



August 5, 2020

Dear Region 11 Colleague,

I am a candidate for the Region 11C position on the TASB Board of Directors. I am writing to seek your board's endorsement and have enclosed my candidate-information packet and an endorsement form.

In addition to my service on the Arlington ISD Board of Trustees, I believe my background as an attorney, classroom teacher, first-generation college graduate, and parent would allow me to bring a diverse and unique set of experiences to the TASB Board. By day (and often night), I serve my clients as an advocate, primarily in disputes against—ironically—government regulators, mostly in federal courts and in nonpublic proceedings. So I am sensitive to the possibilities and limitations of government. While in law school, I worked in an education-related legal clinic advocating for special-needs students involved in disputes with school districts, and I also earned an MA in Education. But before I went to law school, I taught 12th Grade Government and Economics in the Rio Grande Valley. This gives me an appreciation of how Board decisions can affect students and educators. I also have a history of service in education-related nonprofit boards and youth-focused volunteer organizations, giving me insight into education from a community member's perspective. Finally, I have the perspective of a public-school parent of three. These experiences will inform my work on the TASB Board and help me serve as an effective advocate for the diverse districts that make up TASB.

I am happy to answer questions about me or my candidacy via phone (817-919-2611) or email ([chapa.aisd@gmail.com](mailto:chapa.aisd@gmail.com)).

Sincerely,

Justin Chapa, Trustee  
Arlington Independent School District



# TASB ENDORSEMENT FORM

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Our school board endorses the candidacy of the following individual nominated to fill a position on the TASB Board of Directors.

### CANDIDATE INFORMATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

This endorsement was approved by our school district's board of trustees at a duly called meeting on

\_\_\_\_\_.  
(Date)

Best regards,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of board president or officer)

PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

This form is to be used to endorse a nominated individual from a board of trustees within your TASB Region who is a timely candidate for a position on the TASB Board of Directors.

**Must be received by TASB on or before AUGUST 31, 2020.**

**RETURN TO: E-mail: [boardcommunications@tasb.org](mailto:boardcommunications@tasb.org)  
FAX: 512.467.3554**



# TASB BOARD CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

TODAY'S DATE: **June 29, 2020**

NAME: **Justin Roel Chapa**

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

CITY: [REDACTED] ZIP: [REDACTED]

BUSINESS PHONE: [REDACTED]

RESIDENCE PHONE: [REDACTED]

CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]

FAX NUMBER: [REDACTED]

E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

SCHOOL DISTRICT: **Arlington ISD**

LOCAL TERM EXPIRES: **May 2022**

YEARS ON BOARD: **~3 Years (appointed to one-year unexpired term in September 2017; elected to one-year term in May 2018 and three-year term in May 2019)**

Upon expiration of current term on your local board, will you seek reelection? **YES**

**BOARD POSITIONS HELD/DATES:**

- Chair, Governance Committee (May 2019–Present)**
- Member, Finance and Academics Committee (2019–Present)**
- Member, Governance Committee (Sept. 2017–May 2019)**
- Member, Community Engagement Committee (May 2018–May 2019)**
- Member, Audit Committee (Sept. 2017–May 2018)**

OCCUPATION: **Attorney**

CURRENT EMPLOYER: **Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP** DATES: **2015–Present**

EDUCATION-HIGH SCHOOL: **Sam Houston HS, Arlington, TX** COLLEGE: **Harvard University**

OTHER EDUCATION: **Stanford Law School and Stanford Graduate School of Education**

DEGREES: **BA Government (cum laude), MA Education, Juris Doctorate**

HOBBIES/SPECIAL INTERESTS: **Family, History, Reading, Football, Baseball**

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC GROUP MEMBERS (Offices held and dates): **Please see bio.**

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Use reverse side if additional space is required.): **Please see bio.**

**Bio and current picture attached.**

## Justin Chapa Bio

Born and raised on Arlington's eastside, Justin attended Arlington ISD schools from Kindergarten through his graduation from Sam Houston High School, as Valedictorian. Justin spent his undergraduate years at Harvard University, where he earned a BA in Government with honors and became the first person in his immediate family to graduate from college.

Determined to ensure that students from similar backgrounds have the same opportunity, he joined Teach for America after college and taught 12th Grade Government and Economics at Rivera High School in Brownsville, Texas. While at Rivera, he sponsored the campus student council, coordinated an afterschool credit-recovery program, started an AP Macroeconomics class, and served as an officer on the Site-Based Decision Making Committee.

While applying for Teach for America as a college senior, Justin also applied to law school. Most law schools allow Teach for America "Corps Members" to defer admission for two years while completing their teaching commitment. Thus, when he went "back to school" after his second year of teaching, he walked through the doors of Stanford Law School rather than Rivera High School. Today, Justin is Of Counsel in the Dallas office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, one of the world's largest law firms.

Although Justin is a lawyer by trade, he is a teacher at heart. While in law school, Justin worked in Stanford's "Youth and Education Law Project," a legal clinic that focuses on representing students with disabilities in special-education disputes. He also worked part-time as a Government teacher at Eastside College Preparatory School, in East Palo Alto, California, which primarily serves future first-generation college students. Additionally, Justin joined the first cohort of Stanford's joint-degree program in education and law, earning an MA in Education concurrently with his law degree. As part of the joint-degree program, Justin authored an article on the evolution of the "Government as Educator" paradigm in Supreme Court case law, which was later published in the *BYU Education & Law Journal*.

After Stanford, Justin and his wife [REDACTED]—also a Sam Houston alum and former teacher—moved back to their hometown with their then-nine-month-old son. Two more kids would follow, both girls. Justin's school-age children attend AISD schools, and Justin and [REDACTED] are both active in PTA.

Before his Board service, Justin served multiple terms on AISD's Financial Futures Committee and Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. Justin also served on the Capital Needs Steering Committee that helped craft the AISD's 2014 Bond package, and he had the privilege to serve on the Board of Directors of the Arlington ISD Education Foundation, a non-profit that distributes grants to AISD teachers.

Outside of AISD activities, Justin regularly speaks to high school students about college and career issues. Along with a friend from high school, Justin co-founded a scholarship for graduating seniors at Sam Houston HS that has awarded over \$35,000 since 2007. Aside from service directly related to the Arlington ISD, Justin currently sits on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee for United Way of Tarrant County and previously served on the Boards of Directors of the Arlington Public Library Foundation and of Leadership Arlington, where for three years he helped direct the Youth Leadership Arlington program.