



MASBA

MEXICAN-AMERICAN SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ASSOCIATION



MASBA December E-Newsletter

Irene Galan-Rodriguez
MASBA President
Big Spring ISD Board Member

My Fellow MASBA Members, Sponsors, and Friends of Public Education,

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends and all of us at MASBA wish you a Happy New Year!

State Board of Education Vice-Chair Thomas Ratliff spoke eloquently on Education in his report to the TASB Delegate Assembly recently, and his data-driven presentation was very eye-opening. The senate, Ratliff noted, is charging ahead in its examination of vouchers and other private school plans despite the hard data that shows public schools outperforming their private counterparts at every turn.

Some of the figures Ratliff shared included:

- Public schools have a dropout rate of 1.5 percent (Compared to 5.5 percent for charters)
- Public schools have a four-year graduation rate of 91percent (Compared to 60.6 percent for charters)
- Public schools outperformed charters overall on STARR exams results
- Public schools have, on average, higher SAT and ACT scores than charters

It appears that we're facing another session with extremely tight budgets, but we are ready and eager to work with the Legislature and the Commissioner to better serve all the schoolchildren of Texas. We thank the Texas House of Representatives for the consideration of the problems the school districts face and hope that decisions are made with the best interest of all Texas students in mind.

It's time to get busy and advocate for our public schools!

And, it is also time to mark your calendars for MASBA 2017!

Please be sure your district is a MASBA 2016-17 member. **As a reminder, your MASBA membership allows your entire board and superintendent to attend all of our TEA recognized CEC sessions (over 15 hours) at the MASBA Annual Conference with no additional fees. All CEC credits may be recorded as a TASB Tier 3, Board Development.**

Juntos Podemos!

Best Regards,

Irene Galan-Rodriguez
MASBA 2016 President

PARTNERS



2016 MASBA Sponsors



O'Hanlon, Rodriguez Betancourt & Demerath
Attorneys and Counselors at Law



2017 MASBA Conference & Expo Preview #3

Welcome to the third preview of the 2017 MASBA Annual Conference & Expo which will be held at the La Quinta Riverwalk Conference Center, San Antonio, Texas, Thursday, February 23 through Sunday, February 26, 2017. MASBA has once again composed a conference that provide relevant, valuable, and timely information to board members, superintendents and attendees which is consistent with MASBA's Mission as follows:

- Make high quality education possible to ALL students.
- Increase parental and community participation in public governance.
- Improve academic achievement.
- Advocate for equitable school finance.

In addition, the conference will provide information and insight on Early Childhood Education and current compliance issues important to school districts. The MASBA 2017 Conference & Expo offers over 15 hours of TEA recognized CECs.

The MASBA Annual Conference is FREE to all MASBA members. If you have not joined MASBA this school year, you may do so at our [membership page](#).

If your district has sent in your 2016-2017 dues, thank you for your continued support.

Members may fill out the [on-line form](#) for conference name badges or simply [e-mail us](#) with a list of your district members who will be attending the conference.

Friday, February 24, 2017 (9:15am - 10:45am)

MASBA Superintendent Panel

This general session will be moderated by Sam Guzman, MASBA Director of Operations and Development and sponsored by the Texas Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (TALAS). Attendees will here from each superintendent. Each superintendent will discuss topics of concern for school board members and current challenges and solutions experienced within their respective district. There will be a short Q & A at the end of the session.



Twenty-nine EPISD students were named [National Hispanic Scholars](#) based on their performance on the 2015 PSAT. The recognition comes from the College Board. [Mr. Juan Cabrera](#) is the Superintendent of El Paso ISD





The [AISD graduation rate is at an all-time high](#), students are performing well on the state's accountability system and AISD is ranked among the best in the country on the Nation's Report Card. [Dr. Paul Cruz](#) is the Superintendent of Austin ISD.



The mission of the La Feria Independent School District is to prepare our students for the 21st century by providing a challenging and rigorous curriculum. [Mr. Raymundo "Rey" Villarreal](#) is the Superintendent of La Feria ISD.



The HISD Board of Education hosted more than two dozen town hall meetings that began in September as a way to introduce [Mr. Richard Carranza](#), HISD's new superintendent, to the community, solicit input about the district's future, and key issues across HISD.

Friday, February 24, 2017 (11:00am - Noon)



O'Hanlon, Rodriguez Betancourt & Demerath
Attorneys and Counselors at Law

Special Education Classroom Cameras: How did we get here, and where are we going in 2017? Presented by: The O'Hanlon, Rodriguez Betancourt & Demerath



Escamilla & Poneck, LLP
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS



MASBA
Education Service Center (ESC)
Members:



There has been much talk regarding the video monitoring of special education children ever since the 2015 SB 507 camera bill was introduced. Despite having been passed into law and currently under full force, many school districts have yet to comply with this complex requirement. This seminar clearly and concisely discusses the exact requirements of the law, discusses tips and tricks for fast-tracking your district's compliance of the law, and predicts the direction of the law in the upcoming 2017 legislative session.



C y b e r S P E D

Friday, February 24, 2017 (11:00am - Noon)

Learning & Achieving Begins with Nutrition

Presented by: Orlando Anaya- Director of Business Operations and Chris Odom -VP of Regional Operations, SFE- Southwest Foodservice Excellence



Build student-centered programs designed to create a fresh, new buzz, that will boost participation by offering delicious menu variety, quality, great- tasting foods. Promote your health and nutrition to improve student involvement.

Develop a culture of having a serious commitment to providing great tasting, nutritious meals to your students in an economically smart way.

We believe that increasing food quality drives participation resulting in improved financial returns for your school and increased student, parent and administration satisfaction. Commit to getting students interested in their own nutrition and engage parents and the community.

Saturday, February 25, 2017 (9:30am - 11:00am)

State Board of Education Board Member Panel

This general session will be moderated by Sam Guzman, MASBA Director of Operations and Development. Attendees will here from each representative about their decision in the rejection the recently proposed Mexican-American Studies textbook and what is next in determining the final outcome. Each representative will be allowed to discuss a topic of concern for board members. There will be a Q & A at the end of the session.



State Board of Education Panel Members:



**SBOE Member District 2
Ruben Cortez, Jr. (D)
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**SBOE Member District 3
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**MASBA
Executive Board**

[Irene Galan-Rodriguez](#)
President
Big Spring ISD (REG 18)

[Armando Rodriguez](#)
President - Elect
Canutillo ISD (REG 19)

-- open --
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[Servando Garza](#)
Treasurer
Alice ISD (REG 2)

[Shane Haggerty](#)
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Ysleta ISD (REG 19)

[Louis Q. Reyes, III](#)
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Executive Director
Seguin ISD (REG 13)

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[Manuel Rodriguez](#)
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MASBA Past-President
Houston ISD (REG 4)

[Raymundo Martinez](#)
Hidalgo ISD (REG 1)

[Viola Garcia](#)
MASBA Past-President
Aldine ISD (REG 4)

[Anna Cortez](#)
Manor ISD (REG 13)

[Servando Garza](#)
Alice ISD (REG 2)

[Larry Perez](#)
Waco ISD (REG12)

[David Espinosa](#)
Grand Prairie ISD (REG 10)

[Willie Tenorio](#)
Hays CISD (REG 13)



SBOE Member District 5
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SBOE Member District 13
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Please click on the State Board of Education member's image for district and biographical information. *TEA

Saturday, February 25, 2017 (2:30pm - 3:30pm)

**Keeping the Public in Public Schools:
 How Schools Can Engage
 Communities to Fend Off Vouchers
 and Other Attempts to Strip Local
 Control**

Presented by: David Hinojosa, National Director of Policy & Aurelio Montemayor, Senior Education Associate, Intercultural Development Research Association



School board officials often leave large-scale policy discussions to their elected officials and/or to their state boards. With continuing efforts being made at the state level to strip local control of from communities of color, it is critical that MASBA officials learn the issues and how to communicate effectively with their constituencies and double-down on engagement with elected officials. Because vouchers and other school privatization measures have been made a focal point in the Texas Senate, it is extremely important that MASBA learn how its members can become more active with their communities on this issue.

This session will examine efforts being made in largely Latino-majority communities to inform parents and families about school privatization and how school boards can help develop those discussions and communications. Members will learn about the various privatization efforts, talking points and other tools that will help stimulate conversations, and real-life examples of how communities are reaching their locally elected officials to engage them in substantive conversations.

[MASBA Annual Conference Preview #1](#)

[MASBA Annual Conference Preview #2](#)

[MASBA 2017 Annual Conference & Expo Agenda](#)

[Homero Garcia](#)
 South Texas ISD (REG 1)

[Orlando Flores](#)
 Fabens ISD (REG 19)

MASBA
Points of Contact


[Sam Guzman](#)
 Director
 Operations & Development

[Kurt Hixson](#)
 Communications
 Membership/Sponsorship

SAVE THE DATE

February 23, 2017



Johnson Controls 
2017 LASSO Golf Tournament
 Thursday, February 23, 2017
 1:30 P.M. Shotgun Start
 Brackenridge Golf Course
 San Antonio, Texas

February 23 - 26, 2017

MASBA 2017
**Annual Conference &
 Expo**



[REGISTRATION / MEMBERSHIP](#)

[LODGING](#)

[SPONSORSHIP](#)

About MASBA

The Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Our members are school districts,

MASBA SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



"Putting Child Nutrition First!"

Titanium Sponsor Southwest Foodservice Excellence (SFE) Offers Current MASBA District Members FREE* Food Presentations (*Pending qualification)

SFE- Specializes in K-12 child nutrition only! Delicious Nutritious Food for your Students!

The presentation is an introduction to how SFE is different from other food service management companies, and it all starts with a sample of delicious nutritious food that is currently being prepared by SFE in many MASBA school districts. The presentation includes an overview of how the SFE Foodservice solution will increase student participation and improve your district's financial performance.

Please call Orlando Anaya or Vanessa Pressley today to schedule your food service demonstration!



Vanessa Pressley- SFE-Director of Business Operations (Texas)
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Orlando Anaya- SFE-Director of Business Operations (Central/South Texas)
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their board members/trustees, administrators and education service centers.

The mission of the Mexican American School Board Members Association is to:

- Make high quality education possible to ALL students.
- Increase parental and community participation in public governance.
- Improve academic achievement.
- Advocate for equitable school finance.



www.MASBA.info