

Texas Association of School Boards
Board of Directors Nominations—Frequently Asked Questions

1. *Who elects the TASB Board of Directors?*

The general governing body of TASB is the Delegate Assembly, which meets each fall on the Saturday of the TASA/TASB Convention. One of the responsibilities of the Assembly is to elect the TASB Board of Directors (TASB Board).

2. *Who makes up the Delegate Assembly?*

Each Active Member is eligible to designate a Delegate and Alternate from the local board to represent the board's interests at the Delegate Assembly. Either the Delegate or the Alternate, whichever is present on the floor, is the Active Member's voting representative. Members of the TASB Board and the four Legislative Advisory Council members on the TASB Legislative Committee also are voting representatives on the Assembly floor by virtue of their positions.

3. *What is an Active Member of TASB?*

Active Members are local public school boards and education service center boards that have paid current annual dues.

4. *What is the composition of the TASB Board?*

The 45-member TASB Board is composed of the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past President, and members from the 20 TASB Regions, which follow the boundaries of the education service centers. These Directors are elected to staggered three-year terms, with the exception of the President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President who serve one-year terms in each position. An education service center representative also is a member of the TASB Board, serving as a voting *ex officio* member.

5. *What are the responsibilities of the TASB Board?*

The TASB Board actively promotes the purposes of the Association, oversees its fiscal affairs, and establishes Board policies.

6. *How are TASB Board positions determined, and why do some TASB Regions have more than one representative?*

Representation on the TASB Board is determined by state average daily attendance (ADA). Calculations to determine Board positions are completed each April with ADA data furnished by the Texas Education Agency. The TASB Board has two types of positions: large district and regional.

- a. **Large District Members**—An Active Member with at least 1.25 percent of the total state ADA is entitled to a large district position on the TASB Board. Currently, 12 districts qualify as large district members: Aldine ISD, Austin ISD, Conroe ISD, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, Dallas ISD, Fort Bend ISD, Fort Worth ISD, Frisco ISD, Houston ISD, Katy ISD, North East ISD, and Northside ISD-Bexar County.
- b. **Regional Members**—Each of the 20 TASB Regions have a regional member on the TASB Board. However, a TASB Region will gain another position for each 4.25 percent, or fraction thereof, of the total state ADA after subtracting the ADA of each large district member.

7. *Does a TASB Director have to be a member of a local school board?*

Yes, Directors of the TASB Board must be a member of a local school board that is an Active Member of TASB. Except in the case of the President and the Immediate Past President, a Director of the TASB Board who ceases to be a local school board member automatically vacates his or her position on the TASB Board. The TASB President must be a member of a local board at the time of succession to the office.

8. *How do districts know when to nominate an individual for a position on the TASB Board?*

On or before April 30, the board president, superintendent and superintendent secretary of each Active Member will be notified that a vacancy or expiring term exists for a position in the Active Member's TASB Region. This information also will be posted on the TASB website.

9. *How does an Active Member nominate an individual?*

Active Members have until June 30 to place the name of a local board member in nomination for a position. A nomination is accepted when the following completed nominations forms, provided by the Association, are received by TASB:

- (1) Form A, Active Member's Nomination and Willingness to Serve form
- (2) Form B, Candidate's Biographical Sketch
- (3) Form C, Candidate's Questionnaire

The nomination requires local board action, and Form A must be signed by the board president or other board officer and include the date of board action and the candidate.

Once these materials are received, the board president, candidate, and superintendent will receive an e-mail acknowledging the candidacy, along with information regarding the interview with the TASB Nominations Committee.

10. Can an Active Member nominate more than one individual for a position?

No.

11. Can an individual be a candidate for more than one position?

No.

12. What is the endorsement period, and how does an Active Member endorse a nominated individual?

The endorsement period is open July 3–August 31 and is an opportunity for regions to support, or even elect, a candidate nominated to the TASB Board.

During the endorsement period, an Active Member may endorse the candidacy of a nominated individual from another board within their TASB Region. Active Members must use Form D, Endorsement Form, provided by the Association.

It is important to note that TASB Bylaws require local board action for endorsements. Also, the Nominations Committee cannot accept endorsements acted on before July 3 or those not on the form provided by the Association (Form D, Endorsement Form). Completed endorsement forms must be received in TASB Headquarters on or before August 29.

If a majority of Active Members in an Association Region endorse the same candidate, that candidate is elected to the TASB Board and will take office at the completion of the final official session of the TASA/TASB Convention. If more than 25 percent of Active Members in a Region endorses the same candidate, that candidate will be placed on the slate of nominees presented to the Delegate Assembly.

13. How can candidates contact Active Members in their TASB Regions for endorsements?

Upon request, TASB will provide a mailing list to candidates, at no charge.

14. How are vacancies on the TASB Board filled throughout the year?

The TASB Board can fill vacancies that occur during the year. The board president and superintendent of each Active Member within the affected Region will be notified about the vacancy and the process for nominations. The Nominations Committee will interview all candidates and make a recommendation to the TASB Board. The TASB Board will elect an individual to fill the vacancy until the next Delegate Assembly.

15. What is the TASB Nominations Committee, and what is the committee's role in the Delegate Assembly election process?

The TASB Nominations Committee is composed of Directors on the TASB Board. Eleven

committee members and nine alternates are elected by the Board annually. In the election of the committee, the Board considers school district size, geographic location, wealth per student, and other factors, such as gender and ethnicity.

The Nominations Committee meets prior to the Delegate Assembly to interview nominated individuals in Director races that have not been elected by endorsement by the Regions. The Committee prepares a slate of Director nominees by selecting one or more candidates for each open position.

If a Director candidate has received endorsements from a majority of the Active Members in the TASB Region, that individual is automatically elected to the position and will take office after the final Convention session in the year elected.

If no Director candidate has received a majority of the endorsements, the slate of nominees will include the committee's nominees and also will list any nominated individuals who have received endorsements from at least 25 percent, but less than a majority, of the Active Members within their TASB Region.

16. *Who pays the nominated individual's expenses incurred in attending the interview with the Nominations Committee?*

The candidate's local board typically pays. This is not a TASB expense.

17. *Can someone still run for TASB Director if he or she is not chosen by the Nominations Committee and has not received endorsements from at least 25 percent of the Active Members?*

Yes. Even if a candidate was not selected as a nominee by the Nominations Committee or did not receive at least 25 percent of the endorsements from his or her region, he or she may still run for a Director position on the TASB Board through the delegate nomination process.

A delegate nomination may be made by the candidate's Delegate, provided the following conditions are met: (a) the candidate's completed nomination materials had been submitted to TASB Headquarters by June 30, (b) the candidate interviewed with the Nominations Committee, and (c) the candidate's intent and consent to run for the position by this alternate means is received in TASB Headquarters at least five days before the annual Delegate Assembly.

18. *When are Active Members notified of the official slate of Director and Officer nominees?*

The nominations slate of nominees is sent to all Active Members as soon as feasible after the August 29 deadline for Director candidate endorsements and prior to Delegate Assembly.

Officer nominees are selected by the TASB Board at the Summer Board Meeting.

19. *What happens if a nominee is unable to serve?*

The Nominations Committee, at the call of its chair, will select an alternate Director nominee; and the TASB Board, at the call of its President, will select an alternate Officer nominee. Active Members and their Delegates will be notified of the amended report of the Nominations Committee as soon as feasible, but no later than the opening of the Delegate Assembly.

20. *Can candidates in contested races campaign for Delegate votes?*

Yes, within certain limit, candidates in contested races can campaign for Delegate votes.

- a. *Distribution of Materials***—A candidate can distribute a biographical document on a single sheet of paper no larger than 8-1/2 inches by 14 inches by placing the document on the tables in the caucus meeting rooms organized by the Board and/or the tables in the Delegate Assembly Hall before the start of the Assembly. No buttons or other forms of campaign paraphernalia will be distributed or worn by individuals in these caucus meetings or in the Assembly Hall.
- b. *Solicitation of Votes***—Candidates are prohibited from soliciting votes in the vicinity of the Delegate Assembly Hall and at the TASB Board meeting. Other than that, candidates are not prohibited from campaigning elsewhere.
- c. *Campaigning at the Delegate Assembly itself***—Aside from distributing a one-page biographical flier, candidates are prohibited from soliciting votes from Delegates outside of the Assembly Hall, at the entrance to the hall, or on the floor of the Assembly.

21. *Will nominees be allowed to speak at the Delegate Assembly?*

Yes, speeches are allowed in contested races and each nominee is given three minutes, in accordance with the standing rules adopted by the Assembly. Contested nominees speak in alphabetical order for each position; however, the recommended nominee speaks last.

22. *At the Delegate Assembly, do Delegates cast their vote for all positions or just those within their TASB Region?*

All Delegates of the Assembly may cast a vote in each contested position.

23. *How are votes cast, tallied, and reported?*

Voting is done by electronic keypads. The Teller Committee supervises the voting and certifies the accuracy of the counts. The Teller Committee Chair reports the results to the Assembly.

24. How is the Teller Committee selected?

The TASB President appoints Delegates to serve on the Delegate Assembly Teller Committee. A Delegate from an Active Member that has a nominee on the slate is ineligible to serve on the Teller Committee.

25. How are the winners determined?

The nominee receiving the majority of the votes of the Delegates present and voting shall be elected. If no nominee receives a majority, a run-off election shall be conducted between the two nominees receiving the greater number of votes, and the election shall be repeated for that position as many times as necessary to obtain a majority.

26. When do the terms of newly elected Directors and Officers begin?

The newly elected Directors and Officers (including those Directors elected by endorsement within their regions) begin serving their terms at the end of the final official session of the Convention.

27. When does the TASB Board meet?

The TASB Board meets four times a year (December, spring, summer, and Convention).

28. Who pays the Director's expenses to attend meetings?

In accordance with TASB Board Policy, TASB will reimburse Directors for the following expenses:

1. Expenses incurred while attending the regular December, Spring, and Summer TASB Board Meetings.
2. Transportation expenses and three nights' lodging expenses incurred by Directors attending the regular Convention Board Meeting held in conjunction with the TASA/TASB Convention.
3. Expenses incurred while attending any other meetings of the TASB Board or standing committees.

29. Whom do I contact for more information?

Contact Lysa Hoelscher at 800.580.8272, extension 2976 or lysa.hoelscher@tasb.org.