
Texas Association of Secondary School Principals



86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

STATE-WIDE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM
2019-2020



TASSP STATE-WIDE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

86TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals promotes a state-wide legislative platform that places students in the forefront of the educational process by empowering school leaders to:

Ensure a quality education for all students

- All students are provided with an education that prepares them to be college, career or military ready.
- All students engage in authentic and relevant learning experiences in a safe and secure environment.
- All students are prepared to become lifelong learners and productive citizens.

Address Educator Preparation, Shortages and Retention

- Teacher preparation programs are research-based and promote best instructional practices.
- Educators are provided with sustained on-the-job training and coaching to promote teacher growth.
- Incentives, compensation and health benefits are provided to address teacher shortages and promote teacher retention.

Support Sustainable and Equitable Funding for Public Education

- State school funding is reflective of the value placed on the academic, behavioral, social and emotional needs of all Texas students.
- State school funds are best invested in strengthening public schools for all Texas students.
- The current needs and demographics of individual schools are considered in determining school funding.

Affirm an Authentic Accountability for Students and Schools

- School ratings are based on multiple measures that include growth and achievement indicators.

TASSP Vision

To offer Texas principals and assistant principals a forum to explore the best practices in school administration with the ultimate goal of helping facilitate student learning. It is the intent of the organization that we honor our motto, “Above All, Students First,” in all that we do.

Beliefs

- We believe that all people are created inherently good with noble purpose that transcends self.
- We believe that all human beings have the right and ability to learn and own their learning.
- We believe that each individual is a voice expressed through being, action and/or words.
- We believe that individuals make choices for which they are accountable.
- We believe that serving others is a moral obligation to add value to every individual and to improve the greater good.
- We believe that inspirational leaders are courageous and seek the truth to empower others.
- We believe that unity creates progress towards a common vision.

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The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals



TASSP is a non-profit association that sponsors both the Texas Association of Student Councils and the Texas Association of Future Educators, effectively broadening its base to affect the lives of thousands of students and teachers.

The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals has a long history of providing educational opportunities for students, conducting professional development training for principals and assistant principals, and creating a network that allows professional educators the opportunity to work collaboratively on key educational issues—all aimed toward the improvement of the educational system in Texas.

Because of the complexity and accountability of the job of the school administrator, TASSP historically has supported a state-wide legislative platform that promotes the principal as the instructional leader and campus-level decision-maker.

Because principals are always seeking high-quality teachers, TASSP will be working collaboratively with Texas educational associations and teacher preparation programs on strategies that positively impact recruiting and retaining of high-quality teachers.

In preparation for the 86th State of Texas Legislative Session, in November 2018, Archie McAfee, Executive Director, and Cindy Jackson, Associate Executive Director, conducted a training seminar for members of the TASSP Legislative Committee, which included a presentation by Dr. Michelle Smith, Director of Government Relations for Raise Your Hand Texas. The committee members attended the Senate Education Committee hearing at the Capitol on November 27, 2018. Dr. Fred Black, Chair of the TASSP Legislative Committee, facilitated the review and revision process for formulating the TASSP State-wide Legislative Platform. At the TASSP Summer Workshop and at the spring 2019 regional meetings throughout the state, TASSP will be giving updates from the legislative session. TASSP members are encouraged to use the Resources located on the TASSP website to stay current on legislative action.

Resources:

To access and set up a personal account, go to Texas Legislature on-line: www.capitol.state.tx.us

To access TASSP Legislative Update: go to www.tassp.org, click on Resources, on Legislative Updates.

The 2018-2019 TASSP Legislative Committee

Chair: Region 4: Dr. Fred Black, Principal, George Ranch HS, Richmond

Vice Chair: Region 6: Dr. Terri Benson, Principal, Acad for Science & Health Professions, Conroe

Region 1: Raymundo Monrreal, Principal, Jaime Escalante MS, Pharr

Region 2: Cindy Flores, Principal, Ricardo MS, Kingsville

Region 3: Sandra Fellers, Assistant Principal, El Campo HS

Region 5: Jason Yeaman, Principal, Little Cypress JHS, Orange

Region 7: Brandon Jones, Principal, Brownsboro HS

Region 8: Richard Stahl, Associate Principal, Texas HS, Texarkana

Region 9: Clifton McFadden, Assistant Principal, Iowa Park HS

Region 10: Dr. Mitch Curry, Principal, Scott Johnson MS,
McKinney

Region 11: Chandra Turrentine, Assistant Principal, Boswell HS,
Fort Worth

Region 12: Alison Smith, Principal, Midway HS, Waco

Region 13: Dr. David Ellis, Principal, Artie L. Henry MS, Cedar Park

Region 14: Mark Merrell, Principal, Colorado HS, Colorado City

Region 15: Shona Moore, Principal, Brady MS

Region 16: Penny Rosson, Principal, River Road MS, Amarillo

Region 17: Damon McCall, Principal, OL Slaton MS, Lubbock

Region 18: Shannon Torres, Principal, Midland Freshman HS

Region 19: Brandon Rios, Assistant Principal, Montwood HS, El Paso

Region 20: Dr. Scott McKenzie, Principal, Rayburn MS, San Antonio

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TASSP Board Policy

All TASSP policies are created by the TASSP Board of Directors. The board is made up of elected practitioners, principals and assistant principals from each of the twenty TASSP regions. TASSP policy is driven by the mission statement and goals adopted by the Board.

TASSP Mission

The mission of TASSP is to ensure that campus administrators serve as courageous transformative leaders and a unifying voice for all learners, through a dynamic network distinguished by:

- Sharp focus on professional development;
- Proactive mindset of agility, innovation, and decisiveness; and
- Unrelenting commitment to student success.

Objectives

Principals will...

1. model, encourage, and support purposeful innovation in the interest of student success.
2. make informed decisions with a sharp focus on comprehensive data.
3. cultivate and empower leaders.
4. foster a culture of inclusiveness and unity.

Strategies

1. We will influence, guide and support the emerging role of the principal.
2. We will promote the value of the individual while creating a unifying culture to harness the power of diversity and the energy of education.
3. We will position ourselves as visionary leaders focused on relevant service, support and professional development.

TASSP Staff

Archie E. McAfee, Executive Director

Cindy Jackson, Associate Executive Director, Professional Development, Governmental Relations & High School Services

Billy Pringle, Associate Executive Director, Middle-Level Services & Business Operations

Adopted: TASSP Board of Directors Meeting – January 22, 2019