November 17, 2026 – TASB Delegate Committee Report

Mansfield ISD Board of Trustees

Report Synopsis

Trustee Ana-Alicia Horn served as our district's delegate at the 2026 TASB Delegate Assembly in Houston last month, with Trustee Jesse Cannon II serving as our alternate. The two attended Delegate Assembly together, joining trustees from across the state to adopt TASB's new legislative agenda.

The priorities came out of a grassroots process that began with 21 regional meetings earlier this year. Trustees elected by their peers at those meetings met in the spring to combine the regional priorities into a single list of statewide priorities. That list was then amended and adopted at Delegate Assembly, where every TASB member district is invited to send a delegate.

Item 1. TASB's Priorities

The adopted priorities are:

- School Safety and Security: Dedicated, formula-based state funding that fully covers the real costs of state-mandated safety requirements, including security personnel, mental health support, training and facility upgrades.
- Special Education: Full reimbursement for the actual cost of serving students with disabilities, plus long-term investment in hiring and keeping diagnosticians, therapists and paraprofessionals.
- Recruitment and Retention: Better pay and benefits for all school employees, fewer barriers to teacher certification, stronger TRS and healthcare support, and local control over compensation decisions.
- Local Control: Restoring school boards' flexibility over funding, curriculum and operations, protecting bond and VATRE elections, and requiring that districts be consulted before major data center developments.
- Transparency and Accountability: A stable, consistent accountability system that looks at more than test scores, along with more transparency in recapture and clear disclosure of unfunded mandates.
- Streamlining Statutes and Agency Rules: Clearer laws and a sustained effort to cut outdated or burdensome mandates and red tape that pull resources away from students.
- Leveling the Playing Field: Every school that receives public funds, whether public, private or charter, should meet the same accountability and financial transparency standards.
- Investing in the Future of Texas: Full, consistent funding for programs that pay off for students and communities, such as full-day pre-K, workforce development, student support staff and transportation, and making sure hold harmless provisions work as intended.

Recommended Actions

- Board members are asked to visit https://www.tasb.org/resources/tasb-advocacy-agenda to learn and understand more details surrounding each priority listed above.