

Planning Committee

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Bret Begert	Fort Elliott CISD
Stephanie Behrens	Region 16 ESC
Gary Bigham	West Texas A&M University
Ralph Carter	Hereford ISD
Jamie Copley	Plemons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD
Darryl Flusche	Canyon ISD
Tammy Hamby	Plemons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD
Irma Harper	West Texas A&M University
Janet Hindman	West Texas A&M University
Buddy Hooper	West Texas A&M University
Rick Howard	TASB
Tanya Larkin	Region 16 ESC
Nathan Maxwell	Region 16 ESC
Cristina McKee	TASB
Kelley Porter	Pampa ISD
Lynn Pulliam	Region 16 ESC
Cindy Spanel	TASB
Brigitte Whaley	West Texas A&M University

Workshop Coordinators

Gary Bigham	West Texas A&M University
Cristina McKee	TASB

TASB Officers

President	Rolinda Schmidt, Kerrville ISD
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Canyon
Spring Workshop

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

West Texas A&M University
Jack B. Kelley Student Center
Canyon, TX



Program

10 a.m. Registration

10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For New Board Members Only
(Lunch together in Legacy Hall)

Texas Trustee Institute

The Texas Trustee Institute (TTI) has adapted its comprehensive program into a concise, 3.5 hour offering, specifically tailored for the spring workshop session. This streamlined version retains the core essence of the original experience, focusing on the fundamentals of good governance for first-year board members. Despite the shortened format, the program continues to provide an in-depth look at policy governance and its crucial role in promoting student success. Expert panelists, including seasoned school board members and superintendents, remain a key feature, offering valuable insights and real-world perspectives.

The modified Texas Trustee Institute program ensures that even within a limited timeframe, new trustees are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and connections necessary to embark confidently on their governance roles.

Presenters: Robert Long, Division Director, TASB Board Development Services; Jacob Cox, Board Development Consultant, TASB Board Development Services
White Room



Don't forget to enter the CEC number to get credit for the session. Scan the QR code to the left or go to tasb.org/myCEC.

10:30-11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

Making Connections: Effective Communication Strategies for School Board Members

Strong communication is critical for school board trustees to build trust, engage stakeholders, and foster a positive district reputation. This presentation will provide practical strategies for trustees in small school districts for effective community outreach, social media engagement, and 1:1 conversations. Participants will learn how to positively tell their district's stories as an ambassador to the community.

Presenters: Sara Butler, Department Director and Brianna Garcia, Department Director, TASB Communications Marketing & Events
Maroon Room

What School Boards Need to Know: HQIM, OER, and Bluebonnet Learning

With the passage of HB 1605, the State Board of Education (SBOE) has been tasked with developing a system to vet instructional materials at a High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) level. This presentation will provide school board members with a clear understanding of HQIM, Open Educational Resources (OER), and how Bluebonnet Learning aligns with these standards. Learn how these materials impact curriculum decisions, compliance considerations, and student outcomes, equipping your district to make informed choices.

Presenter: Brenda Foster, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Region 16 Education Service Center
Thunder Room

Artificial Intelligence in Education: Navigating the Legal Landscape

In today's digital era, the integration of AI in educational settings presents both opportunities and challenges. This legal presentation delves into the complexities surrounding the use of AI in schools, addressing key legal considerations that educators, administrators, and policymakers must navigate.

Presenter: Joy Baskin, Education Counsel and Associate Executive Director, TASB Policy and Legal Services
West Texas Room

A Visit from TASB Leadership: How TASB's Services Elevate your Board's Work

TASB leaders will share four key roles that are especially critical to the work you do for your students and community. As trustees themselves, they offer unique insights on your role in drafting policy, supporting staff,

working as a team, and advocating for your schools. They will also provide insights on how you are connected to a statewide organization — led by trustees just like you — and how those connections can enhance your service.

Presenters: Rolinda Schmidt, TASB President, Kerrville ISD, Cindy Spanel, TASB Director for Region 16, Highland Park ISD-Potter County, and Bret Begert, TASB Past President, Fort Elliott CISD
Senate Chamber

11:30-11:45 a.m. Break and Poster Session

Research presented by WTAMU Ed.D. candidates/ graduates

Coordinator: Janet Hindman, Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership, West Texas A&M University
Legacy Hall

11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Lunch and General Session

Catching up with the Texas Legislature

The 89th Legislative Session is shaping up to be one of the most difficult for public schools as many believe this is the session vouchers will be passed and additional funding for schools is not assured. Learn about the bills working their way through the legislative process and how they may impact your students and schools.

Presenter: Grover Campbell, Governmental Relations Advisor, TASB Governmental Relations
Legacy Hall

1:15-1:30 p.m. Break and Poster Session

Research presented by WTAMU Ed.D. candidates/ graduates

Coordinator: Janet Hindman, Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership, West Texas A&M University
Legacy Hall

1:30-2:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

Using Low-Cost Employee Engagement Options to Drive Improvement

As school districts continue to face retention challenges, implementing a feedback structure can provide an ongoing avenue to set goals and ensure employees are satisfied and enjoy their work environment. Low-cost engagement options may include conducting exit and/or stay interviews, administering an employee opinion survey, and analyzing retention, turnover, and absentee data. These approaches are designed to identify what is going well in an organization and determine areas for improvement opportunities. Participants will learn important factors to measure and explore or discuss strategies for addressing common workplace issues impacting employees' feelings about their employer.

Presenter: Cheryl Hoover, Senior HR Consultant, TASB HR Services
Maroon Room

Special Education Staff: Why Do We Need So Many?

Staffing to meet the needs of students in special education can consume a significant amount of your budget and appear a bit excessive. To help you understand these concerns, the presenters will briefly explain the decision-making requirements for serving students with disabilities, differentiate between caseload and workload approaches to staffing, and discuss the common roles and responsibilities of key special education service providers.

Presenter: Denise Carter, Manager, TASB School Medicaid Services
Thunder Room

Stronger Together: Rural Collaboration for Future-Ready CTE Opportunities

In rural communities, collaboration is the key to expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities and preparing students for success beyond high school. This session will explore how rural districts can work together to create innovative, high-quality CTE pathways aligned with regional workforce needs. Learn how shared resources, industry partnerships, and strategic collaboration can break down barriers and provide students with the skills and credentials needed for post-secondary success.

Presenter: Lawana Pulliam, Senior Director of District Systems and Executive Services, Region 16 Education Service Center
West Texas Room

A Visit from TASB Leadership: How TASB's Services Elevate your Board's Work

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Presenters: Rolinda Schmidt, TASB President, Kerrville ISD, Cindy Spanel, TASB Director for Region 16, Highland Park ISD-Potter County, and Bret Begert, TASB Past President, Fort Elliott CISD
Senate Chamber

2:30-2:45 p.m. Break and Poster Session

Research presented by WTAMU Ed.D. candidates/ graduates

Coordinator: Janet Hindman, Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership, West Texas A&M University
Legacy Hall

2:45-3:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Choose One)

To Bond or Not to Bond: That is the Question!

This question perplexes many district leaders as they increasingly juggle growing facility needs, differing procurement methods, diverse public opinion, ever-changing state and local funding, and differing opinions from the multitude of “experts” offering to guide them to the best solutions available. Learn to contemplate different perspectives surrounding this complex balancing act, so that YOU can decide the best path for your district, and not just what conventional players might be telling you.

Presenter: Scott Beene, Facility Consultant, TASB Facility Services
Maroon Room

Navigating the Latest Developments in School Law

An update on the latest issues affecting school districts from recent headlines, court cases, and Commissioner Decisions to safely guide you through today's turbulent legal seas.

Presenters: Fred Stormer, Chair of the Public Education Law Section and Jarod Russell, Attorney, Underwood Law Firm, P.C.
Thunder Room

Future-Proofing Rural Schools: The Role of AI in Education

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing education, offering rural Texas schools innovative ways to enhance learning, streamline operations, and support educators. This session explores AI's transformative role in personalized instruction, predictive analytics, administrative efficiency, and student engagement. Attendees will gain insights into real-world applications, success stories from rural districts, and strategies to overcome challenges like funding, infrastructure, and workforce readiness. Join us to discover how AI can bridge the digital divide and create equitable learning opportunities for students in rural communities.

Presenters: Dr. Ray Barbosa, Associate Professor of Education, and Dr. Brigitte Whaley, Associate Professor of Education, West Texas A&M University
West Texas Room

3:45-4 p.m. Break and Poster Session

Research presented by WTAMU Ed.D. candidates/ graduates

Coordinator: Janet Hindman, Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership, West Texas A&M University
Legacy Hall

4-5 p.m. Closing General Session

Leading with Purpose: The Power of Values-Based Leadership in the Public School Setting

World-renowned leadership expert John Maxwell utilizes values-based Transformation Tables to develop students' values and leadership skills. The iLead curriculum has age-level-appropriate lessons for all grade levels, as well as adult transformation tables that can be used with school boards, administrators, and teachers. Develop leaders at all levels and improve school culture with the iLead leadership development curriculum.

Presenters: Stephanie Behrens, Assistant Director of Field Services, Region 16 Education Service Center; Dr. Janet Hindman, Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership, West Texas A&M University.
Legacy Hall