

Texas Association of School Boards

Mission Statement

The Texas Association of School Boards promotes educational excellence for Texas schoolchildren through advocacy, visionary leadership, and high-quality services to school districts.

Leadership TASB

Mission Statement

Leadership TASB inspires school board trustees to be proactive, visionary leaders who promote educational excellence for all children in Texas public schools.

Goals

- Challenge, develop, and support emerging leaders
- Serve as a catalyst for mentoring and networking among school board trustees
- Provide all school board trustees with a peer-level resource for information and assistance
- Increase personal involvement in state and local activities that contribute to the growth and enhancement of school board trusteeship
- Heighten knowledge of and influence policy on state and national issues

Program Outcomes

- Expand one's awareness of the educational successes and concerns of the ever-changing face of Texas schoolchildren
- Become constructive, informed, and articulate agents of change including, but not limited to, advocacy on all levels where public policy decisions are made
- Develop skills required of an effective team for task planning and task implementation and utilize a network of colleagues from around the state
- Model the ideal of ethical leadership by encouraging, empowering, and mentoring others to support the ongoing programs of LTASB
- Experience alternative learning methodologies because true leaders are also lifelong learners

Leadership TASB General Information

Agenda

A tentative agenda will be e-mailed well in advance of each session. You will not receive a final version of the agenda until the week of the session. Please bring it with you to the session.

Travel

When making travel arrangements note the start and end times listed on the tentative agenda. It is very important that you arrive before the start of each session and to stay until the conclusion.

Hotel Accommodations

The week following each session you will receive a "What To do Next" sheet (WTDN). Among other things, it will detail information about hotel accommodations for the next session. At some point you will be asked to provide your specific arrival and departure plans. LTASB will make **all** hotel reservations at a contracted LTASB rate. Please do not contact the hotel because this can cause a duplicate reservation under your name. Even if you are receiving a scholarship, payment is expected upon arrival at the hotel. Use of scholarship funds begins with Session Two in Austin and are for applicable travel expenses. Scholarship checks will be mailed to your local district and scholarship recipients are to follow local district policy for reimbursement.

Continuing Education Credit

For each of our five sessions, a session specific CEC number will be announced. You are required to enter the CEC number on your mobile device. It is your responsibility to inform the district personnel responsible for managing your CEC of each update.

Dress

The suggested dress for all LTASB sessions is business casual unless otherwise stated in the agenda. Professional business attire might be more appropriate for some dinner activities and school site visits. Check your tentative agenda for attire notification.

Food

Once a session begins LTASB provides all meals until the session adjourns. Meals are for LTASB participants and others directly related to a session. If you plan to travel with a guest, please understand that meals are part of the sessions and require your attendance. You will find that "working meals" are very common in LTASB and snacks are available during the hours of the sessions. (Do not expect to lose weight during this program year!)

Meeting Planner – Nicole.green@tasb.org

Nicole Green is the TASB Meetings and Travel professional working with Leadership TASB. She attends all sessions and works behind the scenes to guarantee our meetings are enjoyable and efficiently conducted. Likewise, Nicole is our contact with all our hotels.

Technical Support – marla.gilliland@tasb.org

Marla Gilliland is the TASB support professional working with Leadership TASB. She attends all sessions and offers her expertise in matters related to your myTASB account, communication between sessions, and on-site logistics.

What To Do Next

- 1) Review the draft roster of your class. If you need to make corrections, your LTASB Information Form can be used for those. Another version of the roster will be available during the first session for final review.
- 2) Complete the LTASB Information Form and return it by September 10. Please return by touching the submit button at the end of the form.

- 3) Mark your calendars for these session dates and locations:

October 1-3, 2020	Virtual
November 12-14, 2020	Austin
February 11-13, 2021	Corpus Christi
April 15 – 17, 2021	Longview
June 24-26, 2021	Fort Worth

- 4) **To register** for the 60th Annual TASA/TASB Convention, a separate and LTASB specific registration form is a second attachment. Please send it to your Superintendent's Administrative Assistant for completion. **When the LTASB session adjourns at Noon on Saturday, you are free to join Convention activities and attend Delegate Assembly.**
- 5) See you on Zoom: Thursday, October 1, 2020
2 p.m.

Zoom link will come in a separate e-mail about a week before our first meeting.

Mark Your Calendars

Please note all session start and end times are tentative.

Session Two

*November 12-14, 2020
Austin
Hotel TBD*

Thursday, November 12
Convenes at noon

Friday, November 13
LTASB Schedule

Saturday, November 14
Adjourns at noon

Session Three

*February 11-13, 2021
Corpus Christi
Hotel TBD*

Thursday, February 11
Convenes at noon

Friday, February 12
LTASB Schedule

Saturday, February 13
Adjourns at noon

Session Four

*April 15-17, 2021
Longview
Hotel TBD*

Thursday, April 15
Convenes at TBD

Friday, April 16
LTASB Schedule

Saturday, April 17
Adjourns at noon

Session Five

*June 24 – 26, 2020
Fort Worth
Hotel TBD*

Thursday, June 24
Convenes at noon

Friday, June 25
LTASB Schedule
Graduation Dinner

Saturday, June 2
Adjourns at 11 a.m.

Please note all session start and end times are tentative.

Expectation of Commitment

*Leaders are such because they have followers and generally those followers are attracted to a leader because of the examples they set. Therefore, this **Expectation of Commitment** is a statement of what my classmates can expect from me during our year together in Leadership TASB.*

I commit to:

- Being punctual for all meetings for I have no right to delay the class because of my tardiness.
- Arriving on time and staying until the adjournment of each session for I have no right to give my classmates the impression that my late arrival or early departure is a sign that a session is insignificant to me.
- Discontinuing the use of all electronic communication devices during all meetings for my inattentiveness is not only rude but also, I have no right to cause a distraction to my classmates.
- Being open to differences of opinions while welcoming the challenges of new thoughts for I know that a closed mind in an unused mind.
- Knowing when to keep my mouth closed for, I have no right to interfere with the active learning and listening of my classmates.
- Keeping my business life far removed from Leadership TASB for I have no right to have the ethical position of a classmate called into question because of my desire to make a business connection.
- Being faithful, diligent, and honest regarding the tasks I agree to do for I have no right expect my classmates to carry my share of the load.
- Honoring graduation and my alumni status with respect and dignity for using the reputation of LTASB for personal gain degrades the integrity of the program.

Graduation Criteria

Participants are expected to attend all sessions. Attendance at the first session is mandatory. Missing more than one of the subsequent sessions is cause for dismissal.

If during the year of LTASB participation, a participant, for any reason, no longer serves on his or her local school board, the participant will be allowed to attend the next scheduled session of LTASB as a guest. Attendance at the session will be at the personal expense of the guest.

If for any reason you miss more than one session, you will not be allowed to continue with the Class of 2021 and will not graduate.

Graduation Recognition

I. Master Trustee Designation

- A)** Participation in Research Team 2021
- B)** Attendance at four of five sessions including the first which is mandatory
- C)** Participate in the class book study

II. Graduate Designation

- A)** Attendance at four of five sessions including the first which is mandatory
- B)** Failure to participate in Research Team 2021 and/or
- C)** Failure to participate in the class book study

Research Teams 2021

One of the goals of Leadership TASB is to:

- Provide all school board trustees with a peer-level resource for information and assistance.

In part, this is accomplished through your self-selection on a LTASB Class of 2021 Research Team. The topic for the research came from responses on your application - Question Four:

“Without considering the state of school finances, what do you believe to be the most critical issue facing Texas public education, where the board has a role, and what solution do you propose?”

A committee of LTASB graduates looked at your responses and determined there was consensus around a single core issue.

***Public schools operate in an environment
that is overtly and covertly shaped by the drama of real life.
While much of the drama is beyond the legitimate scope of the school board,
trustees do have an integral role in the ongoing struggle to shape the American democracy in
its mission “to make a more perfect union.”
Central to the struggle is institutionalized disparity and inequalities among groups of people.
Therefore, the Leadership TASB Class of 2021 will devote their year to the study of the scope of
public-school trustees in the promotion of equality, justice, and better
enabling the American dream for all children.***

Game Plan

Part One:

Five research questions have been developed as the point of embarkment. There is no **correct** or **solamente uno** answer to the question. Furthermore, as the research progresses, the initial questions might morph into a totally different question. That is the nature of research. Among the questions select a first and second choice. Along with 4 or 5 other classmates, this will be your research topic. Implicit with each question is an understanding that the teams will offer suggestions for resolution.

1. What has the pandemic taught school trustees about the inequality of education in Texas and how can they address issues of inequality? Access? Educational rights of special needs populations? Other?
2. Are there social justice disparities embedded in our public-school enterprises? What are some flashpoints trustees should watch for to determine if the problem is real or NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard)?
3. Regarding the norms/values of communities, should publicly elected School Boards reflect or lead? Are the norms in sync with the needs of children or more a product of historical circumstances? With either response (reflect or lead) what risks are involved versus what rewards might be gained? Renaming schools, recognizing ethnocentric celebrations during the school day?
4. How do children of color view some social institutions e.g. schools and school authority, police departments, and others differently from white children? Why? If a disparity exists, how does it affect the larger society and how does it impact education?

5. What policies and school day practices might create a disparity and thus adversely impact the educational experience of children who might be struggling with gender identity issues? Are there common school practices that perpetuate a disparity?

Part Two:

Beginning with Session Two, all teams will begin sharing their research status. Additional benchmarks during other sessions will increase in length of time and expectation. Final presentations will be during Session Five in Fort Worth.

The final presentation will be in a length TBD and will follow a constant discussion format.

Part Three:

Using the discussion format as a template, each team will develop a PowerPoint presentation as a visual aid for the discussion. LTASB graduates have volunteered to come to a session, likely Session Four in Longview, to coach each team on their presentation style and skill. All teams will present during a LTASB Graduate Only Seminar during SLI in Fort Worth as part of Session Five.