TASC NewsBlast December 2025 Texas Association of Student Councils

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When Strong Student Activities are Established, Achievement Follows!









ADVANCED LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS 2026

- JANUARY ADVANCED LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP: Jan. 24-26, 2026 (Sat-Mon) | Lakeview in Palestine TX
- FEBRUARY ADVANCED LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP: Feb. 6-8, 2026 (Fri-Sun) | Mo-Ranch in Hunt TX

WANT TO TRANSFORM YOUR COUNCIL FROM BLAH TO WOW? COME TO ADVANCED TO: LEARN - LAUGH - REST - REJUVENATE

Attendees meet with top student council trainers and leave motivated to finish the year strong. Join TASC and student council leaders from across the State of Texas for training designed to:

- Strengthen your leadership team
- Focus your council leaders on the why of their activities
- Provide strategies for inclusion
- Teach tactics for creating excitement, belonging, and memories that last

Advisors: Yep, we have you covered as well. You will leave refreshed with ideas to carry you through the spring semester.

Join TASC for a weekend to motivate and rejuvenate you and your students. There will be advisor training and time for advisors to network with good friends.

TASC conducts two (separate but identical other than location) weekend retreats designed to allow experienced student leaders to interact with one another for motivation and advanced training as they meet with top leadership trainers, experience personal growth as leaders, and rejuvenate for the spring semester.

Active, involved, and, most importantly, mature, and experienced student leaders (grades 9-12) will gain the maximum benefit from this training. The curriculum varies yearly, customized by the consultant to align with the group's high level of expertise. Our packed, dynamic schedule ensures students remain highly engaged throughout the program. This intentional design, coupled with a break from outside internet access, encourages everyone to be fully present and grow through the curriculum and connection with others.

While summer leadership workshops focus on student council leadership training, the advanced workshops focus more on personal leadership qualities and skills.

<u>VIEW ADVANCED</u> <u>LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP >></u>

See next page for more information...





Jan 24-26 | Sat-Mon **Registration Open**



Feb 6-8 | Fri-Sun **Registration Open**

REGISTER EARLY TO \$AVE!!

"SUPER Early Bird" Registration until Dec. 3: \$270

"Early Bird" Registration closes Dec. 10 or when full: \$295

Registration closes on Jan. 7 or when full: \$315 Schools may register up to 14 students

@LAKEVIEW: Students and advisors will be in separate bunkhouse housing. Advisors, if you want more privacy, the cost will be an additional \$200 for a Semi-Private (still sharing with 1 other person of the same sex, but in a motel-like room) or \$340 for a Private Room (room by yourself), but you must contact Patty to check availability and pre-pay before arrival.

REGISTER EARLY TO \$AVE!!

"SUPER Early Bird" Registration until Dec. 10: \$305

"Early Bird" Registration closes Jan. 7 or when full: \$330

• FEBRUARY ADVANCED LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP: Feb. 6-8, 2026 (Fri-Sun) | Mo-Ranch in Hunt TX

> Registration Closes on Jan. 21 or when full: \$355 Schools may register up to 14 students

@MO-RANCH: Students and advisors will be in a separate motel or bunkhouse-style housing based on the day and time of registration and facility availability. If in a motel-style room, Advisors are 2 to a room, whereas students are 4 to a room. Advisors, if you want more privacy, the cost will be an additional \$365 for a Private Room (room by yourself), but you must contact Patty to check availability and pre-pay before arrival.

News You Can Use:



NEW VOTERS, a nonpartisan nonprofit, dedicated to youth voter registration invites high school sophomores and juniors to apply to the New Voters 250 Fellowship. Our unique program will support 125 student leaders as they run 250 voter registration drives across America in celebration of our country's 250th Birthday. Fellows will receive mentorship, monthly webinars with renowned speakers, and a four-day Summer Intensive at the University of Maryland to build their organizing,

leadership, and advocacy skills. Current sophomores and juniors are invited to apply here.

Please email margaux@new-voters.org with any questions. Applications are accepted on a until Wednesday, December 31.



TASC Annual Conference Sneak Peak!

90th TASC High School Annual Conference See you in San Antonio - Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center March 29-31, 2026 (Sun-Tue)

Here's a sneak peek of the Hotel List in our Block for Planning Purposes Only!

The link to book will be available on our website by January 9th! Hotel Preview >>

Keynote Speakers:



Scott Backovich



Mike Smith



Lori Hayes

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION Will Open in January!

EARLY BIRD RATE: (Includes T-shirts) by February 25 - \$225 per person

(Every advisor, student, adult chaperone coming into the Convention Center all MUST to be registered!)

REGULAR RATE: (Does NOT include T-shirts) by March 29 - \$245 per person

(NO T-shirts AFTER Feb 25)(Every advisor, student, bus driver, and adult chaperone coming into the Convention Center all MUST to be registered!)

- A night at Six Flags Fiesta Texas is provided with all registrations. This year it will be a private party and a meal will be included as well as parking.
- Registration does not include parking near the Convention Center. Bus Parking details to come soon!















| Jan. 7 | Deadline for TASC District Nominees to Submit Applications for HS/ML Advisor of the Yea | |
|------------|---|--|
| Jan. 7 | Deadline to Register for Advanced Leadership Workshop – Lakeview | |
| Jan. 7 | Early Bird Deadline Registration for Advanced Leadership Workshop – Mo Ranch | |
| Jan. 9 | HS Annual Conference Online Hotel Reservation Service and Registration Opens | |
| Jan. 12 | 12 TASC Info Night for all Advisors and Students 7-8 pm CT on Zoom – Stay Strong | |
| Jan. 13 | Prospective Candidates Meeting 7 pm CT on Zoom – for potential candidates for office | |
| Jan. 14 | 2nd Semester New Advisor Training 7 pm CT on Zoom – Training 1 | |
| Jan. 16-18 | Directors and Consultants Workshop | |
| Jan. 21 | Deadline to register for Advanced Leadership Workshop in February | |
| Jan. 24-26 | 24-26 Advanced Leadership Workshop - Lakeview Sat., Sun, Mon. | |
| Jan. 28 | Deadline to File for HS State Office and Submit General Platform | |
| | | |

Jan. 28 Deadline to File for HS State Office and Submit General Platforr
 Jan. 28 Deadline to File for HS Elected Board Position
 Jan. 28 Deadline to Apply for HS Top Ten Project and Video
 Jan. 28 Deadline to Apply for a Table Talk at the HS Annual Conference

Jan. 30 Deadline to Submit Applications -TASSP/TASC Partnering with your Principal ML & HS \$1,000 Council Scholarships They go hand in hand with being a successful council.

TASC State Report Forms

Your council deserves recognition for the hard work you do. Councils can earn recognition in the following (each is a separate award)

Community Service (No points required. Just submit the form.)

PLEASE NOTE:

If you downloaded this form in August, please Re-Download this one.
We found and fixed errors!

Thank you!

Outstanding Student Council

• Pride and Patriotism (P&P)

Energy and Environment (E&E)

Drugs, Alcohol, Safety, and Health (DASH)

• And Sweepstakes (Earn recognition in all of the above for a Sweepstakes Award)

The 2025 – 2026 State Report Forms are simpler to manage than ever before!

CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION







A small group of advisors from Texas attended the **National Conference for Student Activities** at the beginning of December in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Mary Whittenberg, from Northwest High School and one of our Summer Leadership Consultants, received one of only 2 awards given to the Southern Region, the Torchbearer Award! Congratulations!



NEW ADVISOR TRAINING 7 PM CT (6 PM MT)

IST SEMESTER

SEPTEMBER 24 OCTOBER 15 NOVEMBER 5 DECEMBER 10

2ND SEMESTER

JANUARY 14 FEBRUARY 11 MARCH 4 APRIL 8

JOIN THE CLASS! GET CONNECTED! ROCK ON!

SCAN THE CODE OR CLICK THE LINK TO JOIN!



PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES MEETINGS!

Dates 2025-2026-

- September 23
- November 4
- O December 2
- January 13

CLICK HERE!

All meetings 7pm-8 pm CST



Purpose - To help! And to go over expectations, questions about running, and the requirements of a candidate and officer.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS LEGIS LEGI



https://bit.ly/4576d5b

General Committee Guidelines -

- -Schools may not serve the same committee two years in a row.
- -Schools may only serve on one committee.
- -Conference committee members serving on committees at the conference as well as board members schools may not nominate or second candidates, and their students must decline to wear gear supporting any one candidate to avoid conflict of interest.





All Advisors and Students are Invited!
7:00pm-8:00pm Central Time
Zoom links are on the linked spreadsheet.

Start Strong!

August 25th Our year at glance and yours! Projects you can do tomorrow.

Be Strong!

November 10th Advanced Workshops, <u>ALL</u> State Applications, & Holiday Ideas/Projects

Stay Strong!

January 12th All things Annual Conference, appreciation projects, & more.

Finish Strong!

February 23rd Campus Elections, projects to beat the spring blues, & year in review.



CLICK HERE!



THE WHY -

THE STATE PROJECT, TASC ROCKS AGAINST HUNGER!, IS NEEDED BECAUSE:

THROUGHOUT TEXAS, 1 IN EVERY 6 FAMILIES FACE FOOD INSECURITY (FEEDING TEXAS)

- IN TEXAS, 1 IN EVERY 4 CHILDREN GOES TO BED HUNGRY, WHICH IS OVER 2 MILLION CHILDREN EVERY DAY (FEEDING TEXAS)
- TEXAS HAS THE SECOND-HIGHEST FOOD INSECURITY POPULATION IN THE NATION (FEEDING TEXAS)

5.1 MILLION TEXANS ARE AT RISK FOR HUNGER (FEEDING TEXAS)

- WITHIN A YEAR, THE RATE OF FOOD INSECURITY IN TEXAS HAS RISEN FROM 16.4% TO 17.6% (FEEDING TEXAS)
- TEXAS HAS THE HIGHEST RATE OF SENIOR FOOD INSECURITY IN THE NATION, WITH 13.6% OF TEXAN SENIORS AT RISK FOR HUNGER (FEEDING TEXAS)

 • MORE THAN 3.4 MILLION TEXANS RECEIVE SNAP BENEFITS (EVERY TEXAN)

- OVER 3 MILLION STUDENTS ARE ESTIMATED TO QUALIFY FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL
- LUNCHES (STATISTA)

 OVER 2 MILLION INDIVIDUALS IN TEXAS EXPERIENCE LOW ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD SOURCES (UTHEALTH SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH)
- OVER 4 MILLION PEOPLE RECEIVE FOOD AND RESOURCES FROM THE FEEDING TEXAS NETWORK OF FOOD BANKS (FEEDING TEXAS)
- TEXAS FOOD BANKS ARE REPORTING SIGNIFICANT STRAIN AND FACING CHALLENGES TO PROVIDE ENOUGH RESOURCES TO THOSE WHO FACE FOOD INSECURITY (THE TEXAS TRIBUNE)

GOALS -

WE HOPE TO:

1. **SERVE** EACH AND EVERY COMMUNITY THAT FACES FOOD INSECURITY BY PROVIDING THE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES AND TIME.

A. IMPLEMENT STATE-WIDE SERVICE INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT FOCUS ON POSITIVELY IMPACTING GROUPS THAT ARE AFFECTED BY FOOD SCARCITY. FOR INSTANCE:

I. ORGANIZED FOOD DRIVES

II. VOLUNTEER WORK/ SERVICE HOURS GAINED THROUGH COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

B. PARTNER AND SERVE WITH ENDORSED STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT TEXAS TO PROVIDE SERVICE, TIME, AND EFFORT EFFICIENTLY.

2. **EDUCATE** OTHERS OF THE EFFECTS OF FOOD INSECURITY AND HOW IT CAN BE LIMITED OR REDUCED.

A. TEACH EVERYONE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF NOT RECEIVING A BALANCED DIET.

B. DISCUSS THE DIFFERENT WAYS YOU AND YOUR COUNCIL CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING RESOURCES.

3. ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS BATTLING FOOD INSECURITY AND HELP THEM REGAIN STABILITY.

A. SUPPORT THOSE STRUGGLING TO OBTAIN NUTRITIOUS MEALS BY COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR AREAS IN NEED.

B. PROMOTE THE POSITIVE IMPACT FOOD DONATIONS CAN HAVE ON STRUGGLING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WHILE REDUCING THE STIGMA.

STATE REPORT GOALS -

| STATE SERVICE PROJECT GOALS | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Number of projects designed to combat food insecurity or hunger in Texas. | 1000 |
| 2 | Number of community organizations partnered with at your school (food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, etc.). | 750 |
| 3 | Number of service hours dedicated to projects that help serve, educate, and advocate for individuals on all things food insecurity. | 75,000 |
| 4 | Number of social media posts tagging @tasc_stuco and using #TASCFeedsTX, which will share resources, projects, and awareness related to the state service project. | 1000 |
| 5 | The dollar amount of goods and money donated to partnered local advocacy centers and shelters. | \$300,000 |
| 6 | People reached through education efforts. This is considered by counting or measuring the number of people educated through programs/ organizations/ projects (ex., the number of attendees at a seminar, open house presentations, advisory lessons, and the number of people reached through social media). | 300,000 |

PROJECT IDEAS - CLICK HERE FOR THE CANVA





Starters



Main Course(s)



- Food Distribution Volunteering
- Can For Entry
- Hunger Games



- Nutritional Awareness Posters
- Food Insecurity Infographics



- Reduce Food Waste
- Hunger Advocacy Week

• **Donation Drive Competitions**

- Thanksgiving Basket Collection
- Elementary Nutritional Lessons
- Spring Break Pantry Cleaning
- Food Drive Fridays
- Cereal Feeder Challenge
- Homecoming Can Food Drive
- Nutrition Workshops
- Food Insecurity Fundraiser
 - Themed Assemblies

Dessert



- Community Gardens
- Cook-Off For A Cause
- Community Farmers' Market
- Campus Food Pantry
- **Food Insecurity Forum**
- Food Philanthropy Week
- Student Impact Testimonial
- Compost For A Cause

Where table-talkers eat and advocate!

Bearn-a-licious,



Starters

Easiest to implement regardless of school circumstance

Main Course(s)

Moderate commitment through energy and participation

Desserts

Community focused: most activity and time required

THE MIDDLE LEVEL ANNUAL CONFERENCE ROCKED!

























