Tennessee Principals Association
FRONTLINE

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

TPA is a joint affiliate with the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the largest advocate for K-8 principals in the United States. As you may have been notified, voting for our next NAESP president elect is set to begin March 26, 2012.

Since switching over to online voting, the number of members participating in this national election has drastically declined. In the 2010 election, 1,500 (approximately 7%) of eligible members cast ballots. In 2011, the participation was even worse with only 945 members voting (less than 5%). This decline has resulted, at least in part, from the complexity of the online voting process.

The purpose of this message is to issue user-friendly instructions which will make it easier to vote and to exercise this membership participation opportunity. NAESP’s president represents all 20,000+/- of us, but if we as members do not take the time and effort involved to cast our ballots for the next president-elect (the future president), are we demonstrating the leadership qualities we expect of others?

Obviously, we have a preferred candidate in this race (Nancy Meador of Nashville), but member participation in the voting process is so important that we have included information on both candidates. Remember! Personal involvement is the way to ensure our voices are heard.

NAESP has posted a very short PowerPoint on their home page (www.naesp.org) illustrating the steps involved in the NAESP login procedure. For the member who needs personalized help, contact information is included. I might also encourage each of you to login to the NAESP website right away to make sure your username and password work correctly.

Thank you in advance for becoming familiar with the procedures for voting and your efforts to encourage all eligible TPA/NAESP members to participate in the 2012 election. You can go to NAESP’s election page on their website for more details. Please contact Barbara Wilmer (bwilmer@naesp.org or 703-518-6276) if you have any questions or want additional information, or Ernie at 423-794-6664.

Ready to Vote?

Online voting will begin March 26, 2012, and extend through April 24, 2012. Members eligible to vote are A (active), B (institutional active), E (emeritus), Life.

1. Eligible voters should go to www.naesp.org by March 26 or soon after.
2. Click on “Board Election” above “NAESP News” and you should see this image:
3. Log in with your user name (your email address on file at NAESP) and your password (your last name). If you need assistance logging in, click on “Tips for Logging In” or call 800-386-2377 and request help.
4. Cast your vote for your preferred candidate.
5. After you submit your vote, you will receive an automated email confirmation.

www.tnprinassoc.org
Dwight Liddiard—Utah candidate for NAESP president-elect

Every day I realize how fortunate I am to serve as principal of East Meadows Elementary School, located at the base of the beautiful Wasatch Mountains in Spanish Fork, Utah. Despite these stressful, high-stakes times, I love my job and consider myself lucky to work with, and be surrounded by, excellent staff, great kids, and supportive parents.

NAESP and its affiliates have played such an important role in my career. They’ve helped me become the principal that I am today. I know that the schools I have been asked to lead are better places because of the many membership benefits I have received from—and my relationships with—NAESP and its affiliates.

Each principal and each school is unique. Regardless of where we live, special circumstances impact our work. NAESP needs to ensure that the work of our Association reflects the needs of all principals—urban, suburban, rural, and frontier. We must continue to reach out, bring our colleagues into membership, and help them to realize the benefits of our organization.

NAESP helps us to stay on top of all the issues affecting our profession and offers each of us excellent professional development opportunities, such as our national conference and webinars. Principals will find tremendous resources on the NAESP website, and we can stay engaged in real time via the Association’s Facebook page and Twitter channel. NAESP also has some amazing publications that we should all be using and sharing, such as the ever-popular Principal magazine and email blasts. When we make use of these rich resources, we stay on the cutting edge of our profession and best serve the students in our schools.

NAESP is also a strong advocate for its members with the U.S. Department of Education and Congress. Now more than ever we need a strong, unified voice to represent the needs of elementary and middle-level principals and the students we serve.

Our Association’s strength is attributed to the development of amazing state and local affiliate leaders. We must continue to strengthen and build our organization by inviting new members to become involved in the leadership of NAESP.

I am passionate about NAESP and my role as a principal. As a candidate for President-Elect, I pledge to work hard to continue the great work of our Association and to find additional ways to help principals enhance their skills to perform their duties effectively.

I would be honored to represent my colleagues throughout the United States and worldwide to ensure that the viewpoint of the elementary and middle-level principal is well represented. To serve this wonderful profession and to give back to an organization that has helped me have such a wonderful career and life would be an opportunity that I would love.


Professional Affiliations: NAESP, 2004-present (Zone 9 Director, 2009-present; Nominating Committee, 2008; Resolutions Committee Alternate, 2007-2009; Board Subcommittee on Presidential Succession, 2009; Zone 9 Chair, 2007-2008; Chair-Elect, 2006-2007; Utah State Represenative, 2004-2009) — Utah Association of Elementary School Principals (UAESP), 1995-2011 (Student Council Conference; Student Council Chair, 2002-2004; Secretary Conference; Awards Committee; Mid Winter Conference; Summer Conference; Nomination Committee; State Representative, 2004-2009; Secretary, 2003-2004)


Civic/Community Honors: Spanish Fork Kiwanis Club Outstanding Community Service Award, 2012 — Utah State University Extension Service Award, 2011 — Spanish Fork High School FFA Outstanding Alumni Award, 2010 — 4-H Family of the Year, State of Utah 4-H Council, 2009 — 4-H Family of the Year, Utah County 4-H Council, 2008

Education: M.Ed., Educational Leadership, Brigham Young University, 1991 — B.A., Elementary Education, Brigham Young University, 1984
Principals have one of the most diverse and challenging jobs in the United States. We have great responsibility and opportunity to influence the future through our decisions and leadership. I am proud to be a principal and strive daily to lead with passion, purpose, and enthusiasm.

Communities across our nation depend on principals to lead schools to unprecedented levels of success. Accountability for test scores, student safety, and positive learning environments is at an all-time high. The bar has been raised nationwide, and principals are determined to meet the challenges and expectations.

As a current member of the Board of Directors, I believe that every NAESP member is working to make a difference. This Association is focused on the value that it can bring to every member. I believe that service and support to members through benefits and resources is a primary value of this Association.

Membership is the heart and soul of any successful association, and I will continue to work to strengthen our membership. Together we can identify those resources required to ensure that principals survive and prosper. With these actions, I believe we will be able to retain and grow our membership.

We will also become a more effective Association by increasing our visibility and our influence as we work with our elected officials who write and implement education law. Advocacy will continue to be important to establish our collective priorities and to have our positions understood before laws are enacted.

NAESP and its state affiliates are instrumental to the success of elementary and middle-level principals. Working together, we can raise both the level of awareness and the important role our state and national associations have in the development and support of America’s principals.

I am passionate about my commitment to serve and support principals across our nation, use our collective efforts to influence decisions that shape state and national legislation, and work together to continue to build NAESP as a premier educational association serving and supporting all elementary and middle-level principals.

Through my leadership experiences with NAESP and the Tennessee Principals Association, I have had the opportunity to lead at the district, state, and national levels. As a candidate for the position of NAESP President-Elect, I am offering my leadership skills and experience to promote the mission and values of NAESP and its membership. I am an advocate for learning, and I will use my authority and influence to improve principals’ chances of success both personally and professionally. I will speak boldly for schools. I desire to help make a difference for principals because every principal matters.


Civic/Community Honors: Old Hickory Area Chamber of Commerce (Co-President, 2003; Member, 1998-present) — PENCIL Foundation Board of Directors, 2002-present — Madison-Rivergate Chamber of Commerce, 2009-present

JANICE V. TANKSON  
2012 Candidate for TPA Vice President

Janice Tankson has served as an educator with Memphis City Schools for fifteen years in the elementary, middle, and high school settings. She is presently the principal of Levi Elementary School and is committed to the idea of life-long learning and believes that education is the key to success in life for children and adults alike. Ms. Tankson is dedicated to the education and encouragement of children and seeks, along with her faculty and staff, to promote a caring and fun learning atmosphere in which the nutritional, emotional, and educational needs of young children are met.

She graduated from Mississippi State University, earning a B.S. in Biology and General Sciences, and University of Memphis, receiving a Master’s Degree in Administration and Supervision. She is currently enrolled in the Doctoral Program for Executive Leadership at the University of Memphis and will graduate in May 2012.

She is currently serving as one of the TPA State Directors and was the Exhibit Hall Chairperson at the 2011 TPA State Conference. She has served on numerous educational committees and is a member of National Association of Elementary School Principals, Tennessee Principals Association, Memphis Public Schools Principals Association, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

COREY WILLIAMS  
2012 Candidate for TPA Vice President

Corey Williams earned his bachelor's degree at Jackson State University in Special Education and his master’s degree at Christian Brothers in Educational Leadership. He also earned 45 hours plus with an endorsement in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Memphis.

He has been employed by Memphis City Schools for twelve years. He has served in school administration for eight years. Prior to becoming principal at Ridgeway Middle, he was principal at Chickasaw Middle School, assistant principal at Ridgeway High School, and served four years in the classroom at Frayser High School and Ridgeway High.

One of Corey's major accomplishments was establishing a mentor network of teachers leading students through clubs. He currently serves on the TPA board of directors as the state-wide Middle School Representative for TPA and is also a member of ASCD, and NAESP. If elected, it will be his charge to ensure the voice of the school administrator is heard at the various levels where decisions are made which impact the role of the school principal.

He is married to Vanessa Williams and has a son, Cameron Williams. He looks forward to the opportunity to serve as an officer in TPA if elected.

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SHARON McNARY
2012 Candidate for NAESP State Representative

Sharon McNary earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in special education at Memphis State University. She also earned her 45 hours plus with an endorsement in Administration and Supervision from the University of Memphis.

Sharon has worked for Memphis City Schools for 29 years. She has been the principal of Richland Elementary, a K-5 school, with an enrollment of 780 students for the past 8 years.

Sharon currently serves as the President of the Tennessee Principals Association and has represented TPA at the State Leaders Conference in Washington D.C. and is serving as the president of the NAESP Zone 4 Southeast Council for 2011-2012. She has co-chaired the TPA State Conference in Memphis several times. Sharon has recently been selected by SCORE, as a member of their Phase 4 Work Team. (SCORE is Governor Haslam’s choice to collect feedback and make revision recommendations on the new evaluation model.) She also conducts district level workshops on Writing Strategies for Administrators, is a mentor principal for the district, and is serving on the Memphis City Schools Leadership Effectiveness Initiative Committee.

Sharon has been married to her husband, Steve, for 28 years and has three grown sons and two grandsons.

BRIAN PARTIN
2012 Candidate for NAESP State Representative

Brian Partin earned a bachelor’s degree from Anderson University in Elementary Education. He then went on to earn his Master’s degree in Administration and Supervision from Tennessee State University and his Ed.S. degree in Administration and Supervision from Lincoln Memorial University.

In the summer of 1998, he accepted a position with the Metro Nashville Public School system in Nashville, Tennessee, where he served as a teacher, tutor, coach, assistant principal and principal for eight years. During his tenure as an administrator in the Nashville Public Schools, Brian had the opportunity to serve as the assistant principal of Andrew Jackson Elementary in Old Hickory, Tennessee, and as the principal of Crieve Hall Elementary. He also was a member of the 2004-2005 Principals’ Leadership Academy of Nashville (P.L.A.N.) and is an active member of the Tennessee Principals Association, where he is currently serving as the past-president. He has also served a two year term as TPA President, Vice-President, and District 9 Co-Director.

In July 2006, Brian became a member of the Kingsport City Schools team when he accepted the principal position at Jefferson Elementary. Jefferson is a K-5 school that serves 435 students and families in the Kingsport community. He and his wife, Lauren, attend the First Baptist Church in Kingsport and enjoy spending time with their two daughters, family, and friends.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S NEWS SUMMARIES...

• With the **NAESP Seattle Conference** beginning March 21, several last-minute plans included preparing for the TPA exhibit booth to promote Dr. Nancy Meador’s candidacy for NAESP president elect and to promote the Tennessee Principals Association accomplishments; deciding about a potential state event such as a TN breakfast in the headquarter’s hotel (there were forty-seven Tennessee principals pre-registered on the February 29 list); preparing copy and getting the banners and signs promoting our candidate produced and shipped to Seattle; and making plans for our participation in the Zone 4 reception. Kim Headrick (kheadrick@mctns.net) is in charge of the booth organization and operation.

• The **TPA legislative organizational plan**, including roles for board members, officers, and other association members, is being negotiated. Kimber Haliburton and Marti Phillips are the designated legislative liaisons. The draft plan is to have them review the government website postings each week (as to bills being considered in the House and Senate Education Committees the following week) and identify local principals who will attend one or more such committee meetings as legislation impacting principals is being debated. The executive committee members are to meet on April 10 and 11 to serve the dual purpose of having their presence known in the legislature at the House and Senate Education Committees and to conduct regular TPA business. They must also determine if TPA should allocate funds for someone to keep TPA officers informed on the weekly progress of bills in the legislature and to assign responsibility for the development of position papers related to long-term objectives for Tennessee principals.

• The recently-formed **partnership with SCORE** includes responsibilities for various TPA member principals related to the four phases of the SCORE plan. This is their response to Governor Haslam’s charge to SCORE to collect and analyze feedback on the status of the new evaluation model implementation. The four phases are (1.) eight or nine Round Table discussion groups comprised of fifteen to twenty selected teachers, principals, superintendents, board members, business leaders, PTA representatives, etc. (of which Julie Thompson and Brian Partin have already participated), (2.) an online questionnaire/survey available for general participation (3.) collection of feedback from groups like our association board using a protocol available through SCORE, and (4.) selecting and convening a work team of about twenty educators to review the body of information collected. Sharon McNary has been named to that work team.

• **Two important elections** will soon be underway: the **TPA** selection of its next vice president and its next TPA NAESP state representative is one, and the other is the **NAESP** election of its next president elect. TPA has members involved in both of these elections. Candidates for vice president are Janice Tankson and Corey Williams, and their information is on Page 4. Sharon McNary and Brian Partin are candidates for the state representative position to succeed Teresa Dennis, and their information is on Page 5. TPA mails out paper ballots which you should receive by April 1. Please complete your ballot and return it in time to be received by April 30. Nancy Meador is the Tennessee member running for president elect of **NAESP**, and her information is on Page 3. That election is an online procedure (accessed through www.naesp.org) and is reported on Page 1. Voting begins March 26 and runs through April 24.

• **Upcoming conferences** include the summer **planning meeting for board members** scheduled for June 11 and 12 in the Nashville area (the details will be finalized at the April 10 meeting). Current plans call for a **leadership capacity-building event**, “Quantum Leadership for Administrators,” on June 11 (Quantum Learning is furnishing the trainer as part of our partnership with Carol Fetzer). The annual **fall conference** will take place in the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro December 5,6,7. Initial plans are to offer a learning opportunity in common core standards on the afternoon of 12/5, a keynote on the morning of 12/6 with concurrents and the exhibit hall rounding out the day. Another half day training event on collaborative leadership (with presenter Ken Williams) on 12/7 will be followed by our annual awards luncheon and speaker. Chairs will soon be named to oversee the organizational requirements of this event.
Name ______________________________________________________  Position _____________________

Check one of the following:

- New Principal
- New Member
- Renewal

School Name _________________________________________

- Elementary
- Middle
- Secondary

System ___________________________________    *

Recruited by ____________________________________

Check preferred address:  

- School or  
- Home

Address _________________________________________________________________________________

City ________________________________  State ______  Zip __________  County ___________________

Phone _________________  Fax _________________  Email ________________________@____________

TPA/NAESP Membership Dues: (check one)

- $385.00  TPA/NAESP Active (line administrators)  
- $430.00  Institutional/Active TPA/NAESP (line administrators)  
- $120.00  Aspiring Principal TPA/NAESP (teachers, counselors)  
- $210.00  Associate (professors, central office)  
- $110.00  Retired  
- $168.00  Emeritus

TPA/Secondary Membership Categories (Grades 9-12)

- $150.00  TPA Dues + Membership in a national association  
- $150.00  TPA Dues + Membership in a national association

* TPA Membership requires simultaneous current membership in a national association

Name of association where you hold a national membership

Method of Payment: (check one)

- Check enclosed: make payable to: TPA  
- Purchase Order: Copy attached  
- Credit card: please charge to:  
  - MasterCard  
  - Visa  
  - AMEX

- 10-month installment plan with credit or debit card (for A and B memberships)  
  ($40.50 monthly payments for 10 consecutive months assuming member joins by November)

Card # _____________________________________________  Expiration Date____________

Signature ____________________________________________________________________

Mail form along with payment to:

Membership Processor
205 Sterling Springs Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

For questions contact tnprinassoc@comcast.net or call 423-794-6664
Tennessee Principals Association
Annual Leadership Conference
December 5-7, 2012
Embassy Suites Nashville SE - Murfreesboro

Tentative theme and schedule:

2012 Priorities for Tennessee Principals
Implementing Common Core Standards (Wednesday)
Stress and Pressure as Positive Contributors (Thursday)
Strengthening Collaborative Leadership (Friday)

Watch for mailings (and check the website) for more details.
1-day special pricing will be available for teams on Wednesday.

With Ken Williams
Life Coach