

TASN^{ews}

Winter 2023, Vol. 19, No. 2

A Publication of the Texas Association for School Nutrition

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Houston, Texas

2023 TASN Annual Conference Registration is Now Open! See Pages 15–24.



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Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD

Area 10 Representative
Veronica Villarreal
East Central ISD

Area 12 Representative
Tina Brooks
Stratford ISD

2023-2024 TASN ELECTION



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TASN WINTER 2023 ews

2023 TASN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 10-13, 2023
HOUSTON



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2023 PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION SUMMIT (PCS)

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Food and Nutrition, Texas Department of Agriculture

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5910 Courtyard Drive Suite 230, Austin, TX 78731
(800) 444-5189

Shelley Livaudais
Editor / Designer

Karen Andrasi, CMP
Executive Director

Samara Traylor
Ad Sales
samarat@tasn.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WINTER 2023

Greetings TASN members,

I hope that all of you had a restful break and that you are recharged and ready to get back to the important work of feeding our students. Spring break is on the horizon, and if you look hard, you can see the end of the school year.

As you make plans for the rest of your school year, please remember the following events:

- **TASN Partnership Collaboration Summit (PCS)**
February 22-24, 2023 in Arlington, Texas (see also [page 47](#))
- **SNA Legislative Action Conference (LAC)**
March 5-7, 2023 in Washington, D.C.
- **TASN Annual Conference**
June 10-13, 2023 in Houston, Texas (see also [pages 15-24](#))
- **SNA Annual National Conference (ANC)**
July 9-11, 2023 in Denver, Colorado



Each of these conferences will provide you with learning opportunities, networking possibilities, and a much-needed break from the daily routine. Details can be found on the [TASN website](#) and the [SNA website](#). I will be at all of them, and I hope to see a Texas-sized crowd at each one.

TASN board elections are coming up soon (*see [page 8](#)*). Electronic voting will be held from March 1-31. Please make your voice heard. While you are at it, now is a good time to start thinking about next year's election. TASN is always looking for new members to take leadership positions in the organization. If you are curious about the duties of the different leadership positions, please reach out to the current officers. We would be happy to tell you about the work we do. Visit the TASN [Board of Directors page](#) for our contact information.

I also want to give you some information on the strategic plan that your officers will use to guide the organization through the next three years. We chose to focus on three key areas: membership, professional development, and advocacy. We feel that a focus on continuous improvement in these three areas will help TASN provide value to our members and the students that we serve. Check out a copy of the [strategic plan](#) on our website.

Finally, I would like to express some gratitude. The headquarters staff and the TASN Board of Directors are a committed group of individuals. They all put our members first. Ask anyone on the board or at HQ, and they will tell you that our members are the main thing. We all want our members to help us strengthen this organization and elevate the perception of school nutrition professionals. It is my privilege to be a leader, but my passion is being a member. I love what we do for our students, and I know that we do it better because of TASN. Thank you for your continued support and everything that you do out there to help feed our students.

Darin Crawford

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

TASN 2022–2023 President

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

by Karen J. Andrasi,
TASN Executive Director

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their time off. As we start the new year, please remember to vote in the upcoming TASN election (*see page 8*). The election dates are March 1–31. You must be a current TASN member as of January 31 to vote. If you have questions about your membership, please contact [Vanessa Ortiz](#).

So, you ask, what's taking place in TASN? Let me share some of the exciting things that are going on within your association.

The new [certification program](#) started July 1, 2022, and we are happy to announce that we have 244 new certifications. The Education Committee did an amazing job revising the program. A huge thank you to all that were involved.

FREE MONEY!

Ah, I see I have your attention. TASN has a variety of [awards](#) and [scholarships](#) available for all TASN members. The deadline for TASN award and scholarship applications is February 10. The winners will be recognized at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference. Please see [page 41](#), visit the education section of the [TASN website](#), or contact [Eric Vicharelli](#) for instructions, forms, and other pertinent information.

The February board and committee meetings will be hosted at the Austin Marriott South Hotel January 31–February 1. An external auditor will be presenting the audit for the 2021–2022 fiscal year.

The TASN Partnership Collaboration Summit (PCS, formerly the TASN Industry Seminar) is just around the corner. We will be hosting the event in Arlington,

Texas at the [Live! by Loews Hotel](#). This will be the first event TASN is hosting in Arlington. We would love to see you there. The event will be February 22–24. Please join us for two days of learning and networking. We will have breakout panel discussions, a TDA update from Lena Wilson, and international speaker, award-winning entertainer, and American Ninja Warrior Alex Weber. See [page 47](#) and the [TASN website](#) for more information.

Each year several TASN board members travel to Washington, D.C. to advocate for school nutrition programs and attend the [SNA Legislative Action Conference](#). Each state teams up with SNA to make your voices heard. SNA will provide a position paper for us to discuss with our representatives. [Registration](#) is still open and we'd love to have you join us.

We are excited about the TASN Annual Conference June 10–13. This year's theme is "Creating Magic." Join us as we create magic! The three-day event will be held at the [George R. Brown Convention Center](#) in Houston, and the host hotel will be the stunning [Marriott Marquis](#). If you are interested in volunteering or teaching a class, please contact Eric Vicharelli at ericv@tasn.net. Conference registration is now open, and full details can be found on [pages 15-24](#) in this issue and on the [TASN website](#).

There will be learning sessions for all categories of membership, and our two general session speakers are Jon Colby and TDA Assistant Commissioner Lena Wilson. There are also opportunities for sponsoring and exhibiting at the TASN Annual Conference. We opened exhibit sales online in August and to date have sold 212 booths.

SECRETARY/TREASURER CORNER

by Susan D’Amico, Aldine ISD
TASN Secretary/Treasurer



Happy new year! I hope this winter edition of *TASNews* finds you renewed and refreshed after enjoying holiday celebrations with family and friends and some much-needed rest over the winter break.

Be sure you place TASN events on your calendar.

We hope to see many of you at the **Partnership Collaboration Summit (PCS)**, February 22–24, at the **Live! by Loews Hotel** in Arlington.

Speaking of meetings: the TASN financials are much more stable now that we are able to meet in person. As of September 30, 2022, the total income was \$274,912.65 and the total expense was \$76,350.72. Our investment account had a loss of \$42,299.83, which left us with a net income of \$156,262.10. As always, the Finance Committee will continue to post **financial reports** on the TASN website.

Thank you for taking care of the students in Texas and doing all you can to have a positive impact on them every day. Happy New Year to you all!



TASN CALENDAR

Third TASN Board of Directors/Committee Meetings	January 31–February 1	Austin, Texas
2023 TASN Partnership Collaboration Summit	February 22–24	Arlington, Texas
SNA Legislative Action Conference	March 5–7	Washington, D.C.
TASN Annual Conference Early Bird Registration Deadline	April 14	
TASN Annual Conference Regular Registration Deadline	May 15	
2023 TASN Annual Conference	June 10–13	Houston, Texas
2024 TASN Annual Conference	June 2024	San Antonio, Texas

Happy New Year

FROM TASN HQ!



2023 is here! TASN headquarters is working diligently to provide a wonderful and knowledgeable experience at the upcoming February board meeting, 2023 Partnership Collaboration Summit, and 2023 TASN Annual Conference! We look forward to seeing all of our members and partners while having the opportunity to network and grow! Let's make every day count. Cheers to you!



Pictured from left to right:

Samara Traylor
Meeting & Event Coordinator

Eric Vicharelli
Education & Training Specialist

Vanessa Ortiz
Membership & Event Registration Specialist

Greetings from Area 5 Representative

Vicky Ybarra, Red Oak ISD



Happy New Year from Area 5! In our personal lives, the new year is a time to reflect on the past and look forward to what the future holds. I am most excited about the certification changes happening at TASN. There is no better time to invest in yourself by becoming TASN certified than now, and TASN

has made it easier than ever to become certified. Check out the TASN website for information about certification, the managers and administrative academies, scholarships, and more!

We are also looking forward to attending the **2023 Partnership Collaboration Summit** in February, right here in Arlington! This event connects industry partners with K-12 decision makers and offers in-depth discussions, training, and networking opportunities.

Finally, we can't wait to take the trip south to Create Magic in Houston as we attend the **2023 TASN Annual Conference**. We are looking forward to attending training sessions, exploring the exhibit hall, and having some fun! See you in Houston!!

2023-2024 TASN ELECTION

TASN election candidate interviews were held during the October 2022 board of directors meeting, and the slate of candidates has been finalized.

You will be voting on the following positions:

- Vice President (one-year term)
- Secretary/Treasurer (two-year term)
- Public Policy & Legislative Chair (two-year term)
- Area 3 Representative (two-year term)
- Area 5 Representative (two-year term)
- Area 7 Representative (two-year term)

We are pleased to introduce the candidates to you on the next few pages.

.....
*** VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE FROM MARCH 1-31**
.....

Make sure your voice is heard.
TASN needs your help to keep your association moving forward!

**Watch your inbox and
the TASN website for
voting details and
instructions!**

**You must be an active member as of
January 31, 2023, to be eligible to vote.*



VICE PRESIDENT

One-Year Term

**SUSAN D'AMICO, MS, RDN, SNS**

Executive Director, Aldine ISD

TASN Member for: 27 years

SNA Member for: 16 years

TASN Positions Held:

- Secretary/Treasurer for 2 years
- Self Op Committee for 2 years

TASN/SNA Presentations:

I have taught various classes at TASN conferences

Education/Certifications:

- SNA School Nutrition Specialist
- Registered Dietitian
- Master's Degree, Sam Houston State University
- Bachelor's Degree, University of Texas Health Science Center

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

I'm passionate about developing people and seeing them succeed. I believe that strengthening TASN is a great way to aid in this endeavor.

Goals for Office:

I would like to find ways to make TASN membership and educational opportunities more meaningful at all levels. This will naturally lead to increases in membership. Gathering member surveys at the June conference and simplifying the certification process were a great start in this direction.

NO OPPOSING CANDIDATE

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Two-Year Term



CHRISTIE LAMMERS, MS, RDN, LD, SNS

Child Nutrition Director, Texarkana ISD

TASN Member for: 7 years

SNA Member for: 5 years

TASN Positions Held:

- Membership Committee, 2019
- Conference Planning Committee, 2021

TASN/SNA Presentations:

Moderator, 2022 Annual Conference. My district team members sat on a panel at the 2019 Business of Numbers & Nutrition conference in Austin.

Education/Certifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition & Dietetics, University of Central Arkansas
- Master's Degree in Nutrition & Dietetics, University of Central Arkansas
- Dietetic Internship, University of Central Arkansas
- Teacher Certification Program, Texas A&M Texarkana
- Nationally Registered Dietitian
- Texas Licensed Dietitian
- SNS Certification

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

Leadership Texarkana class of 2020. Serving on the Board of the Texarkana Tough Kookie Foundation for Breast & Childhood Cancer Awareness. Formed Texarkana Association of School Nutrition TASN Chapter in 2019. Served as President from 2019-2020. Texarkana ISD has received 2 Best of The Bunch Awards in the past 4 years for our Farm to School efforts. Texarkana ISD has had a zero finding Administrative Review for operating: The National School Lunch, National School Breakfast, After School Care, Seamless Summer Option, Procurement and Child & Adult Care Food Programs in the last 3 years.

Goals for Office:

A priority will be to encourage participation in TASN leadership to support our membership. Our organization will grow best when individual members feel empowered to lead and support organizational goals.

NO OPPOSING CANDIDATE

PUBLIC POLICY & LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Two-Year Term



JENNIFER MILLER, MBA

Director of Student Nutrition Services, Garland ISD

TASN Member for: 13 years

SNA Member for: 13 years

TASN Positions Held:

- Nominating Committee Member and Chair
- Public Policy & Legislative Committee Member

TASN/SNA Presentations:

- 2017 SNA ANC: Building Partnerships
- 2019 SNA ANC: From Mind to Marketing
- 2018 TASN Annual Conference: From Mind to Marketing
- 2019 TASN Industry Seminar: Developing A+ Marketing Materials

Education/Certifications:

- Bachelor's Degree: Dietetics and Institutional Administration
- Master's of Business Administration
- School Nutrition Specialist

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

American Commodities Distribution Association (member); CIA Healthy Kids Collaborative (member and working group chair); Child Nutrition Directors of North Texas (PP&L); North Texas Summer and Supper Council (leadership committee, SNA member)

Goals for Office:

To effectively communicate public policy changes and updates to TASN members.

To increase membership participation in legislative outreach.

To increase participation in TASN throughout the state of Texas.

NO OPPOSING CANDIDATE

AREA 3 REPRESENTATIVE Two-Year Term



NANCY MACIAS

Assistant Director
of Child Nutrition,
Sheldon ISD

TASN Member for:

3 years

SNA Member for:

7 years

TASN Positions Held:

N/A

TASN/SNA Presentations:

N/A

Education/Certifications:

- Associates Degree in Science (Honors), Houston Community College
- TASN Certification Level 5, SNA Certification Level 4
- TASN Administrative Academy 2022

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

Treasurer of Sheldon ASN

Goals for Office:

To communicate with impact.
To help inspire, navigate, and motivate our members to bring about their desired school nutrition goals.



SANDRA MORENO

Food Distribution
Coordinator, Galena
Park ISD

TASN Member for:

13 years

SNA Member for:

N/A

TASN Positions Held:

N/A

TASN/SNA Presentations:

N/A

Education/Certifications:

Medical Coding and Billing certified, Sanford Brown College (Houston)

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

N/A

Goals for Office:

To apply a positive team atmosphere when visiting districts.
I would be flexible and versatile when helping anyone who would reach out for help.

AREA 5 REPRESENTATIVE

Two-Year Term



SUELLEN ATTEBERY
Operations Supervisor,
Garland ISD

TASN Member for:

7 years

SNA Member for:

7 years

TASN Positions Held:

N/A

TASN/SNA Presentations:

N/A

Education/Certifications:

- ServSafe instructor/proctor
- National/state/local PTA lifetime member
- PTA Extended Service Award
- Garland ISD Council of PTAs president
- Organized, implemented, successfully completed National PTA School of Excellence Program for Garland ISD Council of PTAs

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

Creative junkie, natural leader & go-getter, highly organized & I get the job done. I enjoy building successful teams.

Goals for Office:

Engage employees & encourage participation in training and events. Establish new schools and districts for TASN in Area 5.

NO OPPOSING CANDIDATE

AREA 7 REPRESENTATIVE

Two-Year Term



JOY PETERS
Director of Child
Nutrition, Pecos-
Barstow-Toyah ISD

TASN Member for:

7 years

SNA Member for:

3 years

TASN Positions Held:

Area 7 Representative

TASN/SNA Presentations:

N/A

Education/Certifications:

N/A

Other Information You'd Like to Include:

N/A

Goals for Office:

Rebuild the West Texas membership.

NO OPPOSING CANDIDATE

PLAT *School Nutrition Program*

On Site Packaging Machines

VS 300

- Manual Table Top / 110 Volts



HSTT

- Semi-Automatic / 110 Volts



SS Tables Available On All Machines



Ava / Jack Lowve

HS+ P

- Semi-Automatic / 110 Volts
- Easy, Changeover Dies



- Ideal For Elementary & High School Sites
- Light, Uses Little Counter Space

2023 TASN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 10–13, 2023 | HOUSTON

Marriott Marquis Hotel & George R. Brown Convention Center





JOIN US IN HOUSTON

Join TASN, ISD food service professionals, and industry partners as we come together to shape, build, and support K-12 child nutrition programs in Texas.

2023 TASN Annual Conference sessions will take place in Houston, June 10-13, 2023, at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. The exhibit hall will be located in the George R. Brown Convention Center, which is connected via sky bridge to the hotel.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The TASN Annual Conference is a valuable educational and networking opportunity for all ISD K-12 food service employees, specialist, managers, directors, supervisors, superintendents, stakeholders, and industry partners. Online registration is now open. We hope to see you there!

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

This four-day event is all about the expansion of the mind! You will experience inspirational keynote speakers and attend sessions designed to generate ideas you can implement in your district. You will also have the opportunity to meet our exhibitors and explore the exhibit hall, network with like-minded professionals, and take some time to have fun.

JOIN US IN CREATING MAGIC!
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

REGISTER NOW



2023 TASN ANNUAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

GEORGE R. BROWN CONVENTION CENTER

The George R. Brown Convention Center opened in downtown Houston on September 26, 1987. The world-class convention campus has undergone two major expansions, growing the facility to 1.8 million square feet. Two connected hotels were added along with [Avenida Plaza](#), an outdoor pedestrian-friendly event and leisure space featuring restaurants, retail, and free live entertainment. **Conference Exhibits will be located in Hall B3 of the Convention Center.**



George R. Brown Convention Center



High Dive poolside restaurant at the Marriott Marquis Hotel

MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOUSTON HOTEL

Experience the perfect blend of exceptional service, convenience, and modern style year-round at Marriott Marquis Houston Hotel, located in downtown Houston and connected by sky walk to the George R. Brown Convention Center. Settle into spacious guest rooms and suites with pool, park or city views and deluxe amenities. Take a dip in the infinity pool or the world's largest Texas-shaped rooftop lazy river. Satisfy your palate with six onsite dining options. **The Marriott Marquis Houston Hotel will host TASN registration, general sessions, learning sessions, award ceremony, annual meeting, board meeting, and meals.**

RATES & RESERVATIONS

Annual Conference Room Rate: \$219

RESERVE HOTEL NOW

Marriott Marquis Houston Hotel
1777 Walker St
Houston, TX 77010
713-654-1777

If you opt to call to make your reservation, make sure to mention you're attending the TASN Annual Conference in order to receive the TASN rate.



Avenida Plaza Houston

GENERAL SESSIONS



FIRST GENERAL SESSION

JON COLBY

IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP THROUGH IMPROV

Jon Colby has been empowering people with improv for 20 years. From presenting to performing, his engaging and highly interactive approach has successfully helped various audiences across the United States become better communicators, listeners, co-workers, teammates, salespeople, and even family members. He has motivated and entertained hundreds of clients, including some of the nation's top companies and organizations.



SECOND GENERAL SESSION

LENA WILSON

TDA UPDATE

Lena Wilson is the Assistant Commissioner for the Food and Nutrition Division at the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). She oversees all activities related to compliance with regulations for the 12 federal nutrition programs administered by the agency. Lena, a registered dietitian, has more than 20 years of experience with federal nutrition programs. She often touts that she is one of the few people who has worked at the state and local level with every U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition assistance program including the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

LEARNING SESSIONS

Here are just some of the valuable learning sessions you'll see at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference! Check the TASN website for more to come as we finalize the schedule.

KEY AREA 1: NUTRITION		AUDIENCE
General Nutrition	Review nutrition in a broad manner including nutrition, recipes, appearance, and more.	E
Menu Analysis	Covers methods and tools used to create better menus. Focus on more accurate reporting to maximize opportunities.	S D

KEY AREA 2: OPERATIONS		AUDIENCE
Offer vs Serve	Reviews basics of offer vs serve material at the employee level. Beneficial at every level, but more so at the specialist level.	E
Food Safety	Covers core concepts of food safety that are the standards in school kitchens.	E
Chefs Table	Discuss menu selection, recipes, cooking methods, and success stories amongst chefs.	**Chefs Only**
Bid Specification	Better clarify how to properly write product specifications for industrial food service equipment. Provides strategies to better understand how to align with recent TDA changes.	D
Sales Channel	A 'How-To' for directors to build better relationships with vendors and understand what can and cannot be offered.	D

KEY AREA 3: ADMINISTRATION		AUDIENCE
Staff Training	How to create a training program for managers at individual school districts.	M S D

KEY AREA 4: MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS		AUDIENCE
Customer Service	Ranges from basic customer service practices to upper management practices that can be applied to all levels of positions.	E
Communication Skills	Offers insight into how to better communicate with the surrounding environment: customers, co-workers, outside agencies, etc.	E
Marketing	Develop a successful marketing plan to maximize participation in the cafeteria.	S D

E Employees/Specialists

M Managers

S Supervisors

D Directors

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

(TENTATIVE)

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

SNS Exam	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Registration Open	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Rehearsal - General Session / Awards / Installation	2:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Learning Sessions	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Board of Directors Dinner	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

Exhibitors Move in	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Registration & Chapter Sales Open	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
First Executive Committee Meeting	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Annual Meeting / Installation / Award Ceremony (includes lunch)	11:30 AM – 2:20 PM
TDA Food Production	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Learning Session	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

MONDAY, JUNE 12

Registration & Chapter Sales Open	8:00 AM – Noon
General Session – Jon Colby	9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Learning Sessions	10:45 AM – 1:15 PM
Exhibits Open for Decision Makers	10:45 AM – 1:15 PM
Exhibits Open for All	1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
General Session - Lena Wilson, TDA Update	3:45 PM – 5:00 PM
Industry Evening Event (includes dinner)	7:00 PM – 11:00 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Exhibits Open for All	8:30 AM – 1:30 PM
First Board of Directors Meeting	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM



REGISTRATION FORM

2023 TASN Annual Conference

Houston, Texas | June 10-13, 2023

Badges will be assigned per the paid TASN membership category. ID will be required to pick up badges.

EARLY BIRD PAYMENT DEADLINE
APRIL 14, 2023

Address will be given to exhibitors

REGISTRATION INFO: (FOR ISD, TDA, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER, AND ESC PERSONNEL ONLY)

Name:	Member Number:
School District:	Position:
Summer Address:	City/State/Zip:
Phone:	Fax:
Email:	
Special Accommodations/Allergies:	

REGISTRATION FEES (includes all items listed on the same line plus exhibit hall entry)

EARLY BIRD PAYMENT DEADLINE: APRIL 14, 2023

REGISTRATION TYPE:	CHECK ONE:	REGISTRATION INCLUDES:	CHECK MEALS YOU WILL BE ATTENDING:	T-SHIRT: (Early Bird Only)
TASN Member: Early Bird	<input type="checkbox"/> \$285	Learning Sessions General Sessions Annual Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> Monday Dinner	Size:
TASN Member: Retired	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115	Learning Sessions General Sessions Annual Meeting	Meals not included	Size:

REGULAR PAYMENT DEADLINE: MAY 15, 2023 (Does not include T-shirt)

REGISTRATION TYPE:	CHECK ONE:	REGISTRATION INCLUDES:	CHECK MEALS YOU WILL BE ATTENDING:
TASN Member: Regular Rate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$335	Learning Sessions General Sessions Annual Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> Monday Dinner
TASN Member: Onsite Registration (after May 15)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$515	Learning Sessions General Sessions	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> Monday Dinner

GRAND TOTAL \$

PAYMENT INFORMATION ****Payment must be received by the deadline dates to receive that package price****

<input type="checkbox"/> P.O. Number (P.O. paperwork must be attached):	<input type="checkbox"/> Check Number:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Card Number:	<input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX		
Name on Card:	Exp. Date:	CVV Code:	Billing Zip:
Billing Address:			

Liability & Indemnification Agreement: Each form must be signed before registration can be processed. I the undersigned, am employed in the child nutrition profession in conjunction with K-12 schools. I request that you accept me as a participant at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference in Houston, TX, June 10-13, 2023, and I understand there is some inherent risk in traveling to and from and as a result of attending the conference. The undersigned hereby releases TASN and the committees, members, officers, employees, and directors from all liability for sickness, injury, death, and property damage that may be suffered in connection with such activities, whether due to negligence or otherwise, accepting such risks involved and waiving all rights of any kind that may otherwise arise. The undersigned agrees to indemnify TASN, its committees, members, officers, employees, and directors against all judgments obtained and against the cost of defense of such claims, including reasonable attorney's fees. Photo Release: I grant TASN, its representatives and employees, the right to take photographs of me and my property. I authorize TASN to copyright, use, and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that TASN may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, social networking, and web content. My registration application information will also be published for exhibitors using lead retrieval. No badge changes will be made onsite. **All cancellations must be received in writing no later than May 1, 2023. TASN will assess a \$50.00 administrative fee on all cancellations. No refunds will be made after May 1, 2023.**

REQUIRED

Signature/Date: _____

Please send your completed registration form with either your purchase order form or full payment. If using a purchase order, payment is due by April 14, 2023, to receive the Early Bird rate and by May 15, 2023 to receive the regular rate.

MAIL TO:

TASN Headquarters
5910 Courtyard Drive Ste #230, Austin, TX 78731
OR FAX TO: (512) 371-0125

NOTE: TASN will not accept any registrations in the office after MAY 15, 2023. We will have onsite registration forms at the onsite registration counter at the conference. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED WITH PAYMENT.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

HELLO TASN FAMILY! TASN headquarters is working hard to put on the best show for you at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference, hosted in Houston. We look forward to seeing all of you again! As we book speakers and create schedules, we would like to reach out to all our members to ask for volunteers. Volunteering is such a great way to get involved and be a part of the conference, not to mention how your time and effort assist in making the conference go as smoothly as possible.

TASN would also like to take this time to thank last year's volunteers! Huge shout-out to the following members:

Sandra Baxter
Bryan ISD

Ashley Robbins
North East ISD

Tina Brooks
Stratford ISD

Yolanda Rodriguez
Klein ISD

Vanessa Jimenez
Uplift Education

Taylor Thompson
North East ISD

Vicky Jones
Santa Fe ISD

Veronica Villarreal
East Central ISD

Christie Lammers
Texarkana ISD

Adam Whitten
White Settlement ISD

Joy Peters
Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD

Victoria Ybarra
Red Oak ISD

Norma Riojas
Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD

Eleazar Zuniga
Uplift Education

We are looking for volunteers for different days and times at the conference. View the Volunteer & Moderator form on the next page. If you have questions, feel free to call or **email** me.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Warm regards,
Eric Vicharelli

TASN Education & Training Specialist
5910 Courtyard Drive #230
Austin, Texas 78731
512.371.0087 ext. 207

Here is what some of our volunteers had to say:

"I enjoyed volunteering for TASN at the conference and would encourage others to as well. My task was easy, fun and allowed me to meet interesting people! Everything I needed to complete my assignment was ready for me, all I had to do was show up and introduce my speakers. I encourage anyone to volunteer. It's rewarding, easy and provides numerous networking opportunities."

CHRISTIE LAMMERS

"This was my third year volunteering at conference. Overall, I have found the experience to be pleasant. Volunteering allows me to meet other TASN members, enjoy classes I may not have planned to take, and see a different picture of how conference works."

ADAM WHITTEN

"Every time there is an opportunity, I like to volunteer. I would like to volunteer this coming year, I will look out for the 2023 form."

YOLANDA RODRIGUEZ

"This was my first time volunteering at conference. I truly enjoyed helping in all the different areas I was assigned, like at General Session during voting and filming the bilingual video promoting TASN. We had so much fun talking to people and listening to their stories of why they came to conference. I was happy to help. It gave me the opportunity to meet lots of people."

NORMA RIOJAS



Volunteer and Moderator

Request Form

2023 TASN Annual Conference

Phone: 512-371-0087 ext. 207 / Fax: 512-371-0125

Email: ericv@tasn.net

Volunteers/Moderators help make every TASN Conference a success.

Please complete the form below and return to TASN Headquarters.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Name **and** Phone: _____

Please Note: To volunteer or moderate, you must be registered for the 2023 TASN Annual Conference. Although we value and appreciate our volunteers and moderators, TASN is unable to reimburse volunteers and moderators for travel and/or conference expenses.

Volunteer Availability:

Please place an "X" by the times you are available, there are multiple shifts that volunteers and moderators can fill:

Saturday, June 10, 2023

_____ 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Sunday, June 11, 2023

_____ 11:00am – 1:00pm _____ 1:00pm – 3:00pm _____ 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Monday, June 12, 2023

_____ 8:30am – 10:30am _____ 10:30am – 12:30pm _____ 3:30pm – 5:00pm

LIABILITY & INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT:

Each form must be signed before registration can be processed. I request that you accept me as a participant at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference to be held in Houston, TX, June 10 -13, 2023. I understand there is some risk inherent in traveling to and from and as a result of attending the conference. The undersigned hereby releases TASN and the committees, members, officers, employees, and directors from all liability for injury, death and property damage that may be suffered in connection with such activities, whether due to negligence; otherwise, accepting such risks involved and waiving all rights of any kind that might otherwise arise. The undersigned agrees to indemnify TASN, its committees, members, officers, employees, and directors against all judgments obtained and against the cost of defense of such claims, including reasonable attorney's fees. TASN HQ is located at 5910 Courtyard Drive #230, Austin, TX 78731.

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Chapter Flag Release Form

Chapter Name: _____

Contact Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Alternate Phone Number: _____

School District: _____

Flag Representative: _____

By signing this form, I understand there is a \$25.00 fee for not picking up my flag. (This fee is to cover the cost of mailing the flag back to your chapter).

Note:

- There will be a sign out sheet to retrieve your flag at registration.
- You are not allowed to remove your flag from the flagpole, TASN has hired people that will handle this.
- You may pick your flag up at the registration desk at 5:00 PM Monday, June 12, 2023

Signature: _____

Please send flags to TASN Headquarters by May 15th

Texas Association for School Nutrition
5910 Courtyard Drive, Suite 230
Austin, TX 78731

Chapter News

Area 3

Aldine ASN

For our first general meeting, the Houston Fire Department visited and trained us on smoke detectors and fire safety. Our second general meeting of the year was Halloween themed, and we trick-or-treated around the child nutrition office. Our standout costumes were a mislabeled chips case, a banana, Catwoman, a clown, Elmo, a butterfly, and a cowgirl.



We had a successful TASN workshop in December, and taught classes over basic nutrition, HACCP planning, workplace safety, and teamwork. We continued our tradition of selling World's Finest Chocolate throughout the fall semester. We ended the year with our annual Christmas party.



*Aldine School Nutrition Association
Workshop 2022*

Area 6

Eagle Mountain – Saginaw CNA



The Eagle Mountain Child Nutrition Association is super excited about the 2022–2023 association meetings we've had so far, and we're excited to share with all of you what we have been doing here at Eagle Mountain Saginaw Child Nutrition Association.

In October, we decorated cookies with our cookie expert, Jordan Costantine. In November, we learned to bake cinnamon rolls for a fundraiser for our scholarships as well as for money to attend the TASN Annual Conference. Our annual Christmas party was held in December, and in the months to follow we will have a lot more exciting things to do!



We are working hard to motivate our staff to become members of our Child Nutrition Association. Some of the things that we are trying to do here at Eagle Mountain-Saginaw is to have fun creative, exciting, and hands-on meetings.

*Submissions for the
spring issue of the TASN News
are due*

MARCH 1

*Please submit all
articles and photos to
communications@tasn.net*

Chapter News

Area 6

White Settlement ASN

Hello, everyone. The White Settlement Association for School Nutrition is back from a two-year break! Like most of you, COVID-19 upended our world, and our association took a back seat to other issues in life. Currently, we meet monthly, working in community service projects, and raising funds for upcoming events.

WSISD is a small district, which allows our child nutrition employees the opportunity to be a part of our students' education process. Developing relationship with teachers and aides helps them use the cafeteria serving line as a learning opportunity. One of our elementary schools, Liberty Elementary, is a dual-language campus that is home to several students who are Spanish-speaking only. Angelica Ortiz, the cafeteria manager, is a bilingual speaker who uses her knowledge of both languages to engage students in learning about nutritional eating, food allergies, and numbers.

When asked about the benefits of having cafeteria workers who are bilingual, one of the Liberty students stated, "We feel secure because we know

that we will be able to communicate and be able to eat, because sometimes you don't get exactly what you want because you do not know how to express yourself in other languages."

One of the Liberty Elementary teachers said, "In my opinion, to have a bilingual cafeteria manager offers the students not only understanding in their language, but also appreciation of their language and culture."

Angelica has written an article (*see next page*) about how being a bilingual cafeteria manager has helped in her job, utilizing Spanish with English translation. Not being able to read the Spanish version of her article has helped me better understand the challenge of communicating with students who do not understand English.

Our association and department is dedicated to working with students, staff, parents, and the community to develop healthy eating habits for our students!



White Settlement ASN continued

Hello, my name is Angelica Ortiz, manager of Liberty Elementary in White Settlement ISD. Let me start by saying that it is a privilege to be able to write this article in the language that touches my heart and the hearts of many others.

Being part of the WSISD family has given me the great privilege of being able to serve children in an area that is vital to their development, Child Nutrition. As the saying goes "full belly, happy heart."

Liberty Elementary offers a dual language program, and for some students moving to the United States from their home country, is the first school they attend. For these students their only language is Spanish, and I have watched as the student's eyes light up when they enter the serving line and are offered food in their native language. Not only do they feel welcome, but also teaches them importance of making good choices by eating fruits and vegetables each day.

We live in an ever-changing world full of challenges. Each day we face the challenge of preparing foods for children with various allergies to different foods. This provides a learning opportunity: explaining to the student, in Spanish and in a way that they understand, why they cannot eat a certain food. Since they understand in more detail, they are content with the alternate choice and willingly accept what they can eat.

Another way being bilingual is beneficial, is working with teachers to help students learn the numbers. Each week I ask, "What is the language of the week." I encourage all students to learn their lunch number in both Spanish and English, and then recite the number aloud when they enter their lunch number. The students love to practice in both languages and receive a small prize if they have their number memorized. This has encouraged children who do not participate in the dual language program to learn their numbers in Spanish.

There are many benefits of being a bilingual manager: being a part of two worlds, two cultures, and above all, more opportunities in which I have been able to serve.

Hola, mi nombre es Angélica Ortiz. Quiero empezar diciendo que es un privilegio poder escribir este artículo en el idioma que toca mi corazón y el corazón de muchos.

El ser parte de la familia de WSISD me ha dado el gran privilegio de poder servir a los niños en una parte que es vital para su desarrollo: la nutrición infantil. Pues como dice el refrán, "pancita llena corazón contento".

El ser gerente bilingüe de la cafetería de una escuela bilingüe de mi distrito, me ha brindado la oportunidad de poder ayudar a niños recién llegados de su país natal. Ellos solo hablan español y su primera escuela en este país ha sido Liberty Elementary. He podido ver como se les iluminan sus ojos al ver que alguien les ofrece comida utilizando los nombres en su propio idioma. Eso no solamente los hace sentir bienvenidos, sino también les enseña a entender la importancia de tomar buenas decisiones al escoger comer frutas y verduras todos los días.

Vivimos en un mundo muy cambiante y lleno de retos como, por ejemplo: Todos los días se nos presenta el reto de preparar alimentos para los niños con varias alergias a diferentes comidas. Con esto se presenta la oportunidad de poder explicarles en español y de una manera que ellos entiendan por qué no pueden comer determinada comida. Al comprender lo que se les dice, se quedan conformes con la decisión y aceptan de buena gana lo que sí pueden comer.

También cuando las maestras traen los niños a la cafetería y llegamos al punto donde los niños tienen que poner su número de identificación, yo ya les he preguntado a las maestras cuál es el lenguaje de la semana y así juntos podemos practicar los números siguiendo el lenguaje de la semana al ingresarlos. A los niños les encanta practicar en los dos idiomas y recibir un pequeño premio si se lo saben de memoria. Incluso, eso ha animado a los niños que no participan del programa bilingüe, a que ellos también intenten aprender los números en español.

Definitivamente, los beneficios de ser bilingüe son muchos; me ha abierto dos mundos y dos culturas y sobre todo más oportunidades en las cuales he podido aplicar uno de mis dichos favoritos: "El que no vive para servir, no sirve para vivir."

District News



Food and Child
Nutrition Services

First in Texas, Dallas ISD Celebrates National Plastic-Free Lunch Day

Dallas ISD Food and Child Nutrition Services celebrated National Plastic-Free School Lunch Day on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at Billy Earl Dade Middle school, as part of a nationwide initiative with the Urban School Food Alliance and Cafeteria Culture. Dallas ISD was the first district in Texas to join this national movement.

On this day, every school kitchen across Dallas ISD eliminated plastics by using tin foil to wrap sandwiches, serving on paper trays in place of plastic trays, offering biodegradable forks and plates, and using paper cups for water.

Students not only enjoyed delicious and nutritious meals, but they also contributed to reducing plastics in landfills. The menu items on this day were free of plastic wraps, plastic trays, and plastic flatware. Examples include:

- Chicken salad sandwiches wrapped in foil
- Fresh bananas
- Steamed corn served on paper portion trays
- Cheese and pepperoni pizzas served on paper trays



One of our lunches on Plastic Free Lunch Day!

Dallas ISD school cafeterias already use biodegradable and compostable trays and plates. The use of these items prevents millions of environmentally harmful plastic or Styrofoam plates and trays from being dumped into landfills. The elimination of dish machines in Dallas ISD school kitchens saves millions of gallons of water annually and keeps dish machine wastewater from entering drainage systems. Finally, Dallas ISD purchases many fresh Texas-grown seasonal fruits and vegetables, which reduces transportation costs and emissions, compared to purchasing the same items from out-of-state growers and vendors.

While Dallas ISD's school cafeterias already operate several "green" and environmentally friendly practices, joining the Plastic-Free School Lunch Day is just another step towards creating a better and healthier environment in Dallas ISD.

Check out some images from that day:



Students at Billy Earl Dade enjoy a delicious and nutritious plastic-free school meal.



Amount of plastic that was saved during one Lunch period.



Dallas ISD had the pleasure to enjoy the visit of one of the administrators from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

(From left to right)

Laura Benavidez from the Texas Department of Agriculture, Michael Rosenberger Executive Director of Dallas Food and Child Nutrition Services, Debi Rowley Director of support services and operations.

by John Ceballos
Klein ISD
TASN Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP

UPDATE



START CREATING MAGIC TODAY FOR YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER!

You don't have to wait until the 2023 Annual Conference to **create magic!** Bring the magic to your next chapter meeting by inviting guest speakers, offering

special programs or events to give your members a new experience and recruit potential members.

WHY SHOULD YOU HOST PROGRAMS?

- Professional growth
- Develop leaders
- Provide friendship and fellowship
- Continuing education for TASN Certification programs
- Legislation relating to child nutrition programs
- Raise money
- FUN!

WHAT ARE SOME TYPES OF EVENTS MY LOCAL CHAPTER CAN HOST?

- Meetings - Christmas party, end of year, or back to school
- Tours/field trips – local hot spots, casino trips

- Potlucks/ recipe exchanges
- Guest speakers – ask your superintendent to speak at your meeting. Want a TASN representative to come speak? Reach out to your area representative for more information!
- Demonstrations/contests – line decorating, food presentation
- Workshops

Planning a program or having a guest speaker can take some time and work, so get started early. With many details to figure out, it helps to get a group or committee together to help with planning. Don't know where to start? Ask your members what they would like to do and go from there! Who knows, you may be planning a new tradition that will continue for years to come!

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING

- Planning committee
- Objective of program (is it social, educational, or fundraising?)
- Event theme
- Number of people expected?
- Where and when will it be held?
- Marketing (social media, email ,etc.)
- Budget

SALAGADOOOLA MENCHICKA BOOLA BIBBIDI-BOBBIDI-BOO!



Now that I have your attention, my name is Vanessa Ortiz, the new TASN Membership Specialist. I'm excited to work with my new TASN family and help our association grow even more. As a membership specialist, I will be working with our area representatives, working alongside our chapters, and of course if you have any membership questions please feel free to email me at vanessao@tasn.net or call (512) 371-0087 ext. 205. I will be more than happy to help with any information requested. We love to show our support and demonstrate how teamwork can make a change to help each other grow in our careers and goals. I look forward to seeing new members and chapters join and enjoy all TASN has to offer!

Our area representatives have been working diligently with their area ISDs and are coming up with new insights to present to our new and current members. We all know how much COVID-19 has impacted us all. Now that things are getting back to normal in our social events, our area representatives will be presenting to ISDs soon. We are thrilled to gain more chapters this year and bring in new ideas to keep our chapters afloat. Be on the lookout for the great opportunities that our area representatives are willing to offer to all our members.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 4,360 active TASN members, of which 730 are new members! We welcome them to the TASN family and look forward to seeing them at future events. Take advantage of all the classes that are offered and earn your certification for a better future. We are hoping to have these new members become a part of an existing chapter or start a new chapter.

CHAPTERS

I would like to give a big thank you to our active chapters for helping our members gain certifications, develop leaders, and stay united for a better future! To our chapters who have dissolved and would like to gain their recognition, please submit the following documents to be recognized at the TASN Annual Conference in Houston and experience our annual chapter flag ceremony. Please submit all of the following documents at once:

1. **Bylaws** – your bylaws must have been written within the last five years. If revisions are needed, you must send updated bylaws.
2. **Chapter Officer Form** – the form is located on the [TASN website](#) and on [page 38](#).
3. **Active Chapter Member List** – although there are many active TASN members, please submit a list of all chapter members with a minimum of six members.

We would love to have your chapter recognized at the TASN Annual Conference.
Contact me at vanessao@tasn.net. It will be an enchanting experience!

TASN MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

September 1 - May 31

How it works:

- For every three (3) people you recruit to be members, your name will be entered into a drawing that will take place on TASN Facebook Live.

Prizes:

- \$100.00 cash prize, free membership for the next year, and recognition at the 2023 TASN Annual Conference.

Rules:

- Must be a new member or a person that has had inactive member status with TASN for two (2) or more years.
- Must include email address to be eligible.
- Must use membership drive form, located in this issue and on the TASN website.
- Recruiter must be a Specialist, Manager, or Supervisor.
- Recruit at least three (3) members to be eligible.
- Membership application form must be completed and postmarked by May 31, 2023.

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.

TASN Membership Application Form

Please check one of the following: **New Member** _____ **Member Renewal** _____

Personal Information:

Member #: _____

(Please print and complete information on this form. TASN will use this address for all correspondence.) Only completed forms will be processed.

Name

Last: _____ First: _____ M.I.: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt/Ste. #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

ISD: _____ Area: _____ Chapter: _____ County: _____

Position:	Category:	Individual:
Cooks, bakers, bookkeepers, technicians, assistants, equipment/maintenance specialists	Employee	\$23.00
Managers, head cooks, assistant managers, accounting dept., equipment/maintenance	Manager	\$28.00
Please circle or check one: Working in the foodservice program at the school district level, equipment/maintenance	Director or Supervisor	\$43.00
Working in the state office for child nutrition programs, including nutrition education	TDA, ESC, TDH	\$43.00
Retired school foodservice workers	Retired	\$18.00
Full-time students enrolled in college or university in the foodservice, nutrition, or dietary program	Students	\$13.00
Persons involved in non-foodservice administrative duties of a school district, college/university in Texas, or an allied non-profit organization	Affiliate	\$18.00

If recruiting during TASN's year-long membership drive period, please fill out the following. **September 1st - May 31st**

Membership Drive Requirements:

- Must be a new member or a person with an inactive member status with TASN for two (2) or more years
- Must include email address
- Must use this membership drive form
- Recruiter must be a specialist, manager, or supervisor
- Recruit at least three (3) members for one (1) entry

Prizes: \$100.00 gift card, Free TASN membership for recruiter, and recognition at the TASN Annual Conference.

Recruitment must be postmarked within membership drive dates.

Recruiter's Information:

Recruiter's Name: _____ Recruiter Member #: _____

Recruiter's Phone: _____ Recruiter's ISD: _____

Recruiter's Email: _____

Payment Information:

Credit Card type: _____ Check #: _____

Name on Card: _____ Billing Address: _____

Credit Card #: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Please return payment and application form to: TASN, 5910 Courtyard Drive, Suite #230, Austin, Texas 78731
or by Fax: (512) 371-0125

Do you make purchasing decisions for your district? Yes No Is your salary paid by a management company? Yes No

Member (ISD, TDA, ESC, TDH) Signature: _____ Date: _____

NEW TASN ISD MEMBERS

November 2021 – November 2022

Margie Stewart, A Plus Charter School, Inc.
 Melissa McCormick, Abilene ISD
 Theresa Almendarez, Aldine ISD
 Elda Balderas, Aldine ISD
 Christian Burris, Aldine ISD
 Veronica Castro, Aldine ISD
 LaTonya Coleman, Aldine ISD
 Andre Crawford, Aldine ISD
 Nadene Davis, Aldine ISD
 Mariah DeLaPaz, Aldine ISD
 Adjara Garba, Aldine ISD
 Yolanda Garza, Aldine ISD
 Charlette Hughes, Aldine ISD
 Maria Rodriguez Juarez, Aldine ISD
 Alma Lizama, Aldine ISD
 Marivel Mendoza, Aldine ISD
 Esha Naaz, Aldine ISD
 Syreeta Noel, Aldine ISD
 Maria Nunez, Aldine ISD
 Stephanie Posadas, Aldine ISD
 Laura Rangel de Herrera, Aldine ISD
 Silvia Recinos, Aldine ISD
 Cynthia Rodriguez, Aldine ISD
 Tammy Sanchez Ramirez, Aldine ISD
 Zelda Thomas, Aldine ISD
 Verda Weathers, Aldine ISD
 Lisa Whitley, Aldine ISD
 Adriene Wilridge, Aldine ISD
 Nicole Winsey, Aldine ISD
 Anna Reynolds, Allen ISD
 Abigail Trevino, Alvarado ISD
 Misty Adams, Alvin ISD
 Pam Delker, Alvin ISD
 Lee Hensley, Alvin ISD
 Kathryn House, Alvin ISD
 Judy Hyde, Alvin ISD
 Debora Johnson, Alvin ISD
 Brittany Kite, Alvin ISD
 Samantha Laws, Alvin ISD
 Christian Miller, Alvin ISD
 Lakyn Owens, Alvin ISD
 Paul Weaver, Alvin ISD
 Rashonda Davis, Aristoi Classical Academy
 Shawn Mendoza, Atlanta ISD
 Doyletta Radford, Austin ISD
 Isabella Flores, Austin Achieve
 Alejandra Martinez, Austin Achieve
 Breanna Graves, Azle ISD
 Asusena Carcini, Barbers Hill ISD
 Shena Glavin, Barbers Hill ISD
 Katie Isaac, Barbers Hill ISD
 Rebecca Kegley, Barbers Hill ISD
 Jessica Mccuiston, Barbers Hill ISD
 Melinda Nettles, Barbers Hill ISD
 Randi Pinder, Barbers Hill ISD
 Maria Chan Verdin, Barbers Hill ISD
 McKaulia Bushnell, Beaumont ISD
 Meghan Chaisson, Beaumont ISD
 Francesca Herring, Beaumont ISD
 Crystal Landry, Beaumont ISD
 Princess Leblanc, Beaumont ISD

Litesha Limbrick, Beaumont ISD
 Ileshia Louis, Beaumont ISD
 Kaylan Malone, Beaumont ISD
 Michelle Pekar-Johnson, Beaumont ISD
 Sharadiah Ware, Beaumont ISD
 Stacy Bassett, Bellville ISD
 Saprenna Galbraith, Belton ISD
 Karon Allaire, Birdville ISD
 Teresa Cabrera, Birdville ISD
 Gloria Chaidez, Birdville ISD
 Norma Davila, Birdville ISD
 Claudia Diego, Birdville ISD
 Lidia Escalante, Birdville ISD
 Guadalupe Flores, Birdville ISD
 Mirna Garcia, Birdville ISD
 Alicia Hernandez, Birdville ISD
 Lindsey Gorman, Birdville ISD
 Patricia Loza, Birdville ISD
 Teresa Macias, Birdville ISD
 Beatrice Mullins, Birdville ISD
 Vanessa Ornelas, Birdville ISD
 Socorro Padilla, Birdville ISD
 Brenda Rodriguez, Birdville ISD
 Estela Rodriguez, Birdville ISD
 Martha Saenz, Birdville ISD
 Jerry (Jay) Collins, Brazosport ISD
 David Garza, Brazosport ISD
 Ronnie Lee, Brazosport ISD
 Diane Ayers, Caldwell ISD
 Dana Dodge, Carroll ISD
 Heather Brink, Central ISD
 Katherine Alexander, Channelview ISD
 Cristina Arenas, Channelview ISD
 Maria Cardenas, Channelview ISD
 Nereida Cuevas, Channelview ISD
 Faiti Alvarez Fernandez, Channelview ISD
 Nora Flores, Channelview ISD
 Beatriz Gonzalez, Channelview ISD
 Elizabeth Perez Guzman, Channelview ISD
 Silvia Martinez, Channelview ISD
 Maria Melgar, Channelview ISD
 Reveriana Orozco Merlan, Channelview ISD
 Claudia Montalvo, Channelview ISD
 Humanfla Montemayor, Channelview ISD
 Yazmin Munguia, Channelview ISD
 Alicia Parker, Channelview ISD
 Damaris Perez, Channelview ISD
 Nora Elva Izaguirre Rincon, Channelview ISD
 Maria Santuario De Rojas, Channelview ISD
 Carolyn Nevels, Chapel Hill ISD
 Michelle Mead, Chapel Hill ISD
 Geneva Graham, Cleveland ISD
 Ludi Jimenez, Cleveland ISD
 Irene Rodriguez, Cleveland ISD
 Maria Acosta, College Station ISD
 Maria Alvarado, College Station ISD
 Angie Alvarez-Smith, College Station ISD
 Kimberly Arias, College Station ISD
 Ceara Bazy, College Station ISD
 Maria Castillo, College Station ISD
 Rosaland Cobb, College Station ISD

Michaela Davenport, College Station ISD
 Catherine Freeman, College Station ISD
 Eliza Gibbs, College Station ISD
 Shantel Harmon, College Station ISD
 Temeshia Harris, College Station ISD
 Tamisha Jenkins, College Station ISD
 Shelia Lyrock, College Station ISD
 Blanca Martinez, College Station ISD
 Angela McMurray, College Station ISD
 Cynthia Pena, College Station ISD
 Yadira Pineiro, College Station ISD
 Heather Proseus, College Station ISD
 Carmelina Rhodes, College Station ISD
 Vivian Robinson, College Station ISD
 Sandra Sanchez, College Station ISD
 Juariati Sifi, College Station ISD
 Edma Sotelo, College Station ISD
 Tara Soto, College Station ISD
 Erika Tejeda, College Station ISD
 Zprina Tejada, College Station ISD
 Veronica Tristan, College Station ISD
 Daihong Zhao, College Station ISD
 Danay Freeman, Community ISD
 Haley Werner, Coppell ISD
 Britni Katter, Copperas Cove ISD
 Melissa Moreno, Copperas Cove ISD
 Ashley Wilbanks, Copperas Cove ISD
 Jamie Collingswood, Corpus Christi ISD
 Patricia Cortez, Corpus Christi ISD
 Janie Ramos, Corpus Christi ISD
 Yan Wang, Corpus Christi ISD
 Ashlin Bergstrom, Crosby ISD
 Laura Landeros, Crosby ISD
 Yadi Blanco, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Yuleinis Blanco, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Tesalia Bonilla, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Megdouda Boubenider, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Yasmith Calvo V, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Karina Castaneda, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Yesenia Cerna, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Rafael Dan, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Lucia Hernandez, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Anh Thi Le, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Tracy Miller, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Ngoc Nguyen, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Nicholas Olmas, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Rosalba Ordonez, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Maria Silva Rubio, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Terika Sandles, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Beatriz Santos, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
 Margaret Garza, Dallas ISD
 Yetzel Meza, Dallas ISD
 Trina Nelson, Dallas ISD
 Tira Griffin, Dayton ISD
 Cecilia Guia, Dayton ISD
 Katrina Winfrey, Decatur ISD
 Ana Benavides, Denton ISD
 Mary Campbell, Denton ISD
 Rebecca Cantrell, Denton ISD
 Tracy Cantrell, Denton ISD
 Norma Castillo, Denton ISD

NEW TASN ISD MEMBERS

November 2021 – November 2022

Guadalupe Contreras, Denton ISD	Charlotte Torres, Fort Worth ISD	Catherine Batiste, Houston ISD
Demita Felix, Denton ISD	Pamela Daniel, Frisco ISD	DuJuana Brown, Houston ISD
Donna Fisher, Denton ISD	Alicia Aandradecasique, Galena Park ISD	Laurie Buchsbaum, Houston ISD
Rosa Gaona, Denton ISD	Maria Alvarado, Galena Park ISD	Mariteri Calderone, Houston ISD
Amiee Greathouse, Denton ISD	Maria Carolina Blanco, Galena Park ISD	LaQuanda Charles, Houston ISD
Bethany Herrera, Denton ISD	Jocelyne Del Valle, Galena Park ISD	Jeremy Clark, Houston ISD
Iris Jones, Denton ISD	Gricelda Diaz, Galena Park ISD	April Cole, Houston ISD
Carolyn Kinney, Denton ISD	Aniya Eason, Galena Park ISD	Cora Coleman, Houston ISD
Holly LeDane, Denton ISD	Yadira Estrada, Galena Park ISD	Alaide Cortez, Houston ISD
Leticia Lira, Denton ISD	Gloria Francis, Galena Park ISD	Claudia Delgado, Houston ISD
Belinda Martin, Denton ISD	Diana Gonzalez, Galena Park ISD	Jason Ellis, Houston ISD
Kelly Olson, Denton ISD	Francisca Gonzalez, Galena Park ISD	Janet Figgins, Houston ISD
Michael Perry, Denton ISD	Olga Hernandez, Galena Park ISD	Arties Franklin, Houston ISD
Grace Rodriguez, Denton ISD	Angelica Mendoza-Perez, Galena Park ISD	April Gomez, Houston ISD
Maria Rodriguez, Denton ISD	Tonya Moore, Galena Park ISD	Ashley Gonzalez, Houston ISD
Jomayra Rolon, Denton ISD	Rosa Quintero Mota, Galena Park ISD	Wylica Hailey, Houston ISD
Annette Sepulveda, Denton ISD	Ana Paredones, Galena Park ISD	Gertrude Harris, Houston ISD
David Smith, Denton ISD	Rebeca Puentes, Galena Park ISD	LaTanisha Hayward, Houston ISD
Yazmin Soberanes Nava, Denton ISD	Maria Salazar, Galena Park ISD	Cristina Hernandez, Houston ISD
Anna Soriano, Denton ISD	Susana Salinas, Galena Park ISD	Judy Isles, Houston ISD
Shelly Straughan, Denton ISD	Erika Sanchez, Galena Park ISD	Tanshel Jefferson, Houston ISD
Desiree Alvarez, Dripping Springs ISD	Raquel Sanchez, Galena Park ISD	Jacqueline King, Houston ISD
Gladys Encinas, Dripping Springs ISD	Brenda Tyler, Galena Park ISD	Flore Kizzee, Houston ISD
MaryAnne McCord, Dripping Springs ISD	Maria Villarreal, Galena Park ISD	Annie Kollie, Houston ISD
Makala Miller, Dripping Springs ISD	Thao Vo, Galena Park ISD	Lorena Leiva, Houston ISD
Maria Tubb, Dripping Springs ISD	Shirley Williams, Galena Park ISD	Allison Lipscomb, Houston ISD
Julie Castillo, Duncanville ISD	Patricia Anderson, Garland ISD	Flora Mata, Houston ISD
Josie Devoe, Duncanville ISD	Suellen Atteberry, Garland ISD	Lillie McCardell, Houston ISD
Brenna Brown, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Brenda Cerda, Garland ISD	Claudia Medellin, Houston ISD
Ryan Carr, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Ryan Chasak, Garland ISD	Lisamarie Medrano, Houston ISD
Teresa Gaskie, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Nancy Davila, Garland ISD	Miah Nelson, Houston ISD
Mariza Ortiz, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Elizabeth De Los Santos, Garland ISD	Stacey Norman, Houston ISD
Samantha Reeves, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Seon Ervin, Garland ISD	Julie Pena, Houston ISD
Michelle Sanderson, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Holly Frias, Garland ISD	Ruth Perez, Houston ISD
Ray "Arthur" Vess, Eagle Mtn-Saginaw ISD	Craig Hempel, Garland ISD	Tawana Perkins, Houston ISD
Leslie Estrada, East Central ISD	Julia Hernandez, Garland ISD	Nicole Prevost, Houston ISD
Meredith Rokas, East Central ISD	Jason Hickman, Garland ISD	Martha Quintanilla, Houston ISD
Veronica Armendariz, Ector County ISD	Justin Jamin, Garland ISD	Yamileth Rodas, Houston ISD
Shannon Ballard, Ector County ISD	Kevin Jenkins, Garland ISD	Karla Villeda Santiago, Houston ISD
Gabriela Caballero, Ector County ISD	Carl Jones, Garland ISD	Katrina Staggers, Houston ISD
Ashley Dunn, Ector County ISD	Margaret Liew, Garland ISD	Yipsi Hernandez Suarez, Houston ISD
Yvonne Franco, Ector County ISD	Jennifer Miller, Garland ISD	Taji Tillis, Houston ISD
Megan Light, Ector County ISD	Karen Ramsey, Garland ISD	Anna Tristan, Houston ISD
Juanita Ocon, Ector County ISD	James Oates, Garland ISD	Gloria Vargas De La Cerda, Houston ISD
Elvia Ramirez, Ector County ISD	Stephen Rooks, Garland ISD	Gabriela Villarreal, Houston ISD
Baltazar Ruth, Ector County ISD	Susan Segars, Garland ISD	Stephanie Colgin, Huffman ISD
Betheny Vizena, Ector County ISD	Regina Shoniwa, Garland ISD	Rose Davila, Huffman ISD
Dora Markle, Edgewood ISD	Kimberly Speed, Garland ISD	Anabel Guel, Huffman ISD
Jamie Ford, Elgin ISD	Rebecca Sweet, Garland ISD	Ester Lopez, Huffman ISD
Jennifer Monaco, ESC Region 13	Francie Torres, Garland ISD	Mary Zapata, Houston ISD
Miranda Rhodes, ESC Region 15	Dulce Sosa, Grand Prairie ISD	Monica Flores, Huffman ISD
Laura Varney, ESC Region 13	Teresa Burks, Hardin ISD	Rebecca Nunez, Huffman ISD
Valencia Watson, ESC Region 7	Stephanie Greving, Harlingen ISD	Theresa Rankin, Huffman ISD
Patricia Ardon, Eustace ISD	Amanda Shewmaker, Harlingen ISD	Jessica Whittaker, Huffman ISD
Tammie Marlow, Fort Bend ISD	Marisela Zapata, Harlingen ISD	Rebecah Willis, Huffman ISD
Erick Acevedo, Fort Worth ISD	James Covington, Hays CISD	Vickie Wright, Huffman ISD
Alicia Berry, Fort Worth ISD	Rhonda Cloud, Hearne ISD	Barbara Rawlings, Hughes Spring ISD
Michael Hernandez, Fort Worth ISD	Gilbert Requena, Hidalgo ISD	Paola Barrientos, Humble ISD
Darlene Lopez Monge, Fort Worth ISD	Titilola Abumere, Houston ISD	Leigh Ann Elkins, Humble ISD
Jeanna Ratnayake, Fort Worth ISD	Iran Almaguer, Houston ISD	Kelli Braune, IDEA Public Schools
Stephanie Southall, Fort Worth ISD	Maria Baheda, Houston ISD	Melanie Cast, IDEA Public Schools

NEW TASN ISD MEMBERS

November 2021 – November 2022

Derek Miller, IDEA Public Schools
 Hannah Moreno, IDEA Public Schools
 Daniel Munoz, IDEA Public Schools
 Kristy Sharpe, IDEA Public Schools
 Melinda Durbin, Ingleside ISD
 Valerie Olavarria, Jubilee Academies
 Julieta Rodriguez, Jubilee Academies
 Juan Escalera, Judson ISD
 Delores Hendsen, Judson ISD
 Christina Impallari, Judson ISD
 Amanda Lott, Judson ISD
 Andrea Matney, Judson ISD
 Tabatha Pryor, Judson ISD
 Nikita Smith, Judson ISD
 Stephanie Ayala, Katy ISD
 Martina Royal, Katy ISD
 Maribel Swearington, Katy ISD
 Lucy Gonzalez, Kilgore ISD
 Maria Paulina Padilla Gonzalez, Kilgore ISD
 Idalis Luna, Kilgore ISD
 Estelle Meadows, Kilgore ISD
 Maria Pantojal, Kilgore ISD
 Elizabeth Arteaga, Killeen ISD
 Shanta Hall, Killeen ISD
 Rachael Hunter, Killeen ISD
 Maria Infante, Killeen ISD
 Irene Low, Killeen ISD
 Denise Manibusan, Killeen ISD
 Alfredo Montalvo, Killeen ISD
 Olivia Rodriguez, Killeen ISD
 Mannie Jackson, KIPP Texas Public Schools
 Guillermina Acevedo, Klein ISD
 Dina Cecilia Alfaro, Klein ISD
 Loreina Allen, Klein ISD
 Makeda Allen, Klein ISD
 Sobia Amin, Klein ISD
 Leticia Arevalo, Klein ISD
 Rosa Arredondo, Klein ISD
 Diluvina Arreguin, Klein ISD
 Rebecca Barajas, Klein ISD
 Erika Barnica, Klein ISD
 Neil Bautista, Klein ISD
 Jackie Belkis Bello, Klein ISD
 Yesenia Benitez, Klein ISD
 America Bernal, Klein ISD
 Rosibel Bolanos, Klein ISD
 Diana Bermudez, Klein ISD
 Jackie Campbell, Klein ISD
 Elida Campos, Klein ISD
 Tiffany Chamrad, Klein ISD
 Sithorn Choun, Klein ISD
 Mayra Del Rocio Pescina, Klein ISD
 Rosa Diaz, Klein ISD
 Ana Duin de Aranzazo, Klein ISD
 Emerita Espinal, Klein ISD
 Daria Favela, Klein ISD
 Rebecca Fernandez, Klein ISD
 Michael Fleshner, Klein ISD
 Serene Gamble, Klein ISD
 Cecilia Gomez, Klein ISD
 Ashley Nicole Gonzalez, Klein ISD

Haydee Gonzalez, Klein ISD
 Myrian Grajales, Klein ISD
 Donna Hagler, Klein ISD
 Andrea Hall, Klein ISD
 Jacquelyn Harris, Klein ISD
 Kanitha Hennigan, Klein ISD
 Gladys Hernandez, Klein ISD
 Rehana Ismail, Klein ISD
 Ashleeann Jones, Klein ISD
 Shonte Judie, Klein ISD
 Ranjit Kaur, Klein ISD
 Emigdia Lara, Klein ISD
 Sheri Lopez, Klein ISD
 Eva Lozano, Klein ISD
 Zaida Lugo, Klein ISD
 Patricia Magarin, Klein ISD
 Parveen Maradia, Klein ISD
 Tremeka Maxwell, Klein ISD
 Lluvia Median, Klein ISD
 Ana Mendez, Klein ISD
 JP Mirasol, Klein ISD
 Angelina Moreno, Klein ISD
 Teresa Ochoa, Klein ISD
 Michelle Ordonez-Chavez, Klein ISD
 Rosa Marie Perry, Klein ISD
 Michael Prestien, Klein ISD
 Maricel Quillin, Klein ISD
 Denise Reyes, Klein ISD
 Sara Rios, Klein ISD
 Maria Elena Rodriguez, Klein ISD
 Reyna Rodriguez, Klein ISD
 Ruth Rodriguez, Klein ISD
 Rebecca Romo, Klein ISD
 Bertha Sanchez, Klein ISD
 Maria Sanchez, Klein ISD
 Patricia Sanchez, Klein ISD
 Clarisse Savarez, Klein ISD
 Bianca Simmons, Klein ISD
 Esther Sorto, Klein ISD
 Ana Leticia Sotelo, Klein ISD
 Sarah Spradling, Klein ISD
 Flor Tamez, Klein ISD
 Ara Tarannum, Klein ISD
 Angela Tibbs, Klein ISD
 Helen Timashpolskiy, Klein ISD
 Hiep Tran, Klein ISD
 Tho Tran, Klein ISD
 Yahaira Trejos, Klein ISD
 Asifa Vahed, Klein ISD
 Aracely "Cici" Valdez, Klein ISD
 Jannet Vazquez, Klein ISD
 Mary Villarreal, Klein ISD
 Cindy Wilder, Klein ISD
 Derrick Williams, Klein ISD
 Eleud Alaniz, La Joya ISD
 Karina Nacienceno, La Joya ISD
 Luis Pastor, La Joya ISD
 Tara Austin, La Porte ISD
 Candice Creighton, La Porte ISD
 Sarai Jones, La Porte ISD
 Cynthia Robinson, Lake Worth ISD

Daryl Channel, Lamar CISD
 Daniel Rosales, Lamar CISD
 Judy Brown, Lampasas ISD
 Kristin Andrews, Leander ISD
 Ashley Haley, Leander ISD
 Jeremy Turner, Lewisville ISD
 Sandy Sizemore, Liberty ISD
 Angela Crowe, Little Cypress- Mauriceville ISD
 Shaunta Slaydon, Little Cypress- Mauriceville ISD
 Rene Bingham, Llano ISD
 Jackie Center, Llano ISD
 Juanita Martinez, Llano ISD
 Lisa Reed, Llano ISD
 Suzie Wisdom, Llano ISD
 Jossie Zapata, Llano ISD
 Latisha Teal, Lufkin ISD
 Rhonda Murphy, Magnolia ISD
 Tammy Baggett, Mansfield ISD
 Rita Denton, Mansfield ISD
 Tara Killaby, Mansfield ISD
 Cantrece Kinzer, Mansfield ISD
 Joanne Lawson, Mansfield ISD
 Maria Medina, Mansfield ISD
 Catherine Pannell, Mansfield ISD
 Jennifer Parham, Mansfield ISD
 Salayna Pereira, Mansfield ISD
 Debbie Schmidt, Mansfield ISD
 Sondra Thomas, Mansfield ISD
 Maria Manzo, Marble Falls ISD
 Marcela Leal, McAllen ISD
 Martha Maldonado, McAllen ISD
 Denise Ortiz, McAllen ISD
 Thiana Perez, McAllen ISD
 Clarissa Ramirez, McAllen ISD
 Barbara Galaviz, Mesquite ISD
 Richard Garcia, Mesquite ISD
 Perla Hernandez, Mesquite ISD
 Mayra Jimenez, Mesquite ISD
 Brittany Oswald, Mesquite ISD
 Michael Paredes, Mesquite ISD
 Elizabeth Karvonen, Midland ISD
 Renesha Mundine, Midland ISD
 Shelley Shelby, Midland ISD
 Margaret Smith, Midland ISD
 Azael Torres, Midland ISD
 Ahna Delgado, Millsap ISD
 David Wells, Mineral Wells ISD
 Maria Huerta, Mission CISD
 Victoria Figliola, Montgomery ISD
 Brandi Harp, Montgomery ISD
 Mary Lopez, Navarro ISD
 Lauren Crain, New Caney ISD
 Justin Farmer, Olney ISD
 Virginia Garcia, Olney ISD
 Barbara Herring, Olney ISD
 Romualda Ibarra, Olney ISD
 Norma Knight, Olney ISD
 Eleanor Perez, Olney ISD
 Angie Yzaguirre, Olney ISD
 Vancy Hobbs, Oredna Charter School
 Laurie Torres, Palmer ISD

NEW TASN ISD MEMBERS

November 2021 – November 2022

Laura Barriga, Pampa ISD	Kimberly Hixson, Southside ISD	Bianca Dondiego, Uplift Education
Maria Matia, Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD	Jennifer Jones, Southside ISD	Zach Kotz, Uplift Education
Rosa Benitez, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD	Lizbeth Maldonado, Southside ISD	Rosemary Cervantes, Vernon ISD
Carla Dupree, Pleasant Grove ISD	Marla Moreno, Southside ISD	Maria Negrete, Vernon ISD
Renada Taylor, Port Arthur ISD	Michele Ortiz, Southside ISD	Linda Teague, Vernon ISD
Vanessa Fabela, Quitman ISD	KyLee Oefinger, Southwest ISD	Elizabeth Brink, Victoria ISD
Amanda Garcia, Red Oak ISD	Clarlyn Covert, Splendora ISD	Karen Lackey, Vidor ISD
Karmon Agesen, Responsive ED	Holly Davis, Splendora ISD	Marsha Peden, Vidor ISD
Judy Balderas, Rio Grande City ISD	Anna Poindexter, Splendora ISD	Stephanie Rowell, Vidor ISD
Veronica Lucero, Rio Grande City ISD	Krystal Spaugh, Splendora ISD	Hally Simoneaux, Vidor ISD
Alma Rosa, Rio Grande City ISD	Felicitas Chavarria, Spring ISD	Mindy Lefevre, Waller ISD
Jeremy Seale, Rio Grande City ISD	Ronnetrica Coleman, Spring ISD	Jessica Morin, Waller ISD
Rocio Madrigal, Rio Hondo ISD	Gabriela Covarrubias, Spring ISD	Brandilyn Ohlemacher, Waller ISD
Avis Leavins, Rusk ISD	Rosicela Cruz, Spring ISD	Francisco Romero, Waller ISD
Sharon Jansky, Sacred Heart ISD	Maria Diaz, Spring ISD	Amy Sandoval, Waller ISD
Nichole Joiner, San Angelo ISD	Teresa Dominguez De Guerra, Spring ISD	Juana Zarate, Waller ISD
Regina Joiner, San Angelo ISD	Brenda Dorado, Spring ISD	Stephanie Surlis, Waxahachie ISD
Deyanita Molina, San Angelo ISD	Patricia Douglas, Spring Branch ISD	Estela Aleman, White Settlement ISD
Benjamin Rojo Settle, San Angelo ISD	Alma Garcia, Spring ISD	Ann Blair, White Settlement ISD
Amanda Seymore, San Angelo ISD	Lanna Gasper, Spring ISD	Gregoria Figueroa, White Settlement ISD
Rosa Underhill, San Angelo ISD	Mauricia Guzman, Spring ISD	Teresa Gonzalez, White Settlement ISD
Allisan Ramos, San Antonio ISD	Maria De Lourdes Rios-Martinez, Spring ISD	Briana Lizarraga, White Settlement ISD
Jimmy Villarreal, San Antonio ISD	Marissa Malacara, Spring ISD	Yolie Lowry, White Settlement ISD
Basem Boutros, San Houston State University	Pola Mendez, Spring ISD	Rhonda Smith, White Settlement ISD
Lorenza Cervantes, San Marcos CISD	Esperanza Palomera, Spring ISD	Rachel Teague, White Settlement ISD
Bernie Sandoval, San Marcos CISD	Maria Rios, Spring ISD	Don Wester, White Settlement ISD
Audrey Roberts, Sanger ISD	Yudith Romero, Spring ISD	Roxanne Alderfer, Whitesboro ISD
Kerry Frazar, Seguin ISD	Nubia Santos, Spring ISD	Lindsey Anderle, Whitesboro ISD
Flor Gallegos, Seguin ISD	Emile Tognibo, Spring ISD	Chris Knight, Whitesboro ISD
Jacob Galvan, Seguin ISD	Guadalupe Torres, Spring ISD	Nancy Arguello Acosta, Willis ISD
María Garza, Seguin ISD	Isabel Torres, Spring ISD	Veda Bryant, Willis ISD
Denise Reyna, Seguin ISD	Paternelda Wilson, Spring ISD	Skyla Chambers, Willis ISD
Andrea Richardson, Seguin ISD	Georgetta Ned, Spring Branch ISD	Brittany Hanks, Willis ISD
Lisa Teneyuque, Seguin ISD	Carla Farmer, Sulphur Springs ISD	Miranda Hendon, Willis ISD
Ashley Vann, Seguin ISD	Gina Roach, Sulphur Springs ISD	Jane Kiddoo, Willis ISD
Rocio Barron, Sheldon ISD	Robin Plett, Sunnyvale ISD	Summer Lowe, Willis ISD
Ashley Benjamin, Sheldon ISD	Christann Saucedo, Sweeny ISD	Sabrina McMullen, Willis ISD
Mayra Caballero, Sheldon ISD	Carlos Arroyo, Temple ISD	Mildred Pasket, Willis ISD
Glenda Chavez, Sheldon ISD	Frances Cebrian, Temple ISD	Cindy Paul, Willis ISD
María Duenez, Sheldon ISD	Jarrold Marfin, Temple ISD	Diala Sanchez, Willis ISD
Diana Galarza, Sheldon ISD	Patricia Blake, Terrell ISD	Skylar Swindell, Willis ISD
Carmen Garza, Sheldon ISD	Ligia Mohammad, Terrell ISD	Karen Taylor, Willis ISD
Shantel Gaines, Sheldon ISD	Lisa Henderson, Texans Can Academy	Brenda Villanueva, Willis ISD
Amelia Martinez, Sheldon ISD	Lori Bennett, Texarkana ISD	Chasity Andrews, Willis ISD
Itzel Martinez Mejia, Sheldon ISD	Carole Cox, Texarkana ISD	Malenia Bell, Woodville ISD
Rainey Mcghee, Sheldon ISD	La Varren Gullatt, Texarkana ISD	Karen English, Woodville ISD
Isis Morua, Sheldon ISD	Judi Nixon-Blair, Texarkana ISD	Maria Carlos, YES Prep
Susan Nayeri, Sheldon ISD	Hannah Piatt, Texarkana ISD	Bryan Castillo, YES Prep
Marcela Ortiz, Sheldon ISD	Kenneth Pratt, Texarkana ISD	Jaimie Griffiths, YES Prep
Amber Padgett, Sheldon ISD	Debra Richard, Texarkana ISD	Jessica Howell, YES Prep
María Palmertree, Sheldon ISD	Dian Taylor, Texarkana ISD	Sonya Morgan, YES Prep
Jessica Quintanilla, Sheldon ISD	Sherri Strahan, Timpson ISD	
Blanca Santos, Sheldon ISD	Brenda Anderson, Tomball ISD	
Shirley Sherman, Sheldon ISD	Alveza Benson, Tomball ISD	
Kayla Garcia, Sinton ISD	Lezlie Davis, Tomball ISD	
Amanda Smith, Smithville ISD	Nereyda Gomez, Tomball ISD	
Diana Steubing, Smithville ISD	Antoinette Oliver, Tomball ISD	
Naomi Diaz, South San Antonio ISD	Mira Patel, Tomball ISD	
Blanca Iglesias, South San Antonio ISD	Kristen Thomas-Arnold, Tomball ISD	
Patricia Garcia, Southside ISD	Sonia Cole, Uplift Education	
Blanca Gonzalez, Southside ISD	Johnny Deas, Uplift Education	

**TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR SCHOOL NUTRITION
20__ - 20__ CHAPTER OFFICERS FORM**

Please include only those officers that will serve during the above year:

Chapter Name: _____ District: _____ Area #: _____

PRESIDENT:

Name: _____ Membership #: (Must include) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Include area code): Home: _____ - _____ - _____ Office: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____ Fax: _____ - _____ - _____

PRESIDENT ELECT:

Name: _____ Membership #: (Must include) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Include area code): Home: _____ - _____ - _____ Office: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____ Fax: _____ - _____ - _____

TREASURER:

Name: _____ Membership #: (Must include) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Include area code): Home: _____ - _____ - _____ Office: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____ Fax: _____ - _____ - _____

SECRETARY:

Name: _____ Membership #: (Must include) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Include area code): Home: _____ - _____ - _____ Office: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____ Fax: _____ - _____ - _____

****FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR:**

Name: _____ Membership #: (Must include) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Include area code): Home: _____ - _____ - _____ Office: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____ Fax: _____ - _____ - _____

**TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR SCHOOL NUTRITION
5910 Courtyard Drive, Suite #230, Austin, TX 78731
PHONE: 800-444-5189
FAX: 512-371-0125**



New Year, New Address?

Please make sure we have your current contact information!

Please complete and send to vanessao@tasn.net
or fax: 512-371-0125

Personal Information:

Member #: _____

(Please print and complete all information on this form. TASN will use this information for all correspondence.)

Name:

Last: _____ First: _____ M.I.: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt/Ste. #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Company/ISD: _____ Area: _____ Chapter: _____ County: _____

Do you make purchasing decisions for your district? Yes No **Is your salary paid by a management company?** Yes No

Member (ISD, TDA, ESC, TDH) Signature: _____ Date: _____

Education Update

by Kasandra Davis, MS, RD, LD, TASN Education Chair



Howdy! It's hard to imagine that we are already halfway through the 2022–2023 school year, and next year's planning has either already started for you or it's coming up very soon!

The Education Committee has been busy the past few months. Did you know that we oversee the certification program, Administrative and Managers Academies, Scholarships and Awards, and that we participate in the TASN Annual Conference Planning Committee? We offer a lot of details pertaining to these categories on the TASN website but I wanted to highlight a few here.

The new and improved TASN certification program went into effect on July 1. The new program aligns with the four key areas required for USDA Professional Standards and follows a one-year renewal cycle with randomized audits. Another change worth mentioning is that all Education Service Center (ESC) classes taken from July 2021 to present are pre-approved, valid, and count towards certification. Many Texas school districts have chosen the TASN certification program as a basis for job placement, advancement, and pay increases. If you have ever been interested in a TASN certification, it's now easier than ever.

In October, we hosted the first half of our

Administrative Academy in Austin. We had 25 attendees participate in a two-day, face-to-face learning series geared to strengthen their knowledge in school nutrition and food service. Attendees who complete the entire academy and exam will be recognized at the TASN Annual Conference in June. TASN offers a variety of scholarship opportunities to our members for continuing education in ESL, GED, and college courses, as well for those attending training and conferences for TASN Administrative Academy, TASN Managers Academy, and TASN Partnership Collaboration Summit. Scholarship recipients are recognized and awarded at the TASN Annual Conference in June and must be claimed by August 31st of the following year.

We are looking for the next School Nutrition Specialist, Manager, and Director of the Year! These are just a few of the individual awards TASN offers to our school food service professionals to help them excel in foodservice achievement and to promote management excellence. In addition to individual awards, TASN offers local chapter awards for Certification, Membership and Local Plan of Action, and, districts are able to apply for the Breakfast and Lunch Participation Awards. Take advantage of these opportunities to recognize the individuals and colleagues in our industry that are creating positive change!

I look forward to meeting and connecting with many of you across the state to learn and grow with one another. I hope you have an amazing spring semester and utilize TASN to support you in your goals.

TASN SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Would you like to attend higher level training or a TASN event with no registration cost? Are you looking to continue your education to further your career? Maybe you need some financial support for something unexpected or just want some spending money? TASN offers a variety of scholarships and more! Apply today or contact Eric Vicharelli for more information at ericv@tasn.net.

Last year TASN awarded eight scholarships,

totaling over \$7,000! TASN wants to give back to YOU for all your support. Our selection of scholarships vary with a category for everyone. You put in the work for your district and support the Child Nutrition profession – Why not apply? This is one of many ways that TASN wants to support members, by giving thanks for allowing us to be a part of your journey. Here is what past recipients have to say about it:



“I was overjoyed to receive this scholarship. It’s the first scholarship I have ever received. I’m filled with gratitude. This scholarship has allowed me to continue my education. I’ll be returning to school in January with less financial pressure than I’ve ever had. I wasn’t certain I would get the scholarship, but I knew that I had a chance because I met the requirements, and I had the support of colleagues and family. I am the Lead Supervisor for Aldine ISD Child Nutrition Services. I am enthusiastic about helping people develop and meet their personal goals, and I love to see people succeed. I truly feel called to develop leaders. I think leaders should be people that are easy to follow. I strive to be a model for leadership. This scholarship affirms me and pours into me as I have poured into others.”

KATINA FREY

“I felt a great sense of satisfaction and extremely proud of myself. It was very gratifying to know that my accomplishments and educational goals warranted me the great privilege of winning the scholarship. It brought a great amount of peace to me as a parent knowing that I could afford to continue my education without the stress of paying for it. It felt like a great big pat on the back, assuring me I was on the correct path to success. It is such a wonderful opportunity for furthering your education in the child nutrition field. A field that as a TASN member and support staff personnel, I have grown to love everyone dearly, but I do have to state that my number one goal when applying for this scholarship is to keep in mind that my children are always watching and as I always tell them at home when they fuss and make bad choices, ‘Lead by example,’ and me furthering my education is leading by example. Thank you, TASN, for your help in me doing so.”

SANDRA BOTELLO



continued on next page



“Receiving the College Scholarship from TASN was an awesome moment for me. I have been in school nutrition for six years and have worked my way up from an assistant manager to a field supervisor. When I applied, I wasn’t sure I would get it, but I was hopeful and luckily I did! The scholarship has allowed me to continue my education and, in the fall of 2022, I will have graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Human Resources . I will use my degree to continue to help educate future food service workers and fight for students everywhere to have access to good healthy lunch choices. Receiving this scholarship has just proven to me that I am in the field where I belong and doing what really matters, not just to me but to all of us involved. I really want to say thank you to all of TASN and to the leaders that surround me and support me every day!”

SAMANTHA MIMS

TASN SCHOLARSHIPS

-  General Scholarship
-  ESL Scholarship
-  GED Scholarship
-  College Scholarship
-  Administrative Academy Scholarship
-  Managers Academy Scholarship
-  Partnership Collaboration Summit Scholarship

 Click [HERE](#) for more info & application forms

 **Deadline: February 10, 2023**

TASN AWARDS

-  TASN Membership Award
-  Local Plan of Action Award
-  School Nutrition Specialist of the Year
-  School Nutrition Manager of the Year
-  School Nutrition Director of the Year
-  Partnership in Nutrition
-  Nutrition Education Award
-  Breakfast Participation Award
-  Lunch Participation Award
-  Outstanding Achievement Award for Continuing Education
-  Certification Award

 Click [HERE](#) for more info & application forms

 **Deadline: February 10, 2023**

NEW TASN CERTIFICATIONS

November 2021– November 2022

LEVEL ONE

Maria Acevedo
 Maria Acosta
 Makeda Allen
 Kim Alridge
 Andrea Altman
 Maria Alvarado
 Raquel Alvarez
 Virgie Alvarez
 Angie Alvarez - Smith
 Wendy Arandas
 Kimberly Arias
 Tammy Ayres
 Elda Balderas
 Rocio Barron
 Ceara Bazy
 America Bernal
 Yadira Blanco
 Cheryl Broussard
 Cleo Brown
 Virginia Brown
 Patricia Browning
 Odeth Bruhier
 Hilda Burr
 Mayra Caballero
 Gabriela Caballero
 Elida Campos
 Rosaura Carrera
 Maria Castillo
 Rosaland Cobb
 Kellie Collins
 Yaneth Covarrubias
 Michaela Davenport
 Mary Davidson
 Nadene Davis
 Bertha De Medina
 Mariah DeLaPaz
 Jessica Denton
 Rosa Diaz
 Marina Dimas
 Aleida Escamilla
 Tamara Flynn
 Gloria Francis
 Stephanie Franco
 Catherine Freeman
 Adjara Garba
 Monica Garcia
 Eliza Gibbs
 Wendy Giron

Hermelinda Gonzalez
 Haydee Gonzalez
 Sandra Gonzalez
 Lenora Gregory
 Anabel Guel
 Shantel Harmon
 Temeshia Harris
 Jan Hartman
 Cathrine Haruo
 Rosa Hernandez
 Idalia Hernandez
 Beatriz Hernandez
 Paola Hernandez Zamora
 Monica Hightower
 Dora Hinojos
 Ylida Hurtado
 Rehana Ismail
 Kimberly Jackson
 Tamisha Jenkins
 Jacquelyn Johnson
 Nazires Johnson
 Melissa Jones
 NoNchala King
 Mary Lee
 Claniet Lopez
 Ester Lopez
 Manuela Lopez
 Shelia Lyrock
 Amelia Martinez
 Blanca Martinez
 Ludivina Mateos
 Claudia Matias
 Angela McMurray
 Deanna McBride
 Shelly McCullough
 Laura Medina
 Itzel Martinez Mejia
 Dina Mekhaeil
 Lilian Melgar
 Gricelda Mijares
 Iboja Monar
 Iris Martinez Nieves
 Marcela Ortiz
 Antonieta Osuna
 Amber Padgett
 Cindy Paul
 Cynthia Pena
 Marlen Perez
 Ruth Perez
 Yadira Pineiro

NEW TASN CERTIFICATIONS

November 2021–November 2022

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 Cynthia Quezada
 Jessica Quintanilla
 Elvia Ramirez
 Roxana Ramos
 Sandy Ramos
 Laura Rangel de Herrera
 Niyolkie Ray
 Brandy Read
 Silvia Recinos
 Eridiana Reyes
 Carmelina Rhodes
 Laura Roberts
 Vivian Robinson
 Karmel Rodgers
 Cynthia Rodriguez
 Maria Rodriguez Juarez
 Judy Rue
 Maria Salazar
 Antonia Salgado
 Diala Sanchez
 Sandra Sanchez
 Nelly Schreiner-Olvera
 Halyna Seniw
 Juariah Siti
 Lucille Smith
 Angela Smith
 Ana Leticia Sotelo
 Edma Sotelo
 Tara Soto
 Corina Tarango
 Zorina Tejada
 Erika Tejada
 Veronica Tristan
 Mireya Urquiza
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 Brenda Villanueva
 Verda Weathers
 Yumika White
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 Jessica Whittaker
 Jeanette Williams
 Daihong Zhao

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 Rosmery De Los Santos

Yvonne Franco
 Katrina Gonzales
 Tyshan Isaac
 Erin Jacobs
 Rania Jaj
 Francisca Macias
 Beatriz Parra Castro
 Joy Reeves
 Maria Suarez
 Shante Syon
 Josephine Tyler
 Elois Zen

LEVEL THREE

Juana Amezquita
 Roberta Robertson

LEVEL FOUR

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 Efigenia Brito
 Connie Castaneda
 Rhonda Emery
 Kanittha Hennigan
 Parveen Maradia
 Tracy Miller
 Maricel Quillin
 Consuelo Santos
 Aracely Valdez

LEVEL FIVE

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 Teresa Evans
 Anitra Fleming
 Andrea Gonzalez
 Adrian Hansell
 Steve Lisbony
 Ramona Love
 Maria Mendoza
 Susan Nayeri
 Theresa Rankin
 Jessica Razo
 Galina Reyes
 Penny Romero
 Teri Tregoning
 Ralph Wilkins



HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE SCHOOL NUTRITION ADVOCATE

As you likely know, the Texas Legislature meets every other year. The 88th Legislature's regular session runs from January 10 to May 29, 2023, so by the time you read this article, the session will be underway.

You are an advocate for child nutrition every single day through your commitment to nourishing the bodies and minds of our state's children. And as an expert in your field who is impacted by policy changes, it's also important to advocate for child nutrition with your elected officials.

NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

Here are some tips for you and your chapters. The links are specific to the Texas state legislature, but these tips also apply to communicating with national representatives and senators. :

1

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHO YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE

You can look up your state and national representatives and senators (and those representing your school district, if you don't live near where you work) by clicking [HERE](#) and entering your address.

2

DON'T BE AFRAID TO REACH OUT

WRITE LETTERS/EMAILS: It's a tried and true method. Identify yourself as a constituent and let them know why you're writing up front. Keep it brief: Letters should never be longer than one page, and should be limited to one issue. Legislative aides read many letters on many issues in a day, so your letter should be as concise as possible. Be polite, but firm in your opinion – your legislators work for you! Adding a personal story, or reminding legislators of a time you may have met or supported them, may increase its effectiveness.

CALL: If the idea of calling your legislator on the phone makes you a little nervous, just write a short script for yourself before calling. Staffers are generally very friendly and happy to convey your message to their bosses. Again, keep it brief and personalize it for maximum impact.

MEET WITH THEM: Set up a brief meeting (generally about 5 minutes) with your legislator when he or she is in the home district office, or when you are available to go the Capitol. Be respectful of time, make just a few important points, and leave their office with a one-page fact sheet with your contact info on it.

WATCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS & SESSIONS: All committee meetings and sessions are available to the public to live stream. The Texas House of Representatives live stream can be found [HERE](#), and Texas Senate proceedings can be found [HERE](#).

GIVE PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Sometimes it's most effective to sign up to speak at a hearing or session, if you have concerns about a specific proposed policy change. At the end of your short statement, make sure to explain what action you'd like to see taken. And feel free to leave a longer, more detailed version of your testimony with legislators when you're done speaking.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Following your legislators on social media is a great way to learn their priorities and engage with them on issues. Tag legislators in posts and tweets to get their attention on specific actions you'd like them to take or questions you have.

3

THERE IS POWER IN NUMBERS

Make sure to keep up with legislative updates and attend any legislative action days held by TASN and [SNA](#). These organized efforts are informative and a great way to show our legislators the importance of the issues that we care about. Plus, it's more fun to advocate with friends!

INDUSTRY UPDATE

By Duane Guidry
Chrane Foodservice Solutions



Where did 2022 go?

This past year went by faster than any other for me. With so much going on in the world, there should not be any reason to get bored or not having something to do. Learning to navigate the post COVID-19 world (*are we really done with this?*) – ongoing supply chain issues, inflation, war over seas, interest rates going up, political unrest around the world and, to top it off, labor issues. With all these distractions bouncing around, we still have our families to take care of and day jobs. Whew, I'm tired just typing the last few sentences. As with everything else in life: this, too, shall pass. The remains of and changes brought on by the last couple of years will stick with us forever, but we will survive, figure out a way to make it happen, and move forward.

There are various sources, opinions, and indicators regarding what will happen with our economy this year. I feel we will see the craziness level off in 2023, as prices of many raw materials appear to be stabilizing, while we are learning to work with the new labor market, and lead times for many supplies and equipment items are catching up. However, while some pricing is stabilizing, it is not going back to 2019 pricing – that is well in the past – but we should start to see quotes that are good for more than 30 days.

The one commodity we must appreciate and take seriously every day is time. The purchasing process we must follow in K-12 to procure equipment and supplies takes time; it's as simple as that, and we must plan for it. Work with your vendors to understand manufacturing lead time, determine when you would like the piece(s) of equipment installed, then work backwards in your calendar. You will be surprised how far in advance you need to start planning when replacing a walk-in cooler/freezer, or combi oven – or any heavy equipment, for that matter. When creating your plan, take and save notes at every step. You don't want to be six months down the road on installation day and not remember whose responsibility disconnecting and reconnecting the power was.

If you understand the market, be realistic, allow plenty of time, take notes, and assign points of accountability, your projects will go as well as they can. I know these four steps seem simple, and they are, but executing them is a different story. Application of these four steps is where we succeed with any project.



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2023 PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION SUMMIT (PCS)

We are excited to announce that registration for the 2023 PCS is now open! This year's summit will take place February 22-24, 2023, at the **Live! by Loews Hotel** in Arlington. This is the first time that TASN will host a summit in Arlington. Please mark your calendars and register now!

The PCS is a two-day, collaborative event connecting industry partners with K-12 child nutrition decision makers. This is a unique opportunity for in-depth discussions, training, and future planning. You will experience inspirational keynote speakers, breakout sessions designed to generate ideas you can implement in your district, networking opportunities, and time for some fun, too!

SPEAKERS



OPENING SESSION: ALEX WEBER

Alex Weber is an American Ninja Warrior, Award-Winning Leader & Entertainer positively inspiring millions to achieve breakthrough success! Alex shows top professionals and leaders how to bring their very best every day and to the most high-stakes situations that can make or break your success. It's his sincere understanding of peak performance and peak challenges, mixed with inspiring stories and actionable strategies, that makes Alex unforgettable and your human shot of espresso.



CLOSING SESSION: LENA WILSON

Lena Wilson is the Assistant Commissioner for the Food and Nutrition Division at the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). She oversees all activities related to compliance with regulations for the 12 federal nutrition programs administered by the agency. Lena, a registered dietitian, has more than 20 years of experience with federal nutrition programs. She is one of the few people who has worked at the state and local level with every U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition assistance program, including the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

HOTEL INFORMATION

Live! by Loews Hotel
1600 E Randol Mill Rd.
Arlington, TX 76011
(682) 277-4911

TASN Rate: \$209

For Reservations: Call and ask for the TASN rate or click **HERE** to secure online reservations.



2023 Partnership Collaboration Summit

Registration Form

February 22-24, 2023

Name: _____ Member # _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ ISD/Company: _____

Phone: () _____ Mobile: () _____

Email: _____ Emergency Contact: _____

Registration Rates: (TASN Members Only)

Registration: Deadline date is **January 31, 2023**

(Must be post marked by January 31, 2023, to register.) All attendees must complete and sign a registration form.

Registration Fee: \$475

Cancellation: All cancellations must be received in writing no later than January 31, 2023. There will be a \$50.00 administrative fee on all cancellations. No refunds will be made after January 31, 2023.

Allergies: Please list allergies or special requirements : _____

Payment Options:

Please Circle: Check Visa MC AmEX Discover

Check #/Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name On Card: _____ Security Code: _____

Billing Address: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____ Total to be charged: _____

Remit payment by mail to: TASN, 5910 Courtyard Drive #230 Austin, TX 78731 **or register online at www.tasn.net**

Liability & Indemnification Agreement: *Each form must be signed before registration can be processed.* I request that you accept me as a participant at the TASN Partnership Collaboration Summit to be held in Arlington, TX at the Live! by Loews Hotel from February 22-24, 2023. I understand there are some risk inherent in traveling to and from and as a result of attending the summit. The undersigned hereby releases TASN, the committees, members, officers, employees and directors from all liability for injury, death, and property damage. Company/Attendee agree that they will not engage in in-person activities with TASN employees or summit attendees if the attendee has: a fever, COVID-19 symptoms, recently been diagnosed with COVID-19, or has experienced or been in contact with person/s who have tested positive for COVID-19 or has symptoms. TASN and the Live! by Loews reserves the right to ask you to leave the event if you do not adhere to social distancing guidelines and mask requirements, and/or if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Initial

Photo Release: I grant TASN, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs of me and my property. I authorize TASN to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I agree that TASN may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including such purposes of publicity, illustration, advertising, social media networking and web content.

Initial

Signature (required): _____ Date: _____



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- Company ID sign
- Six-foot skirted table
- Two chairs
- Waste basket

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

MAXIMIZING USDA RESOURCES WILL MAKE 2023 A GREAT YEAR FOR SCHOOL NUTRITION IN TEXAS

By Lena Wilson

Assistant Commissioner for Food and Nutrition
Texas Department of Agriculture



As the new year gets underway, we have reason for optimism in anticipation of a successful 2023. Last semester's return to the new normal gave us all hope; students returned to the cafeteria, servers provided high quality food, cashiers rang up reimbursable

meals, and kitchens bustled with staff. Requesting and processing household applications presented familiar challenges and supply chain disruptions continue, yet we can be optimistic because you all have shown remarkable resilience no matter what comes your way.

This year, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) **Food and Nutrition Division** will continue working to provide all the resources the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) makes available. Congratulations to those of you who secured National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants this year. **Supply Chain Assistance Funds** continue to make significant contributions to school nutrition programs in Texas. If you've opted into the program, I encourage you to participate in the third allocation to purchase U.S.-produced food items when funds become available.

Connecting school nutrition programs and domestic agriculture remains a top priority in the new year. TDA will soon have a contractor in place sourcing more than \$22 million in Texas products for USDA's **Local Food for Schools** initiative. Those foods will be sourced from historically underutilized producers and small businesses and distributed during the 2023-2024 school year. TDA is also developing

activities related to the **USDA Farm to School grant**. This program will provide training for schools and producers to help facilitate farm-to-school connections.

All of you have an important financial benefit available if you take advantage of it – USDA Foods. TDA's Program Advancement team is currently working on the **USDA Foods Challenge** to recognize schools that maximize entitlement use and limit surplus inventory. In 2023, we will emphasize the many financial advantages of effectively using your USDA Foods entitlement. Ideally, USDA Foods can offset 12 percent of your cash food spending. If you need technical assistance for this or any other operational concerns, always maximize the resources available from your **Education Service Centers**.

At TDA Food and Nutrition, the Compliance and Collaboration Unit is now fully realized and up to speed. It includes School Operations, Community Operations, and USDA Foods. The Compliance and Collaboration staff oversees everything from policy analysis to administrative reviews. Our commitment to your success is reflected in many efforts as well as our recently revamped Mission statement – *To advance compliant USDA nutrition programs through effective partnerships and educational resources.*

Based on your efforts over the last few difficult years, your potential for success in 2023 seems unlimited. Every year, you improve school meals while striving to ensure compliance with regulations. It is your strength and determination that make me so optimistic about the new year. Thank you for your partnership and let's all make it a great year.

2023



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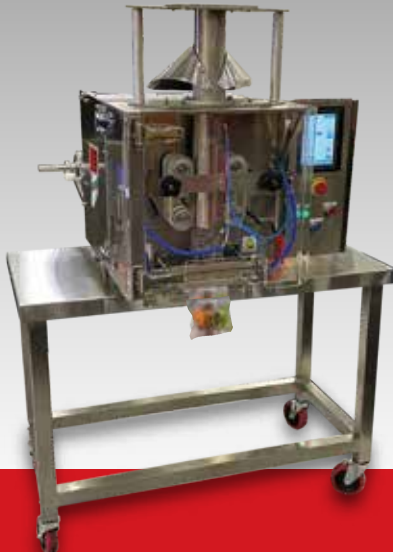
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