



**26th Annual Fall
Professional Development
Convention**



Awards and Honors Ceremony



Children's Assistance for Living Committee

Heroes for Children

Mission

Heroes for Children advocates for, and provides financial and social assistance to families with children (0-22 years of age) battling cancer.



TASP

86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

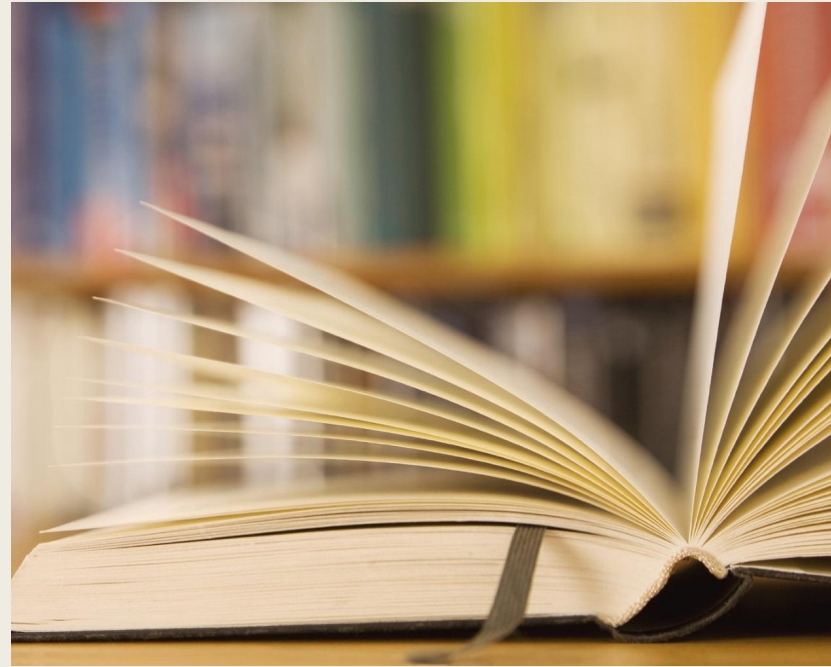
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Objectives

1. Participants will be able to identify important legislative activities in 2018 pertaining to LSSPs.
2. Participants will learn about TASP's involvement in legislative activities and the issues advocated for by the organization.
3. Participants will be able to identify the four broad legislative platform issues adopted by TASP for Texas's 86th Legislative Session.

Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (TBHEC)

- **HB 2698 (2017) proposed TBHEC**
- **HB 2896 died on the House Calendar last session**
- **Tex. Legislature renewed TSBEP for 2 more years**
- **Sunset Commission recommends establishing TBHEC**

Looking ahead to the 86th Session:

- Who will file the bill for 86th session?
- Will the bill look exactly like **HB 2698**?
- Will psychologists share a seat on the council?

Proposed TBHEC Council includes:

- ❖ Marriage Family Therapists
- ❖ Professional Counselors
- ❖ Psychologists
- ❖ Social Workers



School Safety at the Capitol

- Sante Fe ISD Tragedy has led to busy summer at Capitol
 - Governor's "School and Safety Firearm Action Plan" – 40pts
 - ✓ Increase Law Enforcement Presence
 - ✓ Train More School Marshals
 - ✓ Provide Active Shooter Training
 - ✓ Harden Campuses
 - ✓ Provide Mental Health Evaluations
 - ✓ Increase Mental Health First Aid
 - ✓ Provide Behavioral Threat Assessment Programs
 - ✓ Improve & Expand On-Campus Counseling Resources





Asking Legislature for \$54.5M School Safety

The Safe and Healthy Schools Initiative is built upon a multi-tiered systems of support framework and grounded in 4 primary pillars:

- 1. *Mental Health Supports:*** access to counseling resources, mental health professional networks, threat assessment protocols, and teacher and administrator training on mental health needs.
- 2. *Positive School Culture:*** character education, positive behavior supports and interventions, trauma-informed education, restorative discipline practices, suicide prevention, resiliency, anti-bullying, and anti-cyber-bullying.
- 3. *Facility Safety:*** facilities hardening and the presence of School Resource Officers (SROs) and school marshals on a campus.
- 4. *Emergency Response Coordination:*** police collaboration, drills, training on crisis and emergency response, and notification protocols.



Safe and Healthy Schools Initiative: Funding Breakdown

Mental Health Supports and Positive School Culture Funding

Funding Amount	FTEs	Purpose
\$2.0M	6	Focus on codifying best practices, providing sample tools, resources and effective models, providing technical support, and managing statewide grants (includes IT needs).
\$20M	0	Grants (\$20M) for programs with the ultimate goal of ensuring students on every campus across the state have access to needed behavioral health services through innovative, proven programs
\$5M	0	Grants to the Regional Education Service Centers (ESCs) to support one FTE at each ESC, to provide local support, directed by the service center but advised by TEA staff and guided by the self-assessment results and TEA audit findings
\$10M	0	Mental Health First Aid, Telemedicine, trauma-informed care, and coordination of access to mental health professionals, including creation and maintenance of regional and local provider lists.



Safe and Healthy Schools Initiative: Funding Breakdown

Facility Safety and Emergency Response Coordination

Funding Amount	FTEs	Purpose
\$10M	0	Matching Grants to LEAs for facility hardening activities as a result of their self-assessment and audit.
\$2.5M	0	Grants to Texas School Safety Center to coordinate/conduct Emergency Response audits and identify LEA need for facility or school safety improvements.

School Health and Safety Pilot Grants

Funding Amount	FTEs	Purpose
\$5M	0	Pilot grants for innovative programs to increase school health and safety.

TASP School Safety Advocacy

- ❖ **School safety big topic at the state and national level**
 - *Governor Abbott tasked committees with finding ways to increase school safety----fast.*
 - *Opportunities to increase awareness and build relationships*

- ❖ **Legislative liaison played important part in TASP's advocacy**
 - *Organized meetings with influential offices*
 - *Kept us informed of upcoming committee hearings*
 - **Why is this important?**
 - *Secured invitations for testimony at committee hearings and stakeholder discussion*
 - **Public vs. Invited Testimony**

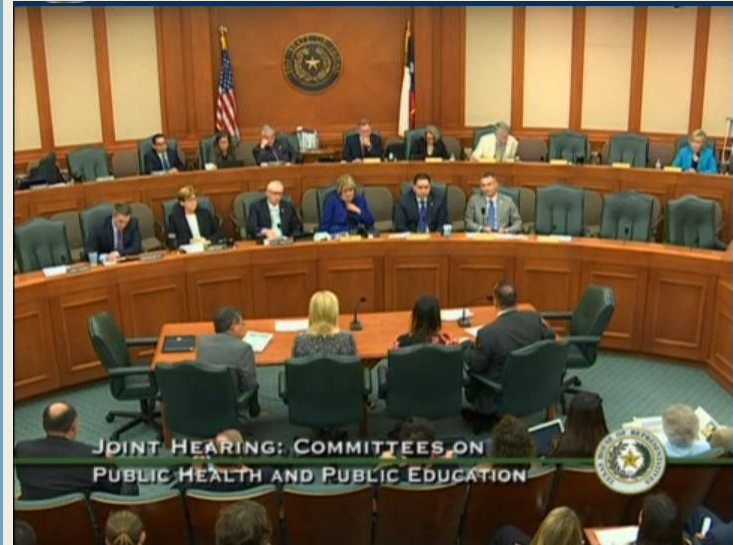
TASP School Safety Advocacy

May

- ❖ House Public Health Committee Hearing--Public testimony

June

- ❖ Meetings with Senate and House Public Education Committee Directors
- ❖ House Public Education Committee & Public Health Committee Hearing--TASP board members provided invited testimony



TASP School Safety Advocacy

July

- ❖ Meetings with Lt. Gov. Education Policy Advisor, Governor's Office, Rep. Huberty's Office
- ❖ Governor's School Safety Stakeholder Discussion--TASP was invited and participated
- ❖ Senate Select Committee on Violence in Schools and School Security--TASP board members provided invited and public testimony



TASP School Safety Advocacy

Message:

- ❖ Implement SEL curriculum and screening
- ❖ LSSP Ratios/Shortage
- ❖ Differentiate roles of school counselors, LSSPs, and diagnosticians
- ❖ Provide feedback on TWITR
- ❖ Research-based school safety strategies

- ❖ Title change
- ❖ PREPaRE Training
- ❖ Increase access to mental health services in schools--free up counselors and LSSPs to work with mental health needs, hire more mental health professionals

TASP 2019 Legislative Platform



86th Legislative Session

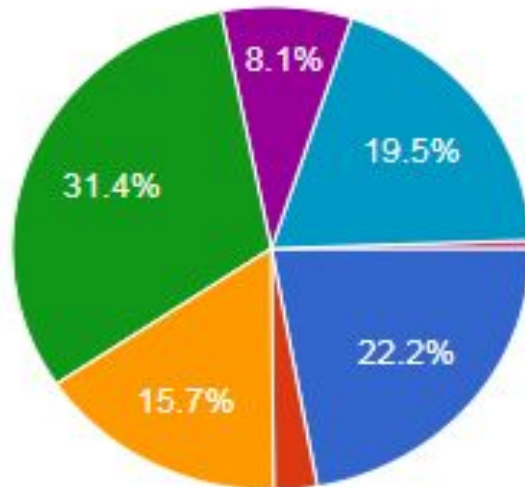
What is a legislative platform?

An official position on legislative issues that utilizes the organization's mission and values and guides the organization's advocacy efforts.

Membership Survey Data

Which of the following issues do you feel should be TASP's #1 priority for the 2019 Legislative Session?

185 responses



- School psychologist/LSSP shortage
- LSSP respecialization
- Allow use of "School Psychologist" professional title
- Increased funding for LSSP positions
- Promotion of Social/Emotional Learning (SEL)
- LSSP representation in proposed Behavioral Health Executive Council...

Membership Survey Data

Top Concerns:

1. Increased funding for LSSP positions
2. LSSP Shortage
3. Representation in TBHEC
4. Allow use of “School Psychologist” title



Platform Issue #1: TASP supports legislation that equips school districts with access to appropriate school-based mental and behavioral health services to improve school climate and student outcomes.

- Supports the Sunset Committee's recommendation for the consolidation of TSBEP into the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (TBHEC)
 - *Equitably represent every licensee group*
 - *No one professional group hold more power/influence over another*
 - *TASP seeks to collaborate with the legislature and other stakeholders in the development/operation of TBHEC*
- Title change from LSSP to School Psychologist
- Codify the national practice model into the occupational and/or educational codes to uphold best practices
- Have legislature require districts to identify a School Psychological Services department to address the behavioral and mental health needs of students
- Remediate the shortage for all school-based mental health professionals, including LSSPs. Additional money for training programs, loan forgiveness, respecialization

Platform Issue #2: TASP supports legislation that equips school districts with access to appropriate school-based mental and behavioral health services to improve school climate and student outcomes.



SOcial
EMOTIONAL
LEARNING

- ❖ TASP believes students, families and school personnel would benefit from the adoption of specific and comprehensive Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) benchmarks to be added to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and mandate districts to adopt a SEL curriculum.

Platform Issue #2: TASP supports legislation that equips school districts with access to appropriate school-based mental and behavioral health services to improve school climate and student outcomes.

- ❖ TASP supports increased access to mental health for students, families, and school personnel.
 - *TASP believes students, families, and school personnel should have access to universal behavioral/mental health screenings that examine complete mental health.*



Platform Issue #3: TASP supports legislation that promotes best practices for safe and supportive schools

A Framework
for Safe and
Successful
Schools

The cover features three photographs: a group of three young women looking at a book, a man and a woman leaning over a desk with a student, and a group of six diverse elementary school children standing in front of a chalkboard.

American School Counselor Association

NASP Ψ
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
School Psychologists

School Social Work
Association of America

NASRO
National Association of
School Directors Officers

naesp
National Association of
Elementary School
Principals

nassp
National Association of
secondary school principals

Platform Issue #3: TASP supports legislation that promotes best practices for safe and supportive schools

- Increase physical AND psychological safety of students, while balancing practices that may be considered “hardening” of schools
- Inclusion of school psychologists in school safety legislation and ensuring evidence-based school safety resources/practices
- Codify requirements for evidence-based school crisis/threat teams and procedures related to crisis training, mental health first aid training, and crisis response

Platform Issue #3: TASP supports legislation that promotes best practices for safe and supportive schools

- Oppose arming educators except for appropriately trained law enforcement professionals and increase law enforcement only when balanced by access to mental health professionals
- Add legislation and funding for schools to promote anti-bullying policies and practices
- Eliminate corporal punishment

Find A Local PREPaRE Trainer

In This Section

[About PREPaRE](#)

[PREPaRE Workshops](#)

[Need for Crisis Training in Schools](#)

[Holding a PREPaRE Workshop](#)

[Find a PREPaRE Trainer](#)

[Suggestions for Funding PREPaRE Trainings](#)

[Upcoming PREPaRE Workshops](#)

[PREPaRE Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[PREPaRE in Practice](#)

[Organizations That Have Held PREPaRE Trainings](#)

Want to schedule a training? First, locate and contact a trainer!

Filter by State:

Texas

[\[reset\]](#)

Sort by *State, First Name, or Last Name.*

						Workshop 2nd Edition	
First Name	Last Name	City	State	Country	E-Mail Address	1	2
Chiharu	Allen	College Station	TX	USA	chichiallen@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ashley	Arnold	Austin	TX	USA	ashley821@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A. Alexander	Beaujean	Waco	TX	USA	Alex_Beaujean@baylor.edu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Donna	Black	Frisco	TX	USA	donna_black@att.net	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brittney	Brown	Cypress	TX	USA	brittneyb372@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Brittney	Brown	Cypress	TX	USA	brittneyb372@gmail.com		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa	Buchanan	San Marcos	TX	USA	Lisa.Buchanan@hayscisd.net	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Remona	Clark	Fulshear	TX	USA	monabclark@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ALYSSA	COLEMAN	TOMBALL	TX	USA	ACOLEMAN@MAGNOLIAISD.ORG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon	Dalton	Houston	TX	USA	Sharondalton@katyisd.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa	Daniel	Greenville	TX	USA	lisa_m_daniel@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jodi	Darcey	Katy	TX	USA	jodiddarcey@katyisd.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan	Dickens	Friendswood	TX	USA	susan@susandickens.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Platform Issue #4: TASP supports legislation that supports school districts in being sensitive, competent, and aware of the needs of diverse student and family populations.

Creating Trauma-Sensitive Schools

Childhood adversity, toxic stress, and trauma can negatively impact students' ability to thrive.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

ACEs are stressful or potentially traumatic experiences, including abuse, neglect, and exposure to community violence.

72% of children and youth in the U.S. will experience at least one ACE before the age of 18.

As the number of ACEs increases, so does the risk for psychological, behavioral, or emotional problems; substance abuse; academic failure; social maladjustment; and poor medical health.

Characteristics of Trauma-Sensitive Schools

- Access to comprehensive school mental and behavioral health services
- Effective community collaboration
- Feelings of physical, social, and emotional safety among all students
- Understanding among staff about the impact of trauma and adversity on students
- Positive and culturally responsive discipline policies and practices

Promoting trauma-sensitive school approaches has the greatest potential to positively impact all students, regardless of trauma history.

The Role of School Psychologists

School psychologists have unique training that allows them to deliver mental health supports within the context of learning.

These services directly contribute to more positive student outcomes and achievement.

They can provide early identification and intervention and help students build the skills they need to meet the demands of school and life.

NASP advocates for trauma-sensitive schools to ensure that all children and youth thrive in schools, at home, and in life.

www.nasponline.org

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS PRACTICE

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN SCHOOLS

School psychologists work to promote safe, welcoming learning environments for **ALL** students.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MATTERS

- 44%** of children under age 18, and over 60% of Black, Hispanic and American Indian children, live in poverty.
- Students of color are disproportionately **overrepresented** among children with disabilities.
- Students with disabilities are **2-3** times more likely to be bullied than their nondisabled peers.
- Black students are nearly **4** times more likely to be suspended than White students for similar behaviors.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS CAN

- Recommend strategies to reduce disproportionate practices
- Design culturally responsive interventions
- Conduct culturally competent assessments and consultation to reduce disproportionate special education referrals
- Provide comprehensive mental and behavioral health services to meet the needs of ALL students

APPLIED NASP PRACTICE MODEL DOMAINS


- Consultation and Collaboration (Domain 2)
- Schoolwide Practices to Promote Learning (Domain 5)
- Diversity in Development and Learning (Domain 8)

The NASP Practice Model encompasses 8 Organizational Principles and 10 Domains of Practice that enable schools to maximize school psychological services.

NASP www.nasponline.org


Platform Issue #4: TASP supports legislation that supports school districts in being sensitive, competent, and aware of the needs of diverse student and family populations.

- Supports resources, funding, and trainings to better address the knowledge and skills needed for school personnel and school psychologists to address diverse student needs
- Legislation and policies to increase and support Restorative Practices in reforming disciplinary procedures
- Provide additional training and funding for trauma-informed care of students in schools



The State of School Psychology in Texas

A Review of the LSSP shortage and Contributing
Factors During the 2017-2018 School Year



The NASP recommended ratio is **1 school psychologist for every 500-700 students, not to exceed 1,000 students.**

The ratio is dependent on the needs of the system.

In systems with student populations requiring intensive special needs, the ratio **should be even lower** (NASP; 2010).



Why now?

- Santa Fe Tragedy → Moment of Action
- Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data and staff FTE and salary reports obtained from the Texas Education Agency (TEA; 2017).
- The student enrollment totals are based on district profile data collected on Snapshot Date, which was October 27, 2017.



Limitations of the Data

- Does not include LSSPs that contract with districts
- Does not consider individual job duties (administrative, supervisor, coordinator, etc.)
- Only includes LSSPs classified as LSSPs
- 42.35 psychological associates, not included in this data

- During the 2017-18 school year, Texas schools
 - Educated 5,399,682 students
 - Employed 1,933.84 LSSPs

State Ratio

1: 2,792

4x NASP Upper Limit Recommendation

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 1	1,684,268	1: 3,185	528.78	\$60,257.75
Region 7-Kilgore	169,729	1: 2,897	58.58	\$54,306.00
Region 8- Mt. Pleasant	56,159	1: 10,211	5.50	\$53,167.00
Region 10- Richardson	867,294	1: 3,237	267.97	\$64,937.00
Region 11- Fort Worth	591,086	1: 3,005	196.73	\$68,621.00

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 2	269,242	1: 7,563	35.60	\$63,996.00
Region 18- Midland	91,057	1: 8,590	10.60	\$58,664.00
Region 19- El Paso	178,185	1: 7,127	25.00	\$69,328.00

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 3	1,349,827	1: 2,574	524.39	\$67,625.00
Region 3- Victoria	53,676	1: 2,186	24.56	\$60,453.00
Region 4- Houston	1,212,397	1: 2,450	494.83	\$67,868.00
Region 5- Beaumont	83,754	1: 16,751	5.00	\$74,554.00

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 4	766,664	1: 1,980	387.20	\$58,405.33
Region 6- Huntsville	198,781	1: 2,766	71.88	\$62,851.00
Region 12- Waco	174,566	1: 3,324	52.52	\$54,882.00
Region 13- Austin	393,317	1: 1,497	262.80	\$57,483.00

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 5	1,061,957	1: 2,632	403.54	\$62,980.00
Region 1- Edinburg	433,171	1: 6,161	70.31	\$67,429.00
Region 2- Corpus Christi	103,940	1: 4,203	24.73	\$61,777.00
Region 15- San Angelo	50,109	1: 5,568	9.00	\$59,528.00
Region 20- San Antonio	474,737	1: 1,585	299.50	\$63,186.00

<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>Student Enrollment</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Employed LSSPs</u>	<u>Average Salary</u>
Area 6	266,534	1: 4,906	54.33	\$56,191.75
Region 9- Wichita Falls	36,878	1: 4,917	7.50	\$65,236.00
Region 14- Abilene	58,867	1: 4,205	14.00	\$49,199.00
Region 16- Amarillo	86,226	1: 6,230	13.84	\$57,335.00
Region 17- Lubbock	84,563	1: 4,453	18.99	\$52,997.00

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Longitudinal Ratio Data from 2014-2018

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2014 to 2018 Change
LSSPs Employed	1,699	1,733	1,849	1,934	+235
Students Enrolled	5,232,065	5,299,728	5,359,127	5,399,682	+ 3.2%
Ratio	1: 3,079	1: 3,058	1: 2,898	1: 2,792	

Number of Professionals Employed in Texas Public Schools During the 2017-2018 School Year

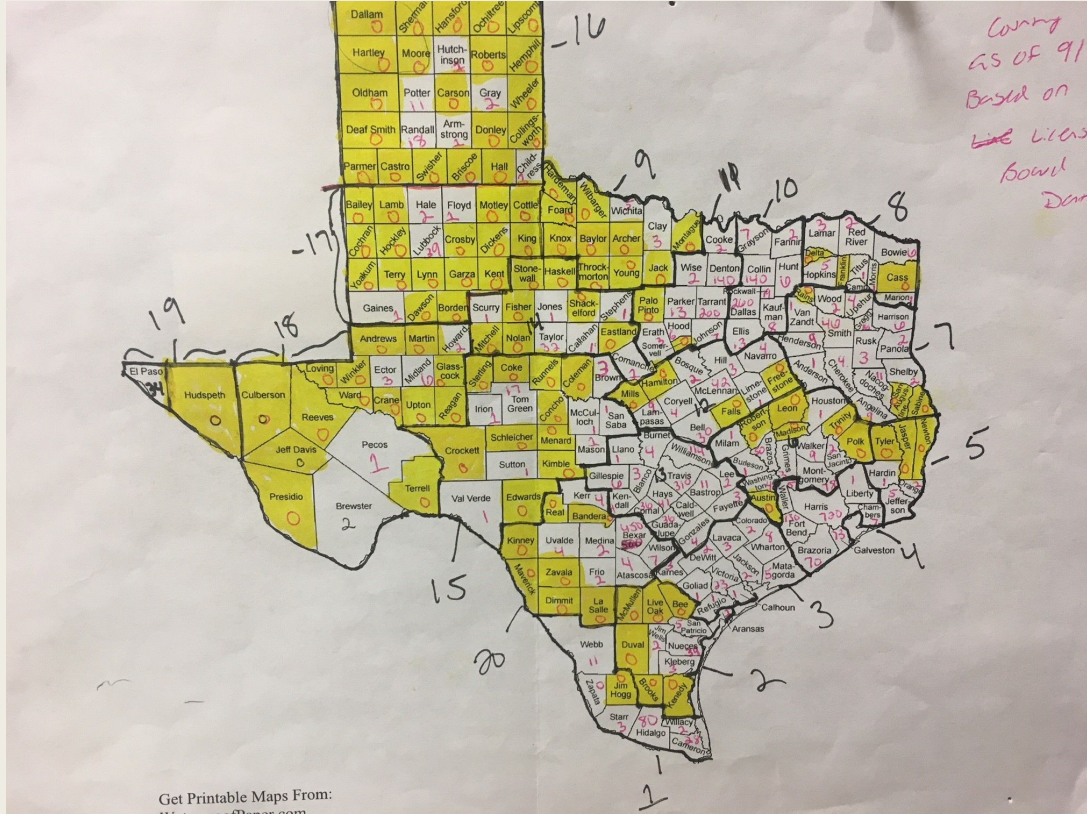
	Educational Diagnosticians	School Counselors	LSSPs	Social Workers
# Employed	4,108	12,536	1,934	750
Average Salary	\$64,683	\$63,973	\$63,802	\$58,449

- So, hypothetically, even if all 6,042 diagnosticians were LSSPs, we would still need an additional 1,672, for a total of **7,714**, to meet the upper limit of the NASP recommendation of 1:700.
- It's not going to happen overnight

TSBEP FY17

- **3,518** individuals held an active license to practice school psychology
- Only 1,933.84 were employed by districts (55%)
- Where are the other 45%?

Deanna Clemens, TEA, completed her own data collection on the number of LSSPs residing in each county in Texas. Data was collected from TSBEP in September 2017. This data is not part of a formal TEA report; however, she was kind enough to share it with us. Thanks, Deanna!



Number of New Licenses Issued by TSBEP between 2016-2018

	2016	2017	2018
Licensed Psychologists	244	245	277
Provisionally Licensed Psychologist	257	234	234
Licensed Psychological Associate	48	38	43
Licensed Specialist in School Psychology	221	191	186
Totals:	770	708	740

- Contributing Factors
 - Training Programs
 - 20 in Texas, many are in close proximity
 - Trainers and Faculty Shortage
 - Recruiting
 - Visibility
 - Competing Professions and Salaries
 - Title
 - Limited Access to Students in General Education
 - Retention and Burnout

- Remediating the shortage issue is not simple
- Multi-faceted, multiple issues
- What do we need to do?
 - Increase school psychology faculty?
 - Training programs more feasible/accessible to working professionals?
 - Respecialization tracks?
 - Partnerships with ESCs, school districts, Train-and-Place in underserved areas?

- What we want to explore next:
 - # of diags, counselors, LSSPs in each district and compare salaries
 - # of SPED students relative to the # of LSSPs and diags,
 - # of students with ED and AU relative to the # of LSSPs
 - How does the role of LSSPs vary across the regions?
 - How many unfilled positions are going unfilled in districts and training programs?
 - Respecialization options, partnerships, grants, alternative license to practice while pursuing coursework, recruiting efforts, visibility, other advocates (parents)

Political Climate

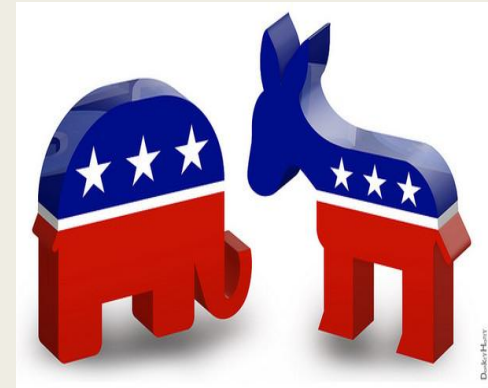
- Texas House Republican Caucus wants to pick new speaker
- Speaker Straus criticized as TOO MODERATE
- **Texas House currently has 95 Republicans and 55 Democrats**

★ **To be Speaker, a State Rep. needs ONLY 76 votes**

- **Tex. Republican Caucus will vote by secret ballot**
- Vote is non-binding
- **Question: how does this vote change much?**



November 7, 2018



Key Dates for 86th Legislative Session

Date	Dates of Interest
Nov. 12	First day to pre-file legislation
January 7	First day of session
January 7	Comptroller delivers BRE (budget for next 2 years)
March 8	Last day to file bills for session
May 27	Last day of session
June 16	Last day to veto bills
Aug. 26	Bills become effective

