TASA
ASPIRING SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMY #InspiringLeaders

Aspiring Superintendent Academy
2026 Agenda
January 25-28, 2026
TASA Midwinter Conference

Agenda At-A-Glance

[Slidedeck]

Sunday, January 25 — 1:00-5:00pm — STARS AT NIGHT 4

1:00-1:30	**Welcome**
1:30-2:15	**The Call to this Work**
2:15-3:00	**From the Calling to the Contract - *A Conversation with FTSA Supts***
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-3:45	**The Path to the Superintendency**
3:45-4:45	**The Calling to this Work: A Conversation with the Officers**
4:45-5:00	**Reflection Activity**
5:00-6:00	*TASA Welcome Reception - Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center West Lobby*

Monday, January 26 — 8:00am-12:00pm — STARS AT NIGHT 4

8:00-8:40	**Preparing for the Interview & Preparing for the Job**
8:40-9:20	**Developing & Executing the Entry Plan: A Successful First 90 Days**
9:20-10:00	**Preparing for the Interview: A Live Coaching Event**
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-11:00	**Board Relations & Governance - Panel Discussion**
11:00-12:00	**Search Firm Mix + Mingle**
1:00-2:00	*Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions*
2:15-3:15	*Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions*
3:30-5:30	*General Session w/Will Guidara - CC Exhibit Hall 1 (street level)*

Tuesday, January 27 — 11:30am-3:15pm — STARS AT NIGHT 4

9:00-10:00	*Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions*
10:15-11:15	*Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions*
11:30-1:00	**Inspiring Leaders Luncheon - Grand Hyatt - Lone Star ABC**
1:15-2:15	**Leading in Challenging Times - Spotlight Speakers**
2:15-3:15	**Negotiating the Superintendent Contract**
3:30-5:30	*General Session w/Rick Rigsby - CC Exhibit Hall 1 (street level)*

Wednesday, January 28 — 7:15am-9:30am — STARS AT NIGHT 1

7:15-7:45	**Breakfast with Corporate Partners**
7:45-8:45	**Thriving in this Work - Panel Discussion**
8:45-9:20	**Closing Message**
9:20-9:30	**Reflections**
9:45-11:15	*General Session w/Kim Strobel *Incl. Special Seating and Recognition of this group*

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Sunday, January 25 — 1:00-5:00pm — STARS AT NIGHT 4

1:00-1:30 **Welcome**
Kevin Brown, TASA Executive Director
Jill Siler, TASA Deputy Executive Director

1:30-2:15 **For Such a Time As This! The Call to this Work**
Tiffany Spicer, Waco ISD Superintendent

2:15-3:00 **From the Calling to the Contract - *A Conversation with FTSA Supts***
Moderator: Jill Siler, TASA Deputy Executive Director
Garrett Luft, Ira ISD (308) - *former Lubbock ISD Associate Principal*
Luz Martinez, Kingsville ISD (2,545) - *former Houston ISD Chief / Division Supt*
Jeff Pack, Livingston ISD (4,016) - *former Dickinson ISD Deputy Superintendent*
Molley Ealy, Smithville ISD (1,870) - *former Elgin ISD Deputy Superintendent*
Jamie Robinson, Karnes City ISD (960) - *former Granbury ISD Principal*
Julia Stephen, New Home ISD (708) - *former Amarillo ISD Director of HS Academics*

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-3:45 **The Path to the Superintendency - Superintendent Spotlight**
Jaime Clark, Henrietta ISD Superintendent

3:45-4:45 **The Calling to this Work: A Conversation with the Officers**
Moderator: Jill Siler, TASA Deputy Executive Director
Chris Moran, San Angelo ISD Superintendent, TASA President
Roosevelt Nivens, Lamar CISD Superintendent, TASA President-Elect
Jeannie Meza-Chavez, San Elizario ISD Superintendent, TASA Vice President
Martha Salazar-Zamora, Tomball ISD Superintendent, TASA Past President

4:45-5:00 **Reflection Activity**
Jill Siler, TASA Deputy Executive Director

5:00-6:00 *TASA Welcome Reception*
Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center West Lobby

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8:00-8:40 **Preparing for the Interview & Preparing for the Job**
Nicole Poenitzsch, Bellville ISD

8:40-9:20 **Developing & Executing the Entry Plan: A Successful First 90 Days**
Tory Hill, Channelview ISD

9:20-10:00 **Preparing for the Interview: A Live Coaching Event**
Jill SIler + Tory Hill, Channelview ISD + Nicole Poenitzsch, Bellville ISD
Jennifer Collins, Arlington ISD Deputy Superintendent
Marcus Forney, Huntsville ISD Deputy Superintendent

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:00 **Board Relations & Governance - Panel Discussion**
Moderator: Brian Woods, TASA Deputy Executive Director
Brandon Enos, Gunter ISD Superintendent
Michelle McCord, Frenship ISD Superintendent
Roland Toscano, East Central ISD Superintendent
Georgeanne Warnock, Terrell ISD Superintendent

11:00-12:00 **Search Firm Mix + Mingle**
Moderators: Brian Woods & Amy Jacobs
11:00-11:30 - Rotations with Search Firms sharing about the search process
11:30-12:00 - Optional time to visit individually with firms

1. *ESC 15 - Laura Strube*
2. *JG Consulting - James Guerra*
3. *Impact Education Specialists - Doug Williams*
4. *Leon l Alcala Law Firm - Matt Underwood*
5. *N2 Learning - Eddie Coulson*
6. *Powell Law Group - Shaun Barnett + Danny Lovett*
7. *TASB ESS - George Kazanas*
8. *Thompson & Horton - David Thompson*
9. *Walsh Gallegos - Ann Dixon*

1:00-2:00 Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions
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10:15-11:15 — *Midwinter Thought Leader / Concurrent Sessions*

11:30-1:00 — **Inspiring Leaders Luncheon - Grand Hyatt - Lone Star ABC**

1:15-1:45 — **Superintendent Search Process**
Jill Siler, TASA Deputy Executive Director
Charles Dupre, TASA Deputy Executive Director

1:45-2:15 — **Leading in Challenging Times - Superintendent Spotlight**
Darryl Henson, Hitchcock ISD Superintendent

2:15-3:15 — **Negotiating the Superintendent Contract**
Cory Hartsfield & Mason Moses, TCG

3:30-5:30 — *General Session w/Rick Rigsby - CC Exhibit Hall 1 (street level)*

Wednesday, January 28 — 7:15am-9:30am — STARS AT NIGHT 1

7:15-7:45 — **Breakfast with Corporate Partners**

7:45-8:45 — **Thriving in this Work - Panel Discussion**
Moderator: Charles Dupre, TASA Deputy Executive Director
Travis Fanning, Beeville ISD Superintendent
Carnelius Gilder, West Sabine ISD Superintendent
Megan Pape, Royal ISD Superintendent
Michelle Rinehart, Alpine ISD Superintendent
Mark Ruffin, Montgomery ISD Superintendent

8:45-9:20 — **Closing Message**
Matthew Gutierrez, Del Valle ISD Superintendent

9:20-9:30 — **Reflections**
Moderator: Charles Dupre, TASA Deputy Executive Director

9:45-11:15 — *General Session w/Kim Strobel*
**Including Special Seating and Recognition of the Aspiring Superintendent Academy*