

# BoardTalk

Vol. 11, Issue 6

Tennessee School Boards Association

September 2009

## HAPPENINGS

### September 2009

- 17 Upper Cumberland Fall District Meeting – Smith County High School, Smith County
- 21 Northeast Fall District Meeting – Sullivan Central High School, Sullivan County
- 22 East Fall District Meeting – Grainger High School, Grainger County
- 24 South Central Fall District Meeting – Waynesboro Middle School, Wayne County
- 25 TSBA Board of Directors Third Quarter Meeting – TSBA Headquarters
- 30 TSBA Officer Nomination Deadline -  
TSBA Awards Program Nomination Deadline: *All Tenn. School Board; Tenn. School Board Member of the Year/C. Hal Henard Distinguished Service Award; School Board of the Year; and School of the Year*

### October 2009

- 2 SBA Advocacy - Knoxville
- 5 SBA Advocacy - TSBA
- 8 SBA Advocacy - Dyersburg
- 12 TSBA New Board Chairman Workshop - TSBA
- 28 SBA Finance - TSBA

## September BoardTalk launches revised format

TSBA is pleased to announce a revised format for its monthly newsletter, BoardTalk. The new format is designed to be more concise, easier to read, and more relevant for our members. These revisions are a work in progress, and we always want to hear your thoughts for making our publications more useful to you. If you have comments or suggestions, or if you have information for future issues of BoardTalk, e-mail them to Steve Doremus at [sdoremus@tsba.net](mailto:sdoremus@tsba.net).

## Longtime Bedford County school board member Jerry Naron passes away at age 65

Mr. Jerry J. Naron, age 65, a member of the Bedford County Board of Education since 1985, passed away Sept. 11. Mr. Naron was born Jan. 16, 1944, in Murfreesboro, son of the late James ‘Shed’ and Elsie Burchett Naron. He was a retired buyer for Sandford Corporation. He represented the 7th District on the Bedford County School Board, and coached baseball for over 44 years. He was a coach for the American Legion Team and many others. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Kay Gault Naron, of Shelbyville; a son, a daughter, a brother, and a grandson.

## State Comptroller releases school safety study

The Tennessee Comptroller’s Offices of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) has released a report entitled “*Keeping Tennessee Schools Safe*.” The report examines and evaluates what Tennessee is doing to ensure that its schools are safe, and it concludes that Tennessee’s statewide statutes, policies, and requirements for violence prevention and intervention are comprehensive and address most of the identified best practices for safe and secure learning environments. However, staff and funding needed to implement state-level requirements are limited and decreasing. In addition, the study found that state level guidance related to school building security (e.g., school resource officers, metal detectors, video surveillance systems) is lacking. The report includes policy options and considerations that may enhance and improve school safety efforts. You can read the report in its entirety by clicking [here](#).

## State names top principal, supervisor finalists

Each year, the Tennessee Department of Education recognizes outstanding administrators with the Principal of the Year and Supervisor of the Year awards. The finalists were selected by fellow principals and supervisors and represent the nine field service areas. The winners will be named at the annual Tennessee Educational LEADership Conference in October. For details, visit: <https://news.tennesseeanytme.org/node/2426>.

## Nominations for two 2010 TSBA officer positions due Sept. 30

TSBA is accepting nominations for the offices of Vice President and President-Elect for the year 2010. 2009 President-Elect Dan Schlafer (Cumberland County) will automatically become TSBA President effective Jan. 1, 2010. The Treasurer position is not open this year because the current Treasurer, Jim Mann of Clarksville/Montgomery County, is serving a two-year term. The Treasurer's term of office was changed to a one-year term at the 2008 Delegate Assembly; therefore, in 2010 TSBA will be accepting nominations for Treasurer which will serve a one-year term. Nomination forms can be found on our website, [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net), by clicking on *About TSBA* and then *Board of Directors*.

## Sept. 30 is deadline for TSBA Awards Program nominations

The TSBA Awards Program is a great way to recognize the hard work and accomplishments of a school board or board member. Nominations are now being accepted for awards to be presented at the 2009 annual convention in November. Nominations forms can be found online at [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net) for the following awards:

*All Tennessee School Board*

*Tennessee School Board Member of the Year/  
C. Hal Henard Distinguished Service Award*

*School Board of the Year*

*School of the Year*

The nomination deadline for these awards is Sept. 30.

## Ongoing Capital Campaign includes opportunities to take part in the TSBA Memorial/Commemorative Brick, Donor Wall of Fame Programs

One of the unique components of TSBA's ongoing Capital Campaign is a Memorial/Commemorative Brick Program and Foundation for the Future Donor Wall of Fame. In October, we will be installing the engraved bricks on the front porch of the TSBA Headquarters Building and hanging the Donor Wall of Fame Plaque on the wall in the main lobby.

If you or your school system would like to purchase an engraved brick for \$100 or give \$1,000 to be recognized as a Foundation Donor, please do so by Sept. 30, 2009.

For more information or to make a contribution, contact Leigh Mills at 800/448-6465, ext. 3905 or [lmills@tsba.net](mailto:lmills@tsba.net). We would appreciate your contribution.

## ASBJ 2010 Magna Award nominations accepted through Oct. 31

Applications are being accepted online through Oct. 31 for the 2010 Magna Awards, the American School Board Journal's annual program that honors best practices in school districts. Co-sponsored by NSBA and Sodexo School Services, the awards program recognizes districts for leadership, creativity, innovation, and commitment to student achievement. Nominations are judged by an independent panel in one of three categories – under 5,000 enrollment, 5,000 to 20,000 students, and more than 20,000 students. There is no cost and no limit to the number of entries for districts participating in the 16th annual awards program. One grand prize winner is selected in each category and receives a \$3,500 award. Five additional winners and honorable mention awards also are selected from each enrollment category. All winners and honorable mention recipients are recognized in a special supplement published with the April issue of American School Board Journal. Winners and honorable mention recipients also will be recognized at the School Leaders Luncheon during the NSBA Annual Conference in Chicago in April 2010. Only nominations submitted at [www.asbj.com/magna](http://www.asbj.com/magna) will be accepted. Click on the "Magna Information Page" for more details about the program and tips on the application process.

## Kennedy Center/NSBA accept award nominations for support of the arts

The Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network (KCAAEN) and the National School Boards Association (NSBA) are pleased to recognize a local school board for outstanding support of the arts in education. This national award has been presented annually since 1988 to a school board that has demonstrated support for and commitment to high-quality arts education in its school district, community, state or special jurisdiction. One school board per state comprises the maximum national pool of nominees. The Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network and National School Boards Association Award is presented at the annual national conference of the NSBA. The winner will also receive a \$10,000 cash prize to help the district continue its work in strengthening arts education programs.

### NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Only one nomination per state will be considered by the KCAAEN/NSBA award review panel. This nomination may come from the State School Boards Association, the State Alliance for Arts Education or the State School Boards Association and the State Alliance jointly, however, a letter of support from your State School Boards Association is required. Contact your State Alliance for Arts Education for nomination deadlines in your state. In states where there is not an active State Alliance for Arts Education, contact your State School Boards Association for a letter of endorsement and to discuss submitting your application to the Kennedy Center.

For more information on the application process and past winners go to [www.kennedy-center.org/education/kcaaen/recognition/home.html](http://www.kennedy-center.org/education/kcaaen/recognition/home.html) or call 202-416-8817

Nomination forms should be received by December 1, 2009 and sent to:

KCAAEN and NSBA Award  
The Education Department  
The Kennedy Center  
Washington, DC 20566

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***Schedule announced for fall School Board Academy modules***

TSBA is pleased to continue its role as provider of required School Board Academy training sessions for the Tenn. Dept. of Education. Orientation will be offered twice this training cycle at TSBA's Headquarters in Nashville – Dec. 6-7, 2009, and Feb. 11-12, 2010. All newly elected or appointed school board members are required to attend a two-day Orientation session to meet state regulations. The School Board Academy “*The Board's Role in School Finance*” will be offered Oct. 28 at TSBA Headquarters in Nashville and Nov. 5 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Knoxville. This module changed from an elective module to a required core module in 2007. In addition to attending an Orientation session, board members elected or appointed after January 1, 2007 are required to complete the *Advocacy*, *Board Policy*, *Board/Superintendent Relations*, *Vision*, and *School Finance* modules during their first five years in office. For more information or to register, please visit [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net), or call 800/448-6465, ext. 3904.

### ***New Board Chairman Workshop planned for Oct. 12 in Nashville***

The annual New Board Chairman Workshop will take place Oct. 12 at TSBA Headquarters in Nashville. The workshop will assist board chairmen in meeting the requirements of the position and provide tools to build a better board. Topics will include effective meeting management and working effectively with the media and public. For more details about this informative session and to register, visit [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net) or call 800/448-6465, ext. 3904.

## **Registration underway for Leadership Conference and Annual Convention**

The 2009 TSBA Leadership Conference will be held Nov. 14-15 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center. This year's conference will focus on Common Dysfunctions of Boards, Building Cultures and Boards that Work, and The Anatomy of Winning. Join us as we explore effective strategies for leading Tennessee's school systems.

The 72nd Annual TSBA Convention will be held Nov. 15-17 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center. This year's theme is "*Empowering Excellence.*" In addition to a distinguished list of general session speakers, we have a terrific program planned. Make your plans now to attend this unique and informative event.

Information packets have been mailed to each system. Additional details and registration information for both the Leadership Conference and Annual Convention may be found at [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net). If you have not made hotel reservations, please do so soon before the TSBA room block is sold out. You may reserve hotel rooms by calling the hotel's reservations department at 615/883-2211 and asking for the TSBA group rate code.

## **Special events planned in conjunction with Annual Convention activities**

TSBA has planned several special events during this year's Annual Convention.

- A 5K Run/Walk, sponsored by Pickler Wealth Advisors, will take place on Sunday morning of the convention at Opryland. We encourage all members to participate in this health-conscious activity!

- Don't forget to register for one of the two pre-convention workshops held on Sunday afternoon at the conclusion of the Leadership Conference and prior to the Convention's Opening General Session. Individuals may choose to attend either the Legal Workshop or Community Relations Workshop for an additional fee.

- You will not want to miss this year's Exhibit Hall. Exhibitors will kick-off their products and services showcase with a tailgate party at noon on Sunday. The Exhibit Hall will remain open until 5 p.m., and it will re-open on Monday from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

- Monday night's Awards Banquet will feature Carl Mays as the guest speaker.

- Guests of convention attendees are invited to purchase tickets to attend the Sunday tailgate party, Monday luncheon and/or the awards banquet. All guest tickets must be pre-ordered for these events.

For more details and to register, visit our website, [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net), or call 800/448-6465, ext. 3904.

# **BoardTalk**

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