

TASBO NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 430, Blountville, TN 37617
www.tasbo.net

Message from the President

Jeanie Mowery

Time flies, the old saying goes, and it seems more apparent with each passing year. It hardly seems that five months have passed since our 2009 conference in Memphis. We owe a debt of gratitude to Joe Anderson for all his hard work in coordinating such a successful conference. Memphis 2009 will be remembered as one of the most outstanding conferences in TASBO history and it was wonderful to hear so many talented TASBO members perform as TASBO Idols.

As we set our sights on the 2010–2011 fiscal year, we are facing tough economic times. It seems each day brings news of shrinking tax revenues and growing budget deficits. As we struggle with these issues, we must also find a way to implement a veritable forest of new regulations, with the questions and concerns that each generates. I think at times we all feel like we are lost in the woods without clearly a marked trail.

Our 2010 conference will assist you in “Conquering the Wilderness of School Business” with a slate of classes designed to give you information on the latest issues facing school business officials. A pre-conference workshop on the state health insurance plan will provide timely information on the upcoming changes to medical benefits. Interest sessions concerning Race To The Top Grant reporting, GASB 54,.....are only a few of the many topics that will help serve as your map through

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the President	1
Message from Past President	2
TASBO Minutes Updates	3
SASBO Updates	4
TASBO Certification	4
Conference Information	5
Hotel Reservations & Conference Fees	6
Website	6

the wilderness of regulations. Round Tables will provide us an opportunity to gain additional information and network with our peers in other school systems to share ideas and solutions to problems.

I hope that you will make plans to join us in Sevierville at the Wilderness at the Smokies Resort and Sevierville Events Center for this conference on November 16–19, 2010. Additional conference details and hotel information may be found elsewhere in this newsletter. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!!

“Conquering the Wilderness of School Business”

November 16-19, 2010

Wilderness at the Smokies Resort and Sevierville Events Center

Message from Past President

Joe Anderson

2009 TASBO "BRIDGE TO SUCCESS" CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITS A SUCCESS!!!! Though it was an honor to serve as president of such an outstanding organization again, two terms is definitely the limit! The Distinguished Service Award was quite a surprise and sincerely appreciated. On behalf of your 2009 TASBO Officers and Board of Directors, I want to thank each of you for attending the conference last year. From the conference evaluations it was evident you continued to receive excellent staff development, great networking opportunities, latest information on new products and services and enjoyed some evening fun along the way! Joel McKenzie with American Fidelity helped us examine our leadership styles and Laurie Lee with State Benefits Administration provided an informative update on Local Education Plan Benefits. Many thanks to Wesley from the State Education Finance Office and Alene from Tennessee SCORE for bringing us the latest information from their offices, as well as the information presented by numerous speakers during the interest sessions and related round tables. Hopefully, you enjoyed hearing secrets from Tim Noonan in the opening session on how to live a magical life and was inspired in the closing session remarks from Ed Horrell on The Kindness Revolution, especially in these challenging times.

Last, but certainly not least, we need to express our gratitude to all of our generous corporate sponsors and many exhibitors. Without the support of these two important groups, we would

be unable to bring you a quality conference each year at such an affordable cost. We ask each of you to be sure and express your gratitude throughout the year for their support. Remember, all of the corporate sponsors and exhibitors are listed on TASBO.net. Please keep these companies in mind as your needs arise for information on new, innovative products and services. In addition, we would like to request your assistance in obtaining new corporate sponsors and exhibitors by either having you contact companies your system does a large amount of business with or simply provide the information to someone on the board and we will be happy to contact the company on your behalf.

In closing, congratulations to our TASBO IDOL Winners, TASBO IDOL Daniel Crockett with Shelby County, first runner up Wanda Ladd with Humphreys County and second runner up Karen Naccarato with Shelby County. Hope everyone enjoyed collecting the TASBO Idol Dollars during day sessions and using the dollars to bid on prizes at the silent auction. Again thanks to our friends at RISO for minting some \$50,000 TASBO Idol Dollars for us!

Join us in Sevierville November 16-19, 2010

TASBO MEETING UPDATES:

2009 Conference Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the TASBO organization was held at the Memphis Marriott Downtown on December 4, 2009. In attendance were approximately 135 members. Martin Wright, Executive Secretary reported that 203 members had attended the annual conference. Current membership reported was 250 active members and 61 of those individuals being members of the regional association SASBO. The Audit committee reported that review of the financial fund found everything in good standing. Colette Arnold reported that TASBO currently has 115 members who have various levels of certification. President Elect Jeanie Mowery becomes the 2010 President with Colette Arnold becoming President Elect. Lisa Floyd (Metro -Nashville) becomes a Middle Tennessee Director, Brenda Overton (Haywood County) and Lisa Cheshire (Franklin County) become West Tennessee Directors. The board and members donated \$500.00 to the Memphis Ronald McDonald House.

Quarterly Board Meeting Summaries

January 21, 2010

Past President Joe Anderson reviewed the conference and annual operating budgets and preliminary financial status. The 2009 Conference evaluations were reviewed and suggestions were taken in consideration in the planning of the 2010 Conference. Evaluations indicated that the TASBO organization had a successful conference.

President Jeanie Mowery led a discussion of the 2010 Sevierville conference title "Conquering the Wilderness of School Business".

President Jeanie Mowery held the drawing for the

SASBO incentive award and the winner was Danny Weeks of Robertson County.

The Board approved one (1) new certification – **Mary Finley** with Greene County for Administrator I and one (1) recertification – **Kerry Jones** with Sequatchie County for Specialist III.

President Jeanie Mowery appointed the following committee assignments:

By-laws – Chris Henson , **Webmaster** – Joe Anderson, **Exhibits Chair** – Maryanne Durski, **Audit Committee** – Pam Cox and Lisa Stephens, **Newsletter Committee** – Pam Jones to Chair, Sherry Johnson, and Brenda Overton, **Decorations Committee** – Vicki Russell, Lisa Floyd, and Lisa Cheshire, **CPE Monitor** – Becky Adams, **Door Prize Committee** – Donnie Cardwell to Chair, Marty Spears, and Becky Adams.

March 18, 2010

President Jeanie Mowery led the board through the preliminary planning stages of the 2010 Conference in Sevierville. President Mowery visited the conference site and reported that the preparations are being made for a great conference. The directors have started the beginning phase of a strategic plan for the future. Colette Arnold was recommended by the Board as Outstanding TASBO Member for SASBO – **Congratulations Colette!**

The Board approved one (1) new certification – **Jeff Sandvig** with Rutherford County for Administrator I and three (3) recertifications – **Janice Parks** with Lenoir City for Specialist III, **Tom Rutledge** with Manchester City for Official III, and **Maryanne Durski** with Sumner County for Administrator III.

SASBO Updates

Donnie Cardwell

SASBO is working on their 2009–10 strategic action plan which targets areas such as solicit input from state leaders, networking, resolve barriers between states, members services ect.

TASBO members, we only have seventy-five (75) SASBO members in our organization. As your SASBO representative my goal is to reach one hundred (100) members or more by our conference in November. As a new SASBO director I can see the commitment the officers and other board members have made to ensure the mission statement adopted by the organization will be fulfilled. SASBO mission is to provide networking, professional development and supporting education in areas of business and administration for all southeastern states. If you have any suggestions or comments about TASBO or SASBO, please email me at donnie.cardwell@mnps.org.

SASBO Outstanding School Business Official Award

Each year the twelve member states of SASBO nominate a school business official to receive the Outstanding Business Official Award. This year's award winner from Tennessee was Colette Arnold of Manchester City Schools. Colette received the award in April at the 2010 SASBO conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. Congratulations to Colette on this much deserved honor!!

TASBO Certification

The main purpose of the Professional Training and Certification Committee is to assure the public, the school systems and their governing bodies that the persons holding TASBO certification have acquired levels of skills and knowledge required to perform their jobs in a professional manner.

The major goals of the certification program are to promote – (1) necessary skills for excellent job performance, (2) assist with maintaining required competencies, (3) encourage self-regulation and a high code of ethics, (4) provide professional recognition, (5) improve educational standards, and (6) enhance organizational status.

The certification program is for both degreed and non-degreed employees. There are three (3) certification areas: Certified School Business Specialist, Certified School Business Official, and Certified School Business Administrator. Each certification area also has three (3) levels depending on relevant work experience.

The TASBO Certification Committee consist of the following members – Chair – Roger Underwood, Secretary – Diane Griffin – Committee – Joe Anderson, Colette Arnold, Donnie Cardwell, Maryanne Durski, Sarah Moody, Jeanie Mowery, Brenda Overton, and Vickie Russell.

TASBO currently has 111 members that are certified.

Applications for certification can be obtained on the website.

Additional certification information can be found on TASBO's web page or by contacting any of the TABSO Certification Committee members.

44th Annual Conference and Exhibits

Wilderness Resort at the Smokies
and Sevierville Events Center
November 16–19, 2010

“Conquering the Wilderness of School Business”

Make plans now to join us for TASBO’s 44th Annual Conference and Exhibits at the beautiful Wilderness Resort at the Smokies and Sevierville Events Center on November 16–19, 2010. This will be the last TASBO conference to be held in the area for several years, so come enjoy the sights, sounds and shopping for the Sevierville/Pigeon Forge area, as well as an outstanding program of professional development and networking opportunities.

Conference Program Highlights

Tuesday afternoon, a pre-conference session presented by the State Benefits Administration will outline important changes to the state medical insurance benefit plans. This timely session will be presented at no additional cost to local systems. Tuesday evening, plan to join us for a Welcome Reception in the North Concourse of the Sevierville Events Center for some rest & relaxation after your drive.

Wednesday morning will begin with our opening session and keynote speaker Kelly Swanson. Kelly, an award winning storyteller, comedian and motivational speaker, will make you laugh, remind you of your value and show you how to see beyond the obstacles in life and business with her

keynote address, “Who Hijacked My Fairytale?” Immediately following the opening session, the State Department of Education Finance will present the latest information on state level funding issues. After such a busy morning, lunch will be a welcome break, and then it will be on to an afternoon of interest sessions. These sessions will be sure to enhance your professional skills and provide an opportunity to earn CPE’s with up-to-date information on GASB 54, Race To The Top Grants, PIRS, Preparing RFP’s, Internal Controls, Section 125 plans and health care reform, legal issues, ethics and many other topics. Wednesday night will be a free night to enjoy the restaurants, shopping and shows of the Sevierville/Pigeon Forge area or to enjoy the indoor water park at the Wilderness Resort.

Thursday will begin with Breakfast with the Vendors in Exhibit Hall A at the Sevierville Events Center. After breakfast, a morning round of interest sessions will be presented in Ballrooms A–D or you may stay in the exhibit area and begin visiting exhibits. Many of you have asked for additional time to visit with your system’s vendors or to learn more about new products and services. It’s our hope that this will provide a less hectic time to interact with our vendor partners for those of you who would like to do so. After the morning round of interest sessions, vendor exhibit visitation will officially begin. After lunch, an afternoon of information and Q & A is back during our popular Round Table sessions. Later that evening join us for the Past Presidents and Members Reception before boarding buses to an evening of dinner and fun at Dixie Stampede.

The Friday morning closing session will feature a closing keynote speaker and or business session, before you return to your systems to continue blazing new trails for school business!

Hotel Reservations

An outstanding rate of \$99 per night has been negotiated with the Wilderness Resort at the Smokies. The rate includes all amenities for the hotel, including passes for the indoor water park. Reservations are open now and may be made by calling 877-325-9453 or online at www.wildernessatthesmokies.com. Reference Group Code 1011TASBO when making your reservation. The hotel requires one (1) night's deposit plus tax upon reservation. However, sales tax may be refunded during your November stay upon presentation of Sales Tax Exemption Certificate and payment with a system credit card. We encourage you to make your room reservations as soon as possible. Due to the incredible room rate, we anticipate higher than average bookings. Don't wait for the conference registration packets that will be mailed in late September or the room block may be filled and you may be unable to take advantage of this special rate!

Conference Registration Fees

TASBO conference registration fees have historically been some of the lowest for a conference of this kind. Your board makes every effort to maximize vendor participation and corporate sponsorship to provide greater value for your system's travel dollars. We are pleased to announce that conference fees will remain the same as last year. Registration fees will be \$125 for TASBO members, \$115 for certificated members, with an additional "early bird" discount of \$15.

TASBO Website

Don't forget to check the TASBO website at www.tasbo.net! The website is your source for additional conference registration information, vendor names and contact information, certification information, career opportunities and upcoming events. Some information on the website requires a log in and password. When this is the case, use the following information:

Log In: TASBO.net Password: Member

Many thanks to Shelby County Schools for all their hard work in keeping the website going!

See you in Sevierville! ! ! ! ! !