.
12:15–1:30 p.m.

In-Depth Session: Board Officers' Academy

1:30–4:30 p.m.

Practical Parliamentary Procedures

Become part of the action in this engaging session. You will step into a meeting as you learn how to appropriately use parliamentary procedures to turn your school board meetings into the efficient, civil, decision-making events you only dreamed were possible. A presiding officer and trustees don't need to know every detail of *Robert's Rules of Order* to manage meetings effectively.

This session reviews the basics of the rules that apply to boards, covers strategies for moving on when discussion bogs down, and tells you how to handle challenges to the process. A must for new board officers or anyone who hopes to be one someday. Be ready to get involved in this learning experience.

(Board Officers' Academy) ★

— OR —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

1:30–2:45 p.m.

We Deliver Excellence

Find out how Ysleta ISD (Region 19 ESC; 38,003 ADA) created a comprehensive Service Excellence culture to better serve the VIP4s (Very Individual Pupils, Personnel, Parents, and Partners) that make up the educational community of the district.

From branding to mantras and individualized support to every department and campus of the district, a team of Service Excellence Ambassadors reshaped an over-100-year-old district and made it better than ever before.

You'll leave with an understanding of:

- How your school leadership can successfully address the individual needs of those they serve without compromising safety, compliance, or matters related to public education
- How to create standards that specifically address current and relevant approaches to education
- How to participate in activities that exemplify the "walk the talk" experiences of two years of development and implementation of Service Excellence 🎓

College—Check! Career—Check! Life—Check! Our Students Are Ready for the Future!

In this open, discussion-style session, participants will explore and analyze their district's current college, career, and life-ready status. They will collaborate with each other along with the facilitators to determine how they keep parents informed of students' readiness for the future.

Participants will get an in-depth look at the unique process that Little Elm ISD (Region 11 ESC; 7,109 ADA) provides its students and parents, communicating progress toward college, career, and life readiness. 🎓

Building Community, Industry, and Multi-District Career and Technical Partnerships

Longview ISD's (Region 7 ESC; 7,930 ADA) East Texas Advanced Manufacturing Academy was formed in response to local needs, working with industry partners, four local school districts, two colleges, as well as the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation of Longview. Hear how all the partners came together to form an academy that will provide a pipeline of workers for the local economy in the future.

Creating Vigilant, Prepared, and Resilient Schools

Recent events emphasize the importance of a collaborative, all-hazard emergency management program in creating a safe and secure learning environment. We must acknowledge the risks and vulnerabilities that our students, schools, and communities encounter.

This workshop uses lessons learned and best practices to provide board members with a heightened sense of awareness of their roles and responsibilities in creating vigilant, prepared, and resilient schools. Attendees will explore evolving school safety roles and expectations for superintendents and board members and discuss the influential role that board members play in relationship to community collaboration and partnerships, which are vital for developing safe and secure learning environments  

Insights from Award-Winning Superintendents

Hear a panel of recognized Texas superintendents provide their insights about the work of leading a district, best practices to support student outcomes, working with the community to support schools, and partnering with the school board to set goals and succeed. 

Using a “Portrait of a Graduate” to Transform Your District

The most transformative districts in the country have engaged their larger community in developing a “Portrait of a Graduate,” a collective vision that articulates the community’s aspirations for all students. In many communities the school board has been a driving force behind this conversation. In this session, we will explore the role school boards played in the “Portrait of a Graduate” process. 

Timeless Learning: How Imagination, Observation and Zero-Based Thinking Change Schools – Author Series

Our homes, communities, and the world itself need the natural assets our children bring with them as learners, and which they often lose over time on the assembly line that pervades most of the public education system today. Join this facilitated discussion to hear how the authors used progressive design principles to inform pathways to disrupt traditions of education today and made innovations real that have had a timeless and meaningful impact on students, while keeping alive the natural curiosity and passion for learning with which children enter school. 

Can't We All Just Get Along? Creating Board Communication Practices That Work

Is your board’s culture of communication like oil and water? As explosive as gasoline and fire? Is the team perspective as clear as mud? How about a climate that is friendly but not functional; cordial but not cooperative or collaborative? This intense team building workshop session is designed to help you foster collaboration, cooperation, and deliver results.

Explore important concepts that:

- Improve communication and listening skills
- Reduce conflict
- Strengthen management effectiveness
- Combat stress
- Form better team relationships
- Boost morale
- Increase camaraderie

Additionally, explore how team members react to change, how both positive and negative change create challenges, and how you can predict and overcome interpersonal barriers to productivity, collaboration, cohesiveness, and true team functionality. 

HR Matters: Helping Boards Effectively Handle HR-Related Issues

In board meetings, trustees regularly consider issues that impact one of the district's greatest assets—its staff. With the help of experienced TASB HR Services consultants, participants will review real-world scenarios to identify how boards can effectively and compliantly handle a variety of issues, including:

- Implementing pay raises
- Terminating contract employees
- Addressing employee turnover
- Handling employee grievances
- Considering employee concerns  

Leveraging Technology to Close the Student Opportunity Gap

It's hard to imagine life now without technology! Join us for a look at how blended learning is transforming the classroom and improving student outcomes in both urban and rural school districts across Texas.

In this session, we will dive into the definitions of blended learning as a holistic approach to redesigning classrooms. Participants will be able to take back key lessons learned and strategies used to establish and scale blended learning from local districts.

Using HR Strategic Initiatives to Support District Improvements

HR plays a pivotal role in supporting district goals, but many districts struggle to balance HR compliance tasks with strategic functions. The key to continuous improvement is building collaborative relationships among district leaders.

This session follows a district's focus on improving HR to support broader district goals. A board member and HR consultant will outline how an HR operations review provided a framework for improvements and describe how a roadmap was built to engage district leaders. 

— AND —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

3:15–4:30 p.m.

Leadership—Take. Action. Now.

As we look around our department, district, and our industry, we ask who our leaders are. We need to look within ourselves and ask, “why not me?” Leadership is an action, not a position, and we are the next generation of leaders. The Greatest Generation paved the way for us, now it's time to step up and carry the responsibility for tomorrow's generation. In this session, we'll look at everyday actions and attitudes that can separate you from the pack. 

We're All in This Together: Focusing on the Whole Community

Schools are integral members of the communities they serve. As such, it is incumbent on school leadership to engage their neighbors in decisions that impact them. This panel of school and community voices will explore the whole-community approach to safety, security, and emergency management. Participants will discuss how their unique perspectives and expertise can contribute to procedures that address all stakeholders' evolving needs. 

A Systems Approach to Implementing “Portrait of a Graduate”

Visionary leaders in the SOAR Network are anchoring their system transformation through the engagement of their broader communities in developing a “Portrait of a Graduate.” Whether or not a community's “Portrait of a Graduate” becomes a reality for every student depends on the coherent alignment of the education system and how educators within that system see their role in achieving the vision. In this session, participants will engage, share insights, and explore component parts of a “Portrait of a 21st Century Educator and System.” 

Making Gaps a Thing of the Past

Learn how board members and superintendents can maximize their governance role to address challenges of student population groups performing below the state level. We'll discuss the major causes of lower student performance as well as practical solutions that have proven to be effective in eliminating them.

The presentation will explore how board-defined governance roles were the major factor in the solutions. We will share detailed steps boards took to optimize their roles, and attendees will be challenged to rethink their perspectives and beliefs. Districts will be provided with specific action steps that have proven to be successful. 🏡

When Duct Tape Isn't Enough (Mastermind Session)

Trustees want to improve the places where children learn, but schools reach a point where duct tape no longer works. Join this interactive discussion concerning the bond process.

This Mastermind group will share strategies to consider for passing a successful bond, including:

- When it's time for a bond
- How you get stakeholders on board
- The pitfalls to avoid 🌀

Awakening the Culturally Unconscious: Creating Cultural Equity That Improves Academic Outcomes

This workshop is designed for school board trustees who want to create culturally responsive climates using a research-based skill set to reduce bullying in their communities. Attendees will walk through the basic foundation necessary to support building positive student achievement in this interactive session.

We'll focus on improving the learning environment through social and emotional supports. We'll tackle the tough conversations that generally are swept under the rug. The goal is to effectively empower school communities with the necessary courage and competence to work with diverse student populations. 👥

The Financial Impact of the 86th Legislature

This session, led by school finance experts from Moak Casey & Associates, will provide an in-depth look at what did and didn't change in school finance during the latest legislative session, how the changes will affect school districts, and the future funding outlook. 💰

Racial Imbalance in Special Education: Thoughts, Considerations, and Next Steps

Many may believe that race has little impact on the education a child receives. Our goal is to provide the very best education possible to those we serve regardless of their demographic groups—a race-neutral education. However, is this really the best approach to educating children? Join us in learning more about race-conscious practice. 🏠★

Implementation Strategies to Recruit, Retain, and Grow Educational Leaders

Research indicates a principal's leadership is a determining factor of school effectiveness, second only to the role of a classroom teacher. Each year more than 20 percent of principals leave their schools. The high turnover is costly, disruptive, and negatively impacts teacher and student performance. HR consultants with school leadership experience will provide school board members with key strategies to successfully recruit, retain, and grow school leaders in their district. 🏡★

The Board's Role in Cybersecurity

Cyberattacks on school districts are becoming increasingly common, and technology alone can't fix this issue. Districts need to establish and strengthen their information security practices. This requires district leaders and staff working together. Board members will learn their role in protecting district data, by setting the right expectations, understanding their district's risks, and making sure administrators have the resources and support needed to protect the district, its staff, and students. 🏠★

How to Have a Successful Bond Election

Learn how Aubrey ISD (Region 11 ESC; 2,316 ADA) successfully passed the largest bond in the district's history. Attendees will be able to implement a system to create a successful bond election experience and meet the needs of students and the community. Through discussion, visuals, and presentation of information, participants will gain a thorough understanding of an effective bond process. **\$**

Reception sponsored by Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo and Kyle, P.C. will automatically be added to each agenda.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

Fort Worth

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Breakfast will automatically be added to each agenda.
7–8 a.m.

General Session will automatically be added to each agenda.
8–9:15 a.m.

All-Day Session: All Audiences

9:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m.

Building Community Together: Student Voice and School Climate

This interactive session builds on the work done with students and trustees at the Winter Governance Seminar to facilitate dialogue around youth engagement, privilege, and bias while building bridges for equity and justice.

SLI attendees will discuss the role of student voice in creating an equitable and inclusive school culture and climate, focusing on demographic shifts, responses to them, and the intersection between the social identities that shape who we are, including race, gender, religion, national origin, and socioeconomic status. 

— OR —

In-Depth Session: Board Officers

9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Effective Facilitation Skills—Navigating Through Smooth and Choppy Waters

Get ready to drop into a meeting in this highly interactive session. We'll teach you basic facilitation techniques not found in *Robert's Rules of Order* that a presiding officer can use to effectively guide discussion and address situations that could prevent the board from accomplishing its business. Become a master of keeping discussions on track as you learn to run more effective meetings. (*Board Officers' Academy*)  ★

— OR —

Breakout Session: New Board Members

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Open Meetings Act Basics

Designed for new board members, this session is your chance to learn and ask questions about the Texas Open Meetings Act (OMA). A TASB Legal Services attorney covers OMA requirements relevant to school boards, including posting notices, conducting open meetings, and holding closed meetings. *This presentation has been approved by the Texas Attorney General and satisfies the OMA training requirement found in Texas Government Code section 551.005.*  ★

— OR —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

9:30–10:45 a.m.

How to Be a REAL Success—No Matter Where You Come From

Relationships and attitude play a huge role in successful leadership. When leaders intentionally focus on these, they're able to strengthen leadership vision and ensure their path to success.

Two board members from different parts of the state will share how building strong relationships and keeping your attitude in check can help boards and district teams work together to be successful. We'll share ideas that you can use right away with your team. 🌸

Prepared New Board Members Make Contributing Board Members

New board members have so much to learn. Hurst-Euless-Bedford (HEB) ISD (Region 11 ESC; 22,063 ADA) has established a unique onboarding process that every new board member goes through following swearing in.

HEB ISD's onboarding includes many modules, like:

- A superintendent and board secretary overview
- A board president expectation meeting
- Individual meetings with each member of the executive leadership team

HEB ISD board members will share this process in detail and provide you with access to the onboarding book so you can establish a similar process in your district. 🌸

Building for the Future: Understanding the K-12 Building Process

Join us for insights from a current trustee with experience in commercial building, including schools. Hear real-life examples about contracting, estimates, and more. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of overall construction delivery methods and processes needed for K-12 construction in Texas. This will be an interactive discussion, and questions are welcome. 💰

Tips and Tools for the High-School-to-College Transition from Board Members in the Know!

Experienced board members, who are also higher education professionals, will share their perspective on the transition process. Together we'll identify strategies to improve the college transition for students in your district. Participants will be able to analyze and discuss theoretical case studies related to the transition and learn best practices from other attendees. Board members presenting in this session will provide their expert advice in laymen's terms. This is an interactive workshop suitable for small and large districts. 🎓

Inequities in Student Discipline: What are Districts' Risks and Obligations?

Although the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) detailed significant inequities in student discipline, especially based on student race and disability, OCR has also rescinded the US Department of Education policy and guidance on the nondiscriminatory administration of school discipline and improving the school climate. So, what does this mean for school districts?

Experienced school attorneys will help school leaders understand the current legal obligations, options for ensuring nondiscriminatory discipline of students, and how to comply with OCR's stated commitment to "vigorously enforcing civil rights protections on behalf of all students." *Session presented by sponsors Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo and Kyle, P.C.* 🏛️

Are Students and Staff Overloaded and Underprepared? (Author Series)

Join this facilitated discussion using the book *Overloaded and Underprepared: Strategies for Stronger Schools and Healthy, Successful Kids*. The book is based on extensive research by Stanford University with the goal to help the public make informed decisions about educating children and advocating for change in their local communities. *The book is for sale in the TASB Store. No pre-reading required.* 📖

Get Students Career Ready with iPad

Mobile technology is redefining skills essential to career success. In this session, learn how iPad can be used to support creativity in any career pathway and how Augmented Reality can ignite learning in the CTE classroom. *Session brought to you by event sponsor Apple.* 📱

Joint Information System for Boards: Tips and Tools for Crisis Communication

School emergencies, large and small, generate big headlines and internet chatter. A Joint Information System provides a framework for schools and their communication partners to deliver timely, consistent messaging to stakeholders.

Workshop attendees will learn the key components of a Joint Information System, including communication capabilities and collaboration. Through discussion and a mock press conference, board members will walk away with practical tips for working with the Joint Information System. 🏠★

The Superintendent Search Process

A well-planned search for a new superintendent makes the process far less daunting. TASB Executive Search Services staff will walk you through the elements of the search process, including:

- The board's involvement
- Consultant responsibilities
- Advantages of using an external consultant
- Board members' perspectives.

Participants will be encouraged to ask questions about the search process. 🏠★

Go Public: Uniting to Advocate for Public Schools

Seventeen independent school districts in the San Antonio area are united together to make public education the main storyline on traditional and new media communications media and paths. This session informs boards on how they can individually or as a group advocate for public education and better market their districts. Learn what tools and resources are most effective in advocating for public education. 💬

Create a Stronger Academic Education: Add the Arts and Forms of Play to the Classroom

After seven years of innovative arts programming at various public schools throughout North Texas, we are witnessing how students' attitudes and behaviors are changing, while their test scores are improving. Consequently, the teachers have deeper classroom engagement and a desire to learn new methods as a source of in-class professional development. Join us for this interactive and fun presentation.

— AND —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Dual Credit and Early College High Schools: Positively Affecting Student Achievement

Earning college credit is an increasingly popular pursuit for high school students, a path that is encouraged by the TEA, legislators, and parents.

For college-bound students, dual credit can provide:

- Exposure to higher-level concepts
- Improved self-confidence
- Reduced college time and cost

Upward enrollment trends indicate success, but unintended consequences must be identified and addressed by districts to ensure benefits for all Texas students. 🎓

Are You Taking Advantage of ALL Your Revenue Streams?

Bring your tablet or laptop to this interactive session. We'll help you dissect your district's opportunities and your potential to generate additional revenue dollars, partner with postsecondary institutions, increase CTE (career and technical education) enrollment, and offer more endorsements and industry certifications to students. CTE is one of the best ways to increase funding, and you'll leave understanding how you can take full advantage of these programs. 💰

Creating a Velcro Board (Mastermind Session)

In this fast-paced dialogue session, participants will interact with other trustees to discuss ways to enlist, engage, and empower trustees. The group discussion will include ways to onboard new trustees and how to make the team of eight stronger. The session will conclude with a creative expression. We govern better together. 🌸

Supporting Students Who Experience Trauma

This presentation focuses on trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and what they are; how they manifest themselves in students' day-to-day lives and interactions with others, trauma's lasting effect, and how individuals (school board leaders, community leaders, teachers, leadership, parents, etc.) can support these students and create trauma-informed environments. The presentation also breaks down how students from varying racial groups experience ACEs that are unique to their culture and community. 🎓

The Soft Bigotry of Low Expectations

You've heard it said that people will live up or down to your expectations. Research proves this is true of the children in our classrooms. Sometimes the decisions we make as board members and administrators lower expectations for teachers and students. This session, inspired by keynote speaker Wes Moore's research and advice, will add your voice to a solution-focused discussion of the effects of our expectations.



Update on Student Safety and Discipline

The 2019 Texas legislative session brought significant changes to student discipline and school safety. In this presentation, participants will learn from a TASB attorney about new laws regarding safety and discipline. We'll also discuss legal trends in these areas and the impact of heightened concerns about gun violence, threats, and student mental health. Participants will be able to make informed policy choices regarding student discipline and safety. 🏛️ ★

Bigger. Better. Faster. Improving Existing School Buildings

School district bond projects are approached the same way by most districts: Pass a bond, select an architect/engineer, hire a general contractor, and go! That may be effective for a new construction project, but what about renovations and deferred maintenance items?

This presentation will focus on the different approaches one district took in tackling existing building projects and new construction.

We'll cover:

- Potential benefits of multiple delivery methods
- How to stretch bond dollars by doing M&O cost-reduction projects first
- Ways to get your projects started and completed faster \$ ★

Common T-Shirts Don't Make a Team

Organizations don't become excellent by accident or luck. There is nothing lucky about a team working well together. It starts with an understanding of the importance of building a strong, unified team and requires an administration that intentionally plans activities to build and encourage their team. Join us in this session and take home ideas to help build your winning team! 🌀

The Board's Role in Driving Successful Technology Implementations

Technology can play an important role in improving learning when it's implemented effectively by district leadership. This session draws from best practices and addresses critical elements of leadership and the board's role in guiding strategic technology decision-making. *Session brought to you by event sponsor Apple.* 🌀

Shape Your District's Culture in 30 Days

Do you hear "that's the way we've always done it around here" a lot in your district? Culture change can be a bear. But the truth is, if you're going to change your culture, do it quickly. Shaping district culture depends entirely on a fully engaged, system-driven board-superintendent team. Join this riveting workshop by Beeville ISD (Region 2 ESC; 2,978 ADA) to discover how your team can execute a positive, results-driven culture in no time.

Health Plan and Employee Benefits 101

Attracting and retaining good employees is an ongoing struggle for Texas school districts. In a year when districts are asking about health insurance, health plans, and other employee benefits, it's crucial to choose a qualified consultant to help your district navigate these evolving and complex areas.

The session will identify the key components in hiring a health plan consultant and how employee benefits, tailored to public school employees, provide needed value to school district employees and their family members.

This session will also cover the roles of administrators and board members as it relates to the process of choosing a health plan consultant, insurance agent, and implementing the best possible supplemental employee benefits offering for your district. 🏛️ ★

Lunch will automatically be added to each agenda.
12:15–1:30 p.m.

In-Depth Session: All Audiences

1:30–4:15 p.m.

Women in Leadership: Encouragement for Today and Inspiration for Tomorrow

More women are running for office and achieving higher levels of success, but research indicates some women lack confidence and hesitate to speak up in meetings. In this workshop, you will hear strategies and tips to increase confidence and inspire the young women in your sphere of influence.

Topics include:

- Effective campaigning
- Finding your voice
- The balancing act
- Creating the climate for female leadership

Men are welcome and their unique perspectives add to the success of this session. 

— OR —

Breakout Sessions: All Audiences

1:30–2:45 p.m.

Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)

This course is designed and built on the Avoid, Deny, Defend (ADD) strategy developed by the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)[™] Program at Texas State University. Since 2002, ALERRT has been used to train law enforcement officers across the nation in how to rapidly respond to dangerous active threat situations. With increased public awareness, many citizens have asked what individuals can do to protect themselves and reduce the dangers faced during one of these events.

Presented by a school board member who is also in law enforcement, this course provides strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event in a workplace, school, or other public area. The CRASE message of empowerment and situational awareness is powerful and proven. We hope you never find yourself in an emergency, but if you do, we want you to be prepared. 

Educational Equity 101: Assuring Success for All

This presentation focuses on the four drivers of educational equity and includes specific data on student population funding, graduation rates, teacher demographics, and school discipline, among other things. 

Finding the Strengths in Diverse Families in Your District

The families in your district come from a diverse set of ethnic, educational, and economic backgrounds that can present many challenges, but leaders would be better served to look at the strengths of these families and how districts can better understand and reach these diverse populations.

Participants will learn how to better assess the challenges and more effectively reach their diverse community members at all levels of contact. 

What's Happening with the Special Education Compliance Monitoring in Texas?

In 2018, the US Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services determined that Texas systematically denied students with disabilities the federally required services and supports.

This session will explore the current status of the statewide Special Education Corrective Action Plan and provide an overview of what has happened thus far. Together attendees will participate in an interactive discussion on what occurred in Texas to cause the issue and the Corrective Action Plan. Everyone will have the opportunity to Think-Pair-Share and report out related to practices in their own district. 🏛️ ★

Important Changes in Your District's Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook

Updates this year to both the TASB Model Student Code of Conduct and TASB Model Student Handbook include important changes from the 86th Legislative Session. Changes to these essential documents are effective with the 2019–20 school year. Join a TASB Policy Service consultant as we review the relevant bills and upcoming changes to these two key publications. 🏛️ ★

What is eXceptional Governance?

Join the discussion and pursuit of eXceptional Governance at the heart of TASB's XG Project. Consider ways that you and your board might share your eXceptional Governance practices as well as develop additional ones. Reflect and apply the FAST lens (Focus, Align, Stretch, and Track) to your school district governance.

Participants will leave this session able to articulate clearly what eXceptional Governance is and what it looks like across different aspects of a school board's work. They'll go home equipped to apply new governance skills in their district.



The Reality of Charters (Mastermind Session)

Join experienced trustees in this roundtable discussion and share the experiences, impact, and strategies districts have encountered and implemented with the expansion of charter campuses. A brief overview of charter bills this session will be included.

Recruiting and Retaining Your Next Superintendent—Is the Market Changing?

Highly effective school districts have a strong management structure that begins with the team of eight. Finding the right superintendent can be difficult, and keeping the most effective person in your district can be even harder.

We'll discuss the myriad issues boards face today when looking for their next superintendent. Attendees will get the most up-to-date research on compensation practices, benefits and trends to attract and retain quality leaders. We'll also look at historic and current trends in placement practices. Participants will be involved throughout the session. 🏛️ ★

Creating a Facility Roadmap to the Future

Are you wondering if your district's facilities meet the needs of your educational program? Will they meet the needs of tomorrow? How should your district pursue providing the most appropriate educational environment?

Every journey needs a map. This session will lay the foundations of a roadmap to that place where your facilities meet your future educational needs. Join us as we explore assessing, planning, funding, and building your district's schools of the future. 💰 ★

— AND —

Sealing Up the Cracks—Working with Families to Keep Kids from Falling Through

It's already challenging enough to educate every kid effectively. As educators, we all worry about losing kids through the various cracks in our system. Instead of working so hard to "catch" them all, what if we looked at reducing the number of kids falling through? Many times, we see families as the problem or the challenge, but by working effectively with ALL families we can reduce the number of students that fall through the cracks. 🏠

Children in Stress: The 'Baggage' Kids Bring to School with Them (*Mastermind Session*) Do we agree on what it means to have a safe, secure, and stress-free environment to ensure all students receive the education they deserve? What kind of conversations are taking place in your district to ensure this happens? What is your district doing that you think others would benefit from? This isn't about safety as it relates to violence but things like homelessness, food insecurity, abuse by a family member, death in the family, etc. 🏠

Working Well Together without Liking Each Other

Trustees, you don't have to like each other, but we can get past that playground mentality. Let's figure out how to work well together. Learn about and practice the four steps to transform your board service.



How Unfunded Mandates Impact Your Budget

What gets paid for out of your Maintenance and Operations (M&O) budgets? This session explores the various facility and environmental regulations a school district must adhere to, the impact they have on the M&O budget, and how a district maintains compliance. 💰★

Goal-Setting and Superintendent Evaluation: Tell Us What You Really Think

As a trustee, do you express your hopes for students in plain language and then translate those expressions into district goals? Do you feel compelled to write goals using the language of the state's accountability system?

As a superintendent, would you describe your board's evaluation process as objective, subjective, or somewhere in the middle? Do you wonder how other districts approach goals and superintendent evaluation?

Come to share. Come to learn. Come tell us what you really think. 🌸★

Your Budget's Best Kept Secret: Money to Fix Your Facilities

Every district across the state has the same problem: There's not enough money. When money is tight, one of the first items that gets cut is the M&O budget. What is a district supposed to do when it doesn't have extra money and its facilities continue to age and require repairs?

This presentation will explore a district's solution to this very question and will include staff from the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) with advice on how other districts are combatting these problems. 💰★

Moving Forward with a Governance Majority

Unanimous consent is a great goal for good governance. Sometimes, that is not possible or is not in the best interest of your district. What does your team do when one trustee is consistently hindering unified governance? How do you move forward the work of your district despite a difficult, demanding, or disruptive trustee? Discover ways to ensure minority opinion is considered without ceding to minority rule.



The Kids Are Coming—Aren't They?

Making plans for your district is difficult. In fact, it is next to impossible if you don't know how many students to plan for, where they are coming from, or their age ranges. Understanding the demographic trends in your district is key to successful planning. Join us as we examine important considerations related to accurate population analysis.  

Fort Worth

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

No selection needed!

Breakfast, Connecting the Dots, and the General Session will automatically be added to attendee's agenda.

7–8 a.m.

Breakfast

8–9 a.m.

Connecting the Dots

Solidify your learning experience. The research is clear: We remember best when we share what we've learned; connect the new thing to the old things; and most importantly spend adequate time reflecting on the learning. Join TASB staff and fellow attendees for an interactive, fun, and engaging session where you "toss the microphone" and share the "ahas" and those "I want to remember that!" moments.

9:15–10:30 a.m.

General Session