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#### Capitol Watch

#### Upcoming Deadlines

#### Meetings & Events

#### TASA

#### TEA/SBOE/SBEC

#### State Agencies/Associations

#### External Association News

#### Future-Ready Students & Schools

#### Around Texas

#### National News

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[www.TASAnet.org](http://www.TASAnet.org)

#### Capitol Watch

### Texas House Public Education Committee Hears Merit Pay, Voucher Bills and More

The Texas House Public Education Committee met Tuesday to hear public testimony on a long list of bills, including a bill creating a merit pay system for teachers and one creating a voucher program for special needs students. [Learn more.](#)

### Full House Gives Preliminary OK to Bills Providing Rainy Day Funding to Help TRS Retirees

On Tuesday the full House of Representatives gave preliminary approval to two bills that would use funding from the Economic Stabilization Fund to help TRS retirees. [Learn more.](#)



### School Board Members from Across Texas Visit Capitol

School board trustees from districts across the state visited the Capitol on Tuesday to urge legislators to better fund public schools.

Districts represented included: Aledo, Allen, Austin, Bastrop, Carrollton-Farmers Branch, Coppell, Eanes, Fort Bend, Fort Worth, Frisco, Garland, Grapevine-Colleyville, Houston,

Hurst-Eules-Bedford, Kerrville, Klein, Lancaster, Leander, Lewisville, Lovejoy, Manor, Marion, Northeast, Northside, Northwest, Pflugerville, Plano, Richardson, Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City, and Spring Branch.

### Texas House Public Education Committee Reconsiders Amended HB 21, Votes it Out Again

HB 21, voted out of the Texas House Public Education Committee [last Tuesday](#), was sent back to committee Monday evening. Changes to the bill, which included removal of the funding for charter school facilities and the funding for the existing debt allotment, were laid out before the bill was passed out of committee again with a vote of 9-1. It now goes to the full House.

#### Upcoming Deadlines

### In One Week: Postmark Deadline for Region 12 Executive Committee Ballots

TASA is holding an election to fill the open Region 12 position on the TASA Executive Committee. Candidates are: Vicki Adams, superintendent, Hillsboro ISD; George Kazanas, superintendent, Midway ISD; A. Marcus Nelson, superintendent, Waco ISD; and Michael Novotny, superintendent, Salado ISD. Ballots, which were mailed July 31 to each active member in Region 12, must be returned postmarked no later than **August 9**.