



Winter 2013

Special on Legislative Focal Points

TPA has been fortunate to collaborate with Tennessee School Boards Association staff members in several areas of mutual interests. Lee Harrell, Director of Government Relations, recently shared his overview of the known current general assembly issues likely to see a large amount of attention within their educational priorities. The material reported here is largely based on Harrell's latest information to school boards in the *TSBA Journal*.

His article examines Vouchers For Private Schools, the proposal for a State-Wide Authorizer of Charter Schools, Lifting the Prohibition on Special School Districts, Enrollments at Virtual Schools, Fees for Inspection of Records, and Guns and School Security. Additional topics have been included in the full TSBA legislative agenda which can be found at www.tsba.net.

Some of the supporting rhetoric is changing in the vouchers' debate from "advocating improved student achievement" to "advocating parental choice." As principals you realize the desirability of increased parental support and involvement. It seems unlikely vouchers are the magic to achieve that. However, there will be a strong push to implement a system of vouchers as hundreds of thousands of dollars have already been spent on political and advertising campaigns.



Lee Harrell

Harrell submits "the argument regarding parental choice is contradicted by the very language of the legislative proposals on this issue. The proposals allow private schools to have full discretion in deciding who they omit. These schools could deny students who have disabilities, need remedial assistance, or require additional services or attention. The option lies with these schools, not the parents or students."

"Additionally several studies have concluded that voucher programs do not result in a significant increase in performance for recipients...a July, 2011 report that reviewed the research and reports that have been completed on vouchers over the past decade...states, 'Since 2000, more evidence has accumulated about the impact of vouchers on student test scores, particularly from longer-term studies of the publicly funded voucher programs in Milwaukee, Cleveland, and D.C.' and '... these studies have generally found no clear advantage in academic achievement for students attending private schools with vouchers.' ...Tennessee is recognized nationally for its reforms to increase standards, expectations, and achievement. To divert attention and resources from these efforts is discouraging and untimely."

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Election E-mail to Members...105 voted so far



January 2013

Dear TPA Member,

Due to the recent resignation of Dr. Amy Downey from her president-elect position of the Tennessee Principals Association, two things occurred: Dr Janice Tankson moved to the vacated position from her position as vice president and an interim vice president was appointed until a special election could be conducted to fill the vice president slot.

At the December conference in Murfreesboro, a nominating committee was selected, and they presented a proposed slate of candidates to the TPA executive committee. This slate is now presented to TPA members for your selection of a new vice president to take office by February 1, 2013, and become president-elect in July 2013. **Mr. Calvin Bailey** and **Dr. Holly Flora** are your candidates.

Please study the brief descriptions of their qualifications and exercise your vote by casting your ballot using the link identified below.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ernest Bentley, Jr.
TPA Executive Director

Tennessee Principals Association
205 Sterling Springs Drive · Johnson Cit, TN 37604
Telephone 423-794-6664
tnprinassoc@comcast.net · www.tnprinassoc.org

Election E-mail to Members...105 voted so far



Mr. Calvin Bailey

Calvin graduated from Gleason High School. Calvin went to Jackson State Community College and graduated from David Lipscomb College on a basketball scholarship. At Lipscomb he received a B.S., a Master's from Memphis State, and has a Master's + 45.

His educational background spans from the Pre-Kindergarten level to college level. He is presently Principal at Medina Elementary. Medina Elementary has been recognized as an Exemplary School and has been a Reward School for the last two years.

Some of his accomplishments include Teacher of the Year, Coach of the Year, and inductee into The Jackson-Madison County Sports Hall of Fame. Calvin has served as Gibson County Teacher Education Association Treasurer, President of Area 14 Principal Study Council Association, and Tennessee Principal Association Board Director for Areas 2 and 3.

He enjoys farm activities, especially getting his annual hay crop harvested ...more of a "cut, rake and roll" than the usual fire safety slogan of "stop, drop and roll."



Dr. Holly Flora

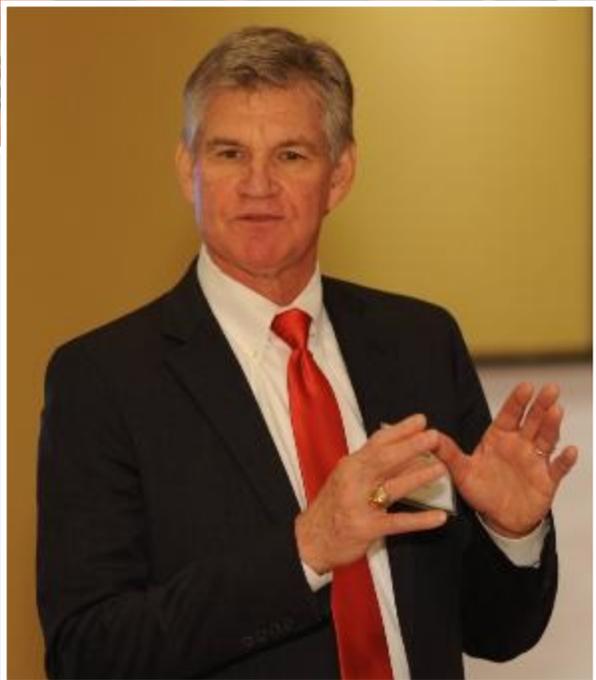
Holly Flora earned a Bachelor's degree from Milligan College in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education in 1998. She then went on to earn her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education (2001) and later earn her Ed.D (2005) in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from East Tennessee State University.

After graduating from Milligan College, Holly accepted a position with the Kingsport City School system in Kingsport, Tennessee, where she served as a teacher at Abraham Lincoln Elementary school for six years. She went on to serve for seven years as a K-2 multi-age teacher at George Washington Elementary school in Kingsport, which is known for being a Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School of Distinction. Following her teaching experience for Kingsport City Schools, Holly served as the system-wide Literacy Coordinator from 2009-2011.

In July 2011, Holly accepted the principal position at Andrew Jackson Elementary School. Jackson is a K-5 Title I school that serves approximately 550 students and families in the Kingsport community. Based on exceptional growth and meeting state gap-closure targets, the school was recognized as a "Reward School" by the Tennessee Department of Education in 2012. In receiving the honor, Jackson was selected as the regional host school to view the statewide award ceremony. Holly and her husband, Nathan attend Harrison Christian Church and enjoy spending time with their two daughters, family, and friends.

2012 TPA Conference in Murfreesboro

December 6-7, 2012



2012 TPA Conference in Murfreesboro

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2012 TPA Conference in Murfreesboro

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Executive Director's Report

Murfreesboro Annual Conference Completed—the December 5-7, 2012, professional development events conducted in the Embassy Suites Conference Center was rated by participants as a huge success. For those of you who were unable to attend, you can gain some sense of the positive vibrations by viewing the photo gallery on pages 5-7.

Emily Barton and the Common Core theme, Ken Williams and the Collaborative Work Teams Strategies, and Dr. Sharon Roberts's insights on educational reform provided insights that had not been generally available in the printed media. Concurrent sessions were highlighted by member presentations from awards schools (Kimbrelle Lewis and Dr. Holly Flora) and Benchmark Assessments (Dr. Debra Bentley). Department of Education presenters offered well-attended sessions on the Administrator Evaluation Rubric (Dr. Paul Fleming), Building to the PARCC Assessment (Tony Plunkett & LaQuisha Oliver), and Common Core Future in Tennessee (Emily Barton). Several corporations sponsored other session speakers with topics ranging from cyber bullying, engaging students, attaining empowerment, and common-core related topics.



Kim Headrick
TPA President

Registrations totaled 178. Volunteer workers such as Pattye Evans and Caroline Richardson managed the exhibit hall on Thursday which was a huge success. You can go online to view the large number of members who served as session facilitators or moderators as listed in the program. No event such as this is a success without collaborative teams.

Twelve hours of TASL credit were available, and those requesting it have a follow-up activity due to Sharon McNary by March 1, 2013 (mcnarysk@mcsk12.net). The audit team of Dr. Janice Tankson, Brian Partin, and Kim Headrick signed off on the income and expenditures report on January 10, 2013, during the recent executive committee meeting. The audited income was \$72,200.00.

Annual Business Meeting—December 7, 2012, during the annual TPA business meeting, constitutional revisions were recommended based on the work of Brian Partin (past president) and were adopted without opposition. You can go to the website and read the constitution as amended (www.TnPrinAssoc.org).

A second major item of business was the selection of the nominating committee (which is selected annually at this business meeting to represent the three grand divisions and membership diversity). The committee has two slates to prepare this year: (1.) a special election due to the resignation of Dr. Amy Downey (which is now underway—see pages 2,3) to fill the vacant vice president position and (2.) to recommend a slate of two candidates in March for the regular vice-presidential slate. Pattye Evans presented the 2011 audited financial report to those present as the third item of business.

Budget Revisions—December 7, 2012, the executive board had adopted a budget of \$125,000 for TPA for the calendar year of 2013. At the recent January 10-11, 2013, executive committee meeting, those figures were revised such that the 2013 budget is as shown (next page). These revisions were based on revised income estimates.

Budget Category	2013 Approved Budget 1/1/13—12/31/13	2013 Revised Budget 1/1/13—12/31/13
Board Activities	\$19,000	\$24,000
Personnel	\$48,000	\$50,000
Office Operations	\$25,000	\$25,000
Communications / Postage	\$6,000	\$8,000
NAESP Meetings	\$9,000	\$12,000
Membership	\$3,000	\$4,500
Professional Development	\$15,000	\$15,000
Legislative Initiative	\$0	\$3,500
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$125,000	\$145,000

2013 Planning Decisions—At the January 11, 2013, executive committee meeting, several major decisions were approved:

- The Pigeon Forge conference is set for December 5-6, 2013 in the Music Road Hotel. Speakers under consideration include Diane Hodges, Debbie Silvers and David Boulton.
- Board configuration after June 30, 2013, will consist of seven or eight executive committee members, three directors representing each of the grand divisions, and national association officers such as incoming president Dr. Nancy Meador. This maximum of twelve individuals will be the participants in the quarterly business meetings for the association. Local team members who work with the grand division directors will be invited to attend sessions conducted in their grand divisions as appropriate. Meetings will be rotated among the grand divisions. It is possible the next meeting will be in either Chattanooga or Knoxville.
- Discussion on the creation of one or more apps by the association in conjunction with NAESP or in-state sponsors resulted in approval of the development of a first app about the association itself.
- Membership campaign ideas which were approved were to ask NAESP for a reduced rate aspiring membership of \$99 shared equally by the state and national, of an 18-month special as in past years, and an 18-month special for assistant principals which might include a reduced rate for APs.



Tim Riggs
TPA Secretary

Special Statement from NAESP—Brian Partin has been selected by the NAESP Nominating Committee to be one of the two candidates from Zone 4. Brian will be in Birmingham with Dr Tankson and Sharon McNary representing TPA on February 9,10, when officers from the seven member states convene to consider educational issues impacting us all. Later this group will attend the National Leaders Conference in D.C the last of February.

NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS PROGRAM

A Program to Recognize Excellence in
Elementary and Middle Level Principals'
School Leadership

2013 Nominee's Application Packet



Sponsored by

The National Association of Elementary School Principals

in corporate partnership with

VALIC



NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS PROGRAM

A Program to Recognize Excellence in Elementary and Middle Level School Leadership

Sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals
in corporate partnership with VALIC

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The National Distinguished Principals (NDP) program was established in 1984 to recognize elementary and middle level principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character, and climate for the students, families, and staffs in their learning communities. The program was based on three fundamental ideas:

- Children's attitudes towards learning and their perceptions of themselves as lifelong learners are established in the beginning school years.
- The scope and quality of children's educational experiences are determined primarily by the school principal, who establishes, through the important work of teachers and the support of caring parents, the character of a particular school's program.

The dedication and enthusiasm of the outstanding principals who guide children's early education experiences should be acknowledged to both show appreciation for their work as well as to allow them to serve as models for others in the field.

The NDP Program is sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) in cooperate sponsorship with VALIC. Each year, NDPs represent Pre-K – 8th grade public schools from all across the country as well as principals in U.S. private schools and those from the United States Departments of Defense Office of Educational Activity and the United States Department of State Office of Overseas Schools. Public school elementary and middle-level principals are nominated by peers in their state, and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of NAESP's state affiliate offices. Honorees from private schools and overseas schools are selected by special committees.

Criteria established by NAESP require that the individual is a practicing principal with at least five years experience in the principalship, who plans to continue as a practicing principal. The principal must demonstrate evidence of outstanding contributions to the community and to the education profession and should lead a school that:

Must be a member of NAESP at the time of the award; is clearly committed to excellence; has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students; and has firm ties to parents and the community.

PLEASE NOTE:

Anyone currently holding a position on the **NAESP Board of Directors**, including its officers, during the official nomination time period or during the year he/she would serve as NDP, is ineligible for NDP selection.

Elementary school NDP candidates must be principals of schools with students in either grades pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3, or 4, though older students may attend as well.

Middle level school NDP candidates must be principals of schools with students in grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8 only.

The National Distinguished Principals program does not discriminate.



NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS SELECTION GUIDELINES

A Program to Recognize Excellence Among Elementary and Middle Level Principals

Sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals in corporate partnership with VALIC

The National Distinguished Principals Program, begun in 1984, is based on three premises:

- Children’s attitudes toward learning and perceptions of themselves as lifelong learners are established in the beginning school years. By high school and college, patterns are formed, and interventions may be too late.
- The scope and quality of children’s educational experiences are determined primarily by the principal who, with the important work of teachers and support of caring parents, establishes the character of a particular school’s program.
- It is important that the dedication and enthusiasm of principals who guide children’s earliest educational experiences be acknowledged to both reward their accomplishments and allow their work to serve as models of excellence for others to follow.

Please note:

- **Elementary school NDP candidates must be principals of schools with students in either grades pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3, or 4, though older students may attend as well.**
- **Middle-level school NDP candidates must be principals of schools with students in grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8 only.**
- **(In the case of a 4-5 only school it will be at the discretion of the state to decide whether to consider the principal an elementary or middle-level candidate.)**
- **The selected principal must be a member of NAESP at the time of the award.**

The National Distinguished Principals program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, ethnicity, age, religion, country of origin, or sexual orientation.

2013 NDP NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nominee’s Name _____

Nominee’s School _____ Grade Configuration _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

School Type _____ Urban _____ Suburban _____ Rural _____ School Enrollment _____

Total Number of Years as a Principal _____

Nominator’s Name/Address/Phone/E-mail _____

Relationship to Nominee _____

Award Criteria

The nominee: Is an active principal of a school in which a commitment to excellence is clearly evident; has been an active principal for at least **five** years; **will be an active principal during the year in which he/she will receive the award**; is an active member of professional associations; and shows evidence of increased or consistently high levels of student achievement as demonstrated on the state-wide assessment instrument.

If you are interested in applying or in nominating a candidate for the National Distinguished Principals award, please complete this form along with an attached letter (not to exceed two pages) identifying the strengths and skills that you feel make the candidate eligible for this award. **Please check with your state principal’s affiliate or sponsoring organization to determine deadlines for submission or any additional state requirements.**

Successful candidates will be required to complete the formal application form upon notification from their state or sponsoring organization’s selection committee.

Nominator’s Signature

Date

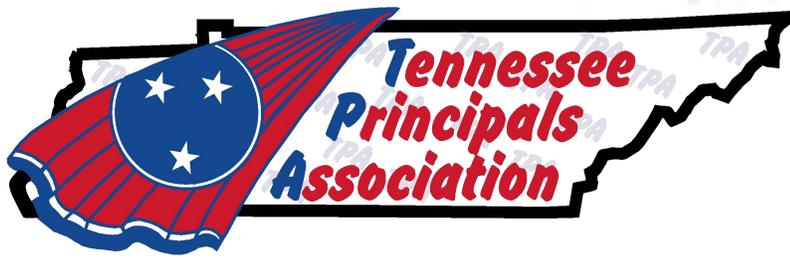
Supervisor or Employer’s Signature

Date

Submit to: **Sharon McNary** 1026 Pheasant Hollow Dr. Cordova, TN 38018 mcnarysk@mcsk12.net

TPA Board Members Contact Information

President	Kimberly Headrick	kheadrick@mctns.net
President-elect	Dr. Janice Tankson	tanksonjv@mcsk12.net
Vice-president (special election underway)		
Past President	Brian Partin	bpartin@k12k.com
NAESP State Representative	Sharon McNary	mcnarysk@mcsk12.net
Secretary	Tim Riggs	triggs@bradleyschools.org
Treasurer	Dr. Debra Bentley	bentleyd@jcschools.org
Executive Director	Dr. Ernest Bentley Jr.	tnprinassoc@comcast.net
District 1 Co-Director	Dr. Janice Tankson	tanksonjv@mcsk12.net
District 1 Co-Director	Dr. Teri Evans	evanstg@mcsk12.net
Districts 2/3 Director	Calvin Bailey	baileyc1@k12tn.net
District 4 Co-Director	Peggy Brodien	peggy.brodien@mnps.org
District 4 Co-Director	Julie Hopkins	julie.hopkins@mnps.org
Districts 5/6 Director	Dr. Gail Holland	gail.holland@tullahomacityschools.net
District 7 Director	Tim Riggs	triggs@bradleyschools.org
District 8 Director	Julie Thompson	julie.thompson@knoxschools.org
District 9 Director	Steve Barnett	barnetts@jcschools.org
Professional Development	Pattye Evans	pattye_evans@yahoo.com
Journal Editor	Catherine Prentis	c1prentis@gmail.com
Middle Schools	Corey Williams	williamsd@mcsk12.net
NAESP President-elect	Dr. Nancy Meador	nancy.meador@mnps.org
Research	Jim Ratledge	jar423@aol.com
Social Media	Kimber Halliburton	kimber.halliburton@mnps.org
Special Projects & Zone 4 NAESP Director	Teresa Dennis	Teresa.Dennis@mnps.org



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

February 9-10, 2013

Zone 4 NAESP/Southeastern Council of Elementary School Principals, Birmingham, AL

February 20, 2013

TSBA "Day on the Hill", Nashville, TN (Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel)

February 24-27, 2013

NAESP Advocacy and Leadership Conference, Washington D.C.

February 28-March 2, 2013

2013 NASSP Conference, National Harbor, MD (Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center)

March 6, 2013

An Interactive Workshop for School Teams, Principals, Art Specialists, and Classroom Teachers, Fort Worth, TX

Week of March 18, 2013

Legislative Visits by Executive Team Members, Nashville, TN (General Assembly)

April 6, 2013, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EST

TPA Executive Committee Meeting Teleconference

June 9,10, 2013

TPA Board Planning Meeting, Knoxville, TN (location TBA)

July 11-13, 2013

NAESP National Conference and Expo of the Year, Baltimore, MD

October 28-30, 2013

Tennessee LEAD Conference, Nashville, TN (Music City Center)

December 5-6, 2013

Annual TPA Conference, Pigeon Forge, TN (Music Road Hotel & Inn)