

TEXAS PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



TPEA ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION GUIDE 2026



www.tpea.org



(888) 367-8732



membersupport@tpea.org

FAQs

01.

How can I vote?

TPEA developed an open and transparent process for our members to vote electronically or by mail. The electronic system allows more members to participate in the annual meeting and is faster, less costly, and more efficient. To submit your votes online, check your TPEA-affiliated email and login with the link provided. If you'd like to vote by mail, call TPEA toll-free at 1-888-367-8732 or email us at membersupport@tpea.org. Ballots must be returned to TPEA offices no later than 5pm on Friday, June 20, 2025.

02.

Who administers and oversees the election?

The Executive Committee of the Board provides oversight of staff, the third-party electronic voting vendor, guidelines, eligibility, and election to ensure compliance. The Executive Committee is also responsible for resolving all disputes.

03.

Who is entitled to vote?

Active members who are state employees or retirees of record and are in good standing at the close of business on May 15, 2026, are eligible to vote. Associate members (non-state employees) cannot vote.

04.

Can I vote in-person at the meeting?

No. All votes need to be received before 5 pm on June 19, 2026, and elected members will be announced at the annual meeting on June 27, 2026.

05.

How do I ask questions?

Members as of the record date may submit questions to membersupport@tpea.org. We will try to answer as many questions as possible that comply with the posted rules of conduct. Questions to the candidates should be directed at the candidate.

06.

How do I obtain a printed copy of the election materials?

If you would like us to send you a printed copy of the election materials, please call us at 512-476-2691 or toll-free at 1-888-367-8732 or email membersupport@tpea.org.

FAQs, cont.

07.

How many votes do I get?

Every voter gets one vote for up to three candidates running for the Board of Directors.

08.

How does the Board of Directors election work?

TPEA directors are elected at large, meaning they are elected to represent the entire membership of the body rather than a subset of that membership.

09.

How will the winners be selected?

The people with the most votes based on the number of available positions will be elected to the Board of Directors unless the person with the most votes causes more than 1/3 of the Board of Directors to be a retiree or from a single state agency.

10.

How do I obtain more information or ask questions?

If you have any questions about the voting process, please contact us at 512-476-2691 or toll free at 1-888-367-8732 or email us at membersupport@tpea.org.

BOARD NOMINEES

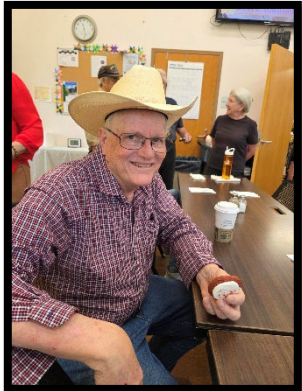


Melandy Smith - Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

I have over eight years of experience with the Texas Department of Transportation and currently serve as a Plan Reviewer II, coordinating and reviewing PS&E submissions to ensure compliance and keep projects moving forward. I've taken initiative to improve processes, particularly in ADA reviews and addendum coordination.

My background in private-sector project management and design strengthened my problem-solving skills and ability to work across teams.

I am a strong candidate for the TPEA Board of Directors because I bring a practical, solutions-focused mindset, strong work ethic, and commitment to public service. I understand the challenges state employees face and am motivated to represent their interests and support meaningful improvements.



Russell Boyd – Retired from the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)

73 years old. 37 years 9 months credible service with the state.

My first experience with the state was a summer job at Texas Employment Commission. Upon graduation from Southwest Texas, now Texas State, I worked for TABC as an auditor. Then decided to get a degree in computer programming and worked with TCEQ. In the final years of my state career I was Division Director of I.T. at TAHC. Upon retirement from the state I obtained a Masters degree in Counseling and a Licensed Professional Counselor license. I am well exposed to how Texas Government works and how people hurt. We need to help our members obtain an improved retirement salary.

The TPEA has been professional and skilled in the performance of its duties. However, the implementation of COLAs for retirees has not been successful. We need a lot of members to be actively involved. My hope is that we can have a presence with the state legislature that will not be ignored.

BOARD NOMINEES, cont.



Kimberly Cox - Retired from Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

I am a Texan. In high school I belonged to multiple organizations & realized how I enjoyed serving & working with others. I was hired at TxDOT as a 19 yr old college student. I worked in the Traffic Office of the Beaumont District. While there, I was fortunate to have two outstanding supervisors that allowed me to grow in my career while pursuing a degree. I served as a file clerk, engineering tech, contract manager, office manager & Traffic Safety Specialist.

I became a mom & changed careers. As a teacher, I taught 1st grade & then 5th grade serving on various campus/district committees- eventually got my Master's degree & entered the administrative world. I was an intermediate school campus coordinator, middle school assistant principal & then principal. I worked during 9/11, a bomb threat, STARR testing, multiple hurricane recoveries, construction, reconstructions, a train crash, & covid shutdown. I would like to think I served with kindness & integrity leaving a positive impact.

It was an honor to be a part of TxDOT. I also served as an educator & administrator in the public school system for 21 years before retiring. I loved them both. It would be a privilege to continue to serve others as a member of the TPEA Board. I understand the time and dedication necessary to be a part of such an entity. The thought of working as a team for the greater good of others brings me a sense of joy and purpose.



Kayode Yaya- Health and Human Service Commission (HHSC)

I am a dedicated public service professional with a background in education, health and human services, bringing a well-rounded perspective on the needs of both employees and the communities we serve. My experience has strengthened my commitment to advocacy, equitable access to resources, and the continuous improvement of our public systems.

As a strong candidate for the TPEA Board I bring a uniquely combined practical experience and a clear passion for public enlightenment and outreach towards ensuring that individuals are informed, empowered, and supported through effective communication and education. I value collaboration and believe in building a more unified and engaged network of Texas public employees.

With a focus on integrity, service, and collective progress, I am prepared to contribute meaningfully to the Board by supporting policies and initiatives that uplift public employees while strengthening the impact of public service across Texas.