

## **TASL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES - September 24, 2020**

Welcome, Introductions and Call to Order: An executive board meeting of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians was held virtually on September 24, 2020. The meeting convened at 5:00 P.M. CST with President Vicki Winstead presiding.

### **VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Vicki Winstead  
Lindsey Kimery  
Ginny Britt  
Elizabeth Shepherd  
Jennifer Sharp

Katelyn Jernigan  
Martha Harris  
Liz Hicks  
Melanie Collins  
Johnnie Sue Hawley

### **VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Raina Scoggins  
Sandi Walden  
Angela Secrest  
Sherry Copeland  
Emily Squires  
Lee Houston  
Cathy Sanders  
Anita Fentress

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Amanda Smithfield  
Katie Capshaw  
Julie Caudle  
Christa Cordrey  
Jenifer Grady  
Blake Hopper  
Xan Lasko  
Kelly Messerly  
Andrea Zielke  
Angela Frederick  
Erika Long

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**M-SEPT24-01: Katelyn Jernigan made a motion to accept the Agenda as written. Motion seconded by Lindsey Kimery. Motion carries.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the April 25th meeting were approved electronically prior to this meeting. Minutes for this meeting will be approved electronically. All minutes are posted to the TASL website in an effort to keep the membership informed about TASL business.

**Motion not needed to approve the minutes since they were approved electronically.**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Ginny Britt**

### **Treasurer Actions:**

- Current balances in our accounts are:
  - Checking \$17,172.80
  - Savings \$5,022.02
  - PayPal (Regions) \$12,727.34
  - PayPal (Account) \$4222.87
- Membership is up - 518
- Conference Registration - 145
  - Outstanding payments \$1515
- Paid presenters for TASL Conference, other expenses

### **Treasurer Plans:**

Monitoring accounts, continuing to check the PO Box, Supporting Conference 2020, Upgrade to Memberclicks in October  
All Taxes are filed, completed with our CPA

### **Additional Comments:**

Uncategorized expenses are new banner and tablecloth

Miscellaneous Income is \$1000 from AASL

**Profit & Loss**  
January 1 through September 24, 2020

	Jan 1 - Sep 24, 20
<b>Income</b>	
2020 Conference	6,666.56
2020 Conference Vendor	1,243.33
2020 Membership	23,477.38
2020 Summer PD	5,649.02
Interest Inc	0.32
Misc. Income	1,000.00
VSBA Stickers	48.20
<b>Total Income</b>	38,084.81
<b>Gross Profit</b>	38,084.81
<b>Expense</b>	
AASL	500.00
Advocacy	1,263.79
Ala Conference 2020	423.00
Bank Charge	25.00
Conference 2020	4,574.55
Insurance	331.00
Library Legislative Day	100.00
MemberClicks	4,424.16
PayPal Services	270.00
President Expenses	819.30
Refund - 2020 Conference	275.00
Refund - 2020 Summer PD	40.00
Refund - Duplicate Membership	180.00
Tax Preparation	535.00
Uncategorized Expenses	343.29
Zoom	218.92
<b>Total Expense</b>	14,323.01
<b>Net Income</b>	23,761.80

**COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

**ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**  
**Committee Actions:**

**Lindsey Kimery & Amanda Smithfield**

- Executive Board leaders and the advocacy committee met with Megan Cusick in early June to discuss advocacy strategies for our pursuit of getting a State Coordinator of School Libraries added to the TN DOE.
- Executive Board leaders and the advocacy committee met with Senator Jeff Yarbro, supporter of SB2574, the State Coordinator bill, and he helped us understand more about the focus of the legislative session, what he thinks will happen, and his recommendations on how to garner support for this bill.
- HB2321 made it to the K-12 Subcommittee and Representative Whitson was ready to proceed if SB2574 passed in the Senate. It was on calendar 2 for the Senate, which meant items on that calendar were not likely to make it to a vote.

The Senate Education committee voted to end their legislative session and did not hear any items on calendar 2.

- Megan Cusick sent a variety of ideas and strategies for our continued advocacy.

**Committee Plans:**

- Amanda Smithfield and I will be meeting to review Megan Cusick's suggestions and making a plan to continue to advocate for a State Coordinator.
- We will also be deciding on the theme of the bookmark contest and getting the information out earlier.

**Additional Comments:**

- Because the conference is virtual, we have all of the bookmarks that we'd normally distribute at conference. These are being kept safe and ready to distribute at a later time.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE**

**Angela Frederick & Elaine Posanka**

**Committee Actions:** The winners of the 2020 TASL Awards were selected. They were all notified this week. I am preparing the slides for the Awards presentation for the Friday Happy Hour Zoom.

**CERTIFICATION & STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**Cindy Welch & Jennifer Sharp**

**Committee Actions:**

- The TASL Standards Committee led two sessions for TASL's virtual Summer PD (Standards 101 and Implementation) and a session for Robertson County school librarians.
- The TASL Standards Committee sent a survey to TASL members about AASL Standards support needs across the state. 75 members responded. Big takeaways: members primarily want sample lesson plans, implementation support, and connections to content and grade-level state standards.
- TASL is currently working on [a crosswalk to the TEAM rubric](#). It's very much a work in progress, but feedback and suggestions are welcomed.

**Committee Plans:**

- Prior to the end of the calendar year, the Standards Committee will finish the TEAM rubric crosswalk and post on the Standards page of the website.
- We had two people volunteer to help with future presentations; I am going to contact them to see if they'd like to join the committee.
- The Standards Committee will meet at least one more time to discuss future plans - specifically, if we should pursue a state-level lesson plan repository linked

to the Standards (and if so, how) and how we can best support members in connecting their work with the Standards to our state content standards.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

**Lindsey Kimery**

**Committee Actions:**

**Turn the Page- TASLCON Virtual**

Dates: 9-25 and 9-26

Friday, September 25: Business Meeting/ Happy Hour

Saturday, September 26, 9:00AM-3:00PM CST

<b>Platform</b>	Zoom SCHED
<b>Focus- not your typical TASL conference- focus is tighter, more thematic approach</b>  <b>*Rising to meet the challenges and needs of today*</b>	- Anti-racism, distance learning, advocacy, literacy
<b>Structure</b>	8:00AM-9:00AM Coffee-CON 8:00AM-9:00AM Exhibit Hall  9:00-9:50AM cst- Opening Session - Welcome from Vicki - Featured presenter keynote: Alice Faye Duncan  10:00-10:50: Session 1 options  11:00-11:50: Session 2 options  12:00-12:50 Session 3 options  1:00-1:50 Session 4 options  2:00-3:00 Closing session/ Lindsey close  3:00-4:00PM Exhibit Hall

<b>Consider</b>	<b>Idea Boards-</b> best practices for elem, middle, high- PADLET
<b>Vendors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support our theme</li> <li>- What anti-racist practices do they have in place?</li> </ul>	
<b>Book store</b>	<b>Parnassus-</b> dedicated TASL conference website “store”
<b>(Happy Hour) 5PM-7PM</b>  <b>5PM-5:30PM: AWARDS</b> <b>5:30-6:10PM- Business Meeting</b> <b>6:15PM-7PM: Book Joy with Mr. Schu</b>  <b>Created a menu of Happy Hour recipes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Awards-</b> pre-recorded and includes any videos sent from recipients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Notify winners ahead of time and ask for a short acceptance speech of a minute or less?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>Business meeting</b></li> <li>3. <b>Book Joy Live TASL edition with Mr. Schu, Oge Mora, and Veera Hiranandani</b></li> </ol>
<b>Sessions</b>	- <b>Live</b>
<b>SCHEd</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Attendees added</b></li> <li>- <b>Sessions added</b></li> <li>- <b>Presenters added</b></li> <li>- <b>Zoom links added</b></li> <li>- <b>Help Desk</b></li> <li>- <b>Conference book store</b></li> <li>- <b>Swag store</b></li> </ul>
<b>NovelCon (“Coffee-Con”)</b> <b>3 zoom sessions- ES/ MS/HS</b>	<b>8:00AM-8:45AM</b> <a href="#"><b>LINK TO PARTICIPANTS</b></a>
<b>Cost to attend</b>	<b>\$55- members</b> <b>\$110- non-members</b> <b>\$85- out of state (discount code: STATE)</b>

<b>Online swag store</b>	<b>Cafe Press-</b> <a href="https://www.cafepress.com/tasl">https://www.cafepress.com/tasl</a>
<b>Make your case materials</b>	update
<b>What we don't need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Business meeting set-up:</b></li> <li>● <b>Banquet set-up:</b></li> <li>● <b>Conference T-shirts</b></li> <li>● <b>Food</b></li> <li>● <b>Author signings</b></li> <li>● <b>Insurance</b></li> </ul>
<b>Certificates of attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Create google forms attendees complete</b></li> <li>● <b>Attendees select the form that corresponds alphabetically with their last name</b></li> <li>● <b>Receive auto reply with pdf attached</b></li> <li>● <b>Document Studio is a chrome add-on that generates PDF's from forms/ spreadsheets.</b></li> </ul>
<b>COSTS:</b>	<p><b>SCHEDE: \$250 (optional \$100 TO ACCOMMODATE OVER 500 ATTENDEES)</b></p> <p><b>ZOOM: Upgrade to business plan for 1 month</b></p> <p><b>DOC STUDIO chrome add-on- to generate pdf from completed form (certificates of attendance)</b></p> <p><b>MAILING COSTS- send presenter checks</b></p> <p><b>ORDER AWARDS</b></p> <p><b>GIFTS FOR PRESENTERS- BATCH NASHVILLE</b></p>
<b>Social media</b>	<b>#TASLVirtual20</b>

<b>Virtual Swag Bag</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We saved the \$500 by creating our own on Wakelet</li> </ul>
<b>Tech rehearsals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scheduled for presenters</li> <li>- Test Zoom for concurrent sessions</li> </ul>
<b>Session Info</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Session titles, presenter bios, links, moderators, session starters sent</li> </ul>
<b>Slideshows</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Happy Hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Announcements, bookmark winners, sponsors, vendors</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Pre-sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Include highlights from the year, bookmark winners, award winners, sponsors/ vendors, announcements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>W-9's</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ginny sent to featured presenters</li> <li>- I followed up with those who hadn't responded</li> </ul>
<b>COSTS: Featured presenters-honorariums</b>  <b>TOTAL: \$4,950</b>	<b>Opening Keynote: Alice Faye Duncan- \$1500</b> <b>Session: Kelly Starling Lyons- \$300</b> <b>Session: Scott Reintgen- cost of 60 pre-ordered books</b> <b>Session: Steven Yates \$150</b> <b>Session: Kristen Mattson: \$500</b> <b>Session: Tiffany Jewell: \$2500</b>
<b>COSTS</b>	<b>See below</b>



Honorariums	\$4950 (plus \$899.50 already paid to Parnassus)
Shipping of Scott Reintgen books	\$200
Sched	\$250
Zoom Upgrade	\$139.93
Virtual Bag Event	\$500
Gifts	\$261
<b>Current total (without Zoom)</b>	<b>\$6300</b>

Post Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Certificates of attendance</li> <li>- Work with Jennifer Sharp to send books to winners</li> <li>- Post Conference survey</li> <li>- Thank you notes to presenters</li> </ul>
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Levels:

**Tennessee Association of School Librarians**  
**TASL Virtual 20 Conference Sponsorship Opportunities**

<p><b>Friend</b>  <b>Sponsor Swag</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked logo on conference website</li> <li>• Session sponsor tag</li> </ul>	<p><b>One-Star</b>  <b>\$100</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked logo on conference website</li> <li>• Dedicated social media post</li> </ul>	<p><b>Two-Star</b>  <b>\$250</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked logo on conference website</li> <li>• Dedicated social media post</li> <li>• Dedicated email to conference attendees</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tri-Star</b>  <b>\$500</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linked logo on conference website</li> <li>• Dedicated social media post</li> <li>• Dedicated email to conference attendees</li> <li>• Opportunity to present vendor session</li> </ul>
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**Turn the Page**

This year we ask that all conference sponsors:

- Support our focus on distance education, anti-racist practices, and school library advocacy
- Have their own anti-racist practices in place

**Committee Plans:**

- Have a successful conference and work with President-Elect to prepare for the 2021 conference.
- 2021 theme announced in January 2021
- Dates:

**Additional Comments:**

- 2022 contract was signed by Vicki Winstead on 7-29-20
- 2022 dates: Thursday-Saturday; September 8-10, 2022
- Since we cancelled the 2020 conference at Embassy, they asked us to go ahead and sign for 2022.

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**Elizabeth Shepherd**

**Committee Actions:**

None since last meeting

**Committee Plans:**

The committee looks forward to the membership voting at the annual business meeting tomorrow on the by-laws changes proposed at the last Executive Board meeting. They are attached them here for reference:

1. Proposes changing the wording in Constitution Article V, Section 1 which states, *“and one area representative from each of the nine established TASL regions.”*  
The updated version should simply drop the word “nine” and state, *“and one area representative from each of the established TASL regions.”*  
This change reflects the update in region structure for TASL from nine to thirteen regions while allowing for future changes without the need to continuously update the bylaws.
2. Proposes changing the wording in Bylaws Article III, A, viii which states that the President *“will attend meetings, either live or virtually, of the TLA as TASL’s voting delegate or appoint a representative.”*  
The updated version should simply drop the word “voting” and state, *“will attend meetings, either live or virtually, of the TLA as TASL’s delegate or appoint a representative.”*  
This change reflects the fact that there is not an official voting delegate from our organization needed on TLA’s end but we feel it is important to have a TASL member attend the meetings.
3. Proposes changing the wording in Bylaws Article V, Section 1 which states, *“through publication in the newsletter one name for each office.”*  
The updated version should add the phrase as follows, *“through publication in the newsletter or other communication one name for each office.”*  
This change reflects the update that we are primarily using our blog to communicate with membership.

4. Proposes changing Bylaws Article V, Section 2 for the required members of the Conference Committee. The Section states, *“composed of the current conference chair, the future conference chair, local arrangements chair and other needed members.”*

The updated version should change to state, *“composed of the current conference chair, the Secretary, and any other committee members chosen by the conference chairperson.”*

This change aligns the requirements with what is stated in the Officer and Committee Handbook.

5. Proposes changing the wording in Bylaws Article V, Section 3 which states, *“and published in the appropriate committee notebook.”*

The updated version should change to state, *“and published in the Officer and Committee Handbook.”*

This change reflects the fact that committee chair duties are covered completely in the Officer and Committee Handbook.

## **EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE** **Winstead**

**Vicki**

### **Committee Actions:**

Vicki Winstead welcomed the members of the newly formed Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to the first meeting. Introductions were made.

We began by reviewing the overarching goals for this committee:

- Provide guidance for development of diverse and inclusive collections and programming in TN school libraries
- Establish resources and professional development opportunities that focus on understanding unconscious bias, microaggressions, allyship and other topics related to equity, diversity, inclusion in librarianship and education.
- Work with college preparatory programs and other stakeholders to make the profession of school librarianship in Tennessee a more diverse and inclusive profession.
- Improve efforts to build diverse and inclusive membership and leadership in TASL
- Establish an award that recognizes significant contributions to school librarianship by a librarian of an ethnically diverse background

Vicki Winstead shared a Google Drive Folder with members of the committee. Working documents for brainstorming and sharing ideas are contained in this folder. Committee members can post ideas to these docs as we begin our work.

## **Committee Plans:**

1. We began by discussing how to provide guidance for TASL members on how to build diverse and inclusive library collections.
  - a. Webinar: The committee will host a webinar in mid-November/early December for TASL members on how to build diverse and inclusive collections. The committee will meet again in October, and will bring ideas on what they would like to share in this webinar.
  - b. Several people have shared resources on how to conduct a diversity of audit of a library collection. Diverse Book Finder (IMLS) and articles by experts on the topic. We will all continue to contribute ideas to the doc.
  - c. Committee members should consider writing a post for the TASL Talks Blog.
2. Curating resources. We discussed how we can curate resources for our TASL members that are librarian-specific. We also discussed resources that can be shared with parents, and students. We will share resources through the use of Wakelet, Padlet or another web-based program. More information on this to come.
3. Establish an Award. The committee discussed the establishment of a new award that recognizes a librarian from an ethnically diverse background.
  - a. The award will need a name. We discussed possibly naming it after a Tennessean who has had a significant impact on libraries, reading and literacy. Or another descriptive title.
  - b. The committee will establish the selection criteria for this award.
  - c. The goal is to present this award to the first recipient at the 2021 TASL conference.
4. Diversify TASL Membership and Leadership.
  - a. The committee will brainstorm ideas on how to make TASL an inclusive organization, with a specific focus on encouraging diversity in TASL Leadership.
  - b. The committee will also encourage fellow librarians in their districts and regions to consider becoming a part of TASL
5. Librarian preparatory programs.
  - a. The committee will begin to explore ways to connect with graduate programs in library media, in an effort to promote and encourage diversity in librarianship.
  - b. Efforts can begin at the school level, especially in high schools- career fairs, CTE programs, etc.

- c. The committee will also make college prep programs aware of TASL, and the support and opportunities we offer.

**Additional Comments:**

The committee will meet again in late October 2020.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Ginny Britt**

**Committee Actions:**

- No actions at this time.

**Committee Plans:**

- Making sure we are following Bylaws requirements

**INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE**

**Xan Lasko**

**Committee Actions:** To give up-to-date information about intellectual freedom issues that affect our membership. We did not prepare anything for the virtual meeting, however, we did post and gather resources for Banned Books Week Sept. 27 - Oct. 3.

**Committee Plans:** I am monitoring the Intellectual Freedom Blog frequently to stay abreast of current events.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Jennifer Sharp**

**Committee Actions:**

- Committee members and TASL Executive Officers responded to a survey about their perceptions of our organizational strengths and suggested areas for growth.
- Our committee has a working draft of our Five-Year Plan (broad, long-term goals we would like to achieve as an organization) and our 2021 Strategic Plan (specific areas of focus and action items for the President and Executive Board).

**Committee Plans:**

- We will continue to refine the Five-Year Plan and Strategic Plan until we are happy with the final product. Our committee will meet at least one more time to be sure we are satisfied with both documents.
- We will present the two documents for final suggestions/feedback to the Executive Board at our November meeting and then finalize any changes, then share with 2021 Executive Officers.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Martha Harris**

**Committee Actions:**

We have welcomed a few more members who wish to join in order to participate in the annual conference.

We currently have **520** active member profiles.

Membership is doing very well; the increase in dues does not seem to have kept anyone from participating. I only receive one negative comment about it this whole season.

**Committee Plans:**

We will continue to encourage membership and growth.

**Additional Comments:**

*Endless thanks to Christa Cordrey for providing the following report and most accurate count of membership. Her willingness to help and expertise are much appreciated.*

Region	Number of Member Forms 2020
Buffalo River Region	50
Clinch River Region	23
Davidson County Region	48
Falling Water River Region	17
Hamilton County Region	18
Hatchie River Region	21
Holston River Region	52
Knox County Region	31
Obion River Region	23
Ocoee River Region	34
Red River Region	60
Shelby County Region	45

Stones River Region	81
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Member type	Number of Member Forms 2020
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Librarian	425
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Student	34
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Librarian on Leave	6
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Library Assistant	9
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Retired Librarian	16
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Supervisor	3
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Friend of the Library	15
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Corporate	4
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<b>Total Members</b>	<b>520</b>
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## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Jennifer Sharp**

### **Committee Actions:**

The Nominating Committee confirmed our recommended slate of officers in May as follows:

- Past President: Vicki Winstead
- President: Lindsey Kimery
- President-Elect: Katie Capshaw
- Secretary: Brandi Hartsell
- Treasurer: Ginny Britt

Big thanks to Elizabeth Shepherd, Katie Cozzens, Amber Moser, and Christa Cordrey for serving on the committee and helping us to secure such an excellent lineup of leaders for TASL in 2021.

### **Committee Plans:**

No further plans; our committee has concluded its work for the year.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Katie Capshaw**

### **Committee Actions:**

- Put on first every TASL Virtual Summer PD. It was very successful with over 300 people registering.
- Reviewed survey results. All were very positive with a few minor suggestions. Most people want to keep the virtual format or have options for both in person and virtual. Not sure that is practical, but something to think about.

### **Committee Plans:**

- Need to select a new chairperson/people for next year. Consider having several people on the committee if going virtual again similar to conference committee.
- Consider recording sessions for those who pay to register.
- Consider offering to out of state or non-members for a larger fee.

**Additional Comments:** This was by far the most successful and stressful year that I have been chair. I think we should continue the virtual PD for summer or consider a hybrid option.

## **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**Kelly Messerly**

### **Committee Actions:**

- Used all social media platforms to highlight attendees and presenters as possible throughout Summer PD
- Used all social media platforms to promote #TASLVirtual20 and other TASL initiatives
- Shared focused posts to spotlight TASL Volunteers (board members, regional reps, committee chairs, etc.) as they were willing, tagging their districts/schools to foster recognition of professional service. (Many of you are pretending to be shy - cough, cough)

### **Committee Plans:**

- Continue to advertise and celebrate TASL initiatives and endeavors
- Continue to spread news as needed from any committees



- Perhaps create monthly themes a la the Texas Association of School Librarians, encouraging school librarians to post specific photos/message to promote libraries while tagging local VIPs, State/Federal leaders
- Continue to grow our online presence and collective PLN (we've gained approximately 500 Twitter followers in two years)

**Additional Comments:**

As always, please continue to notify me if there is something that needs to be shared via any social media avenue or of anything that needs to be initiated.

**VSBA**

**Julie Caudle**

**Committee Actions:** After 12 distinguished years, Scot Smith stepped down as the VSBA co-chair for TASL. Julie Caudle took over on June 1st as the new co-chair. Denise Tabscott is the new Primary Committee Chair and Amanda Tucker-Dye is the new Middle School Committee Chair.

Since the last TASL Board meeting, each of the VSBA committees met to vote on the 10 new titles to be added to the 20 titles selected already for the 2020-2021 list. These 10 additional titles are for just this year only, due to the change in eligibility in an effort to produce lists with as up-to-date titles as possible. The lists have been posted to the TASL VSBA website.

Julie Caudle presented a roundtable type session at the first TASL Road Trip in June introducing these new titles, explain the changes, and solicit ideas for promoting VSBA to increase participation in VSBA voting by students from across the state.

In late May, VSBA voting closed for the year and the winners were announced. Voting was pushed back a month and was entirely virtual due to school and library shutdowns from the pandemic. This year's winners are *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas for High School; *Refugee* by Alan Gratz for Middle School; *The Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling for Intermediate; and *The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors* by Drew Daywalt for Primary. Winners were contacted and invited to next year's VSBA Awards Banquet. Julie will follow up with those invites shortly, and inquire about submitting an acceptance video or letter that can be shown or read at the banquet if the author is unable to attend.

The winners for 2019-2020 VSBA's were contacted and invited to this year's virtual banquet. CeCe Bell submitted an acceptance video that will be played at this year's banquet. Multiple attempts were made to contact Neal Shusterman and have gone unanswered. A couple of attempts have been made to Raina Telgemeier and there was a

response from a publicist that the request would be forwarded, but as of the time of this report, no video or letter has been sent. Julie will continue to contact Raina.

Committee chairs finalized their committees and have begun the nomination process for this year.

Julie created a VSBA Google Site containing the current nominees and to be used as a place to collect and curate ideas and materials to promote the VSBA's and encourage more voting.

Julie Caudle and Emily Farmer from TLA, the Publicity Committee Chair, are in the process of resurrecting the Publicity Committee.

Emily Farmer created a VSBA Twitter handle: @VSBA\_TN

**Committee Plans:** Julie plans to launch the new VSBA Google Site at the VSBA sessions at the conference this year and hopes to link it on the TASL VSBA site.

Julie and Emily Farmer will continue to recruit for the Publicity Committee and begin meeting with committee members to discuss ways to promote the VSBA's throughout the state in schools and public libraries, as well as homeschool and online students. The goal of the committee is to increase voting participation and expose Tennessee students to great books!

The committee would like to develop a new VSBA logo. Julie and Emily have discussed various ways of doing this and will also seek input from committee members, TASL, and TLA on the best of doing this.

**Additional Comments:** Julie is so excited to begin her tenure as VSBA Co-Chair!

**STATE COORDINATOR TASK FORCE**  
**Kimery**

**Lindsey**

**Committee Actions:**

- Executive Board leaders and the advocacy committee met with Megan Cusick in early June to discuss advocacy strategies for our pursuit of getting a State Coordinator of School Libraries added to the TN DOE.
- Executive Board leaders and the advocacy committee met with Senator Jeff Yarbro, supporter of SB2574, the State Coordinator bill, and he helped us understand more about the focus of the legislative session, what he thinks will happen, and his recommendations on how to garner support for this bill.

- HB2321 made it to the K-12 Subcommittee and Representative Whitson was ready to proceed if SB2574 passed in the Senate. It was on calendar 2 for the Senate, which meant items on that calendar were not likely to make it to a vote. The Senate Education committee voted to end their legislative session and did not hear any items on calendar 2.
- Megan Cusick sent a variety of ideas and strategies for our continued advocacy.

#### **Committee Plans:**

- Amanda Smithfield and I will be meeting to review Megan Cusick's suggestions and making a plan to continue to advocate for a State Coordinator.
- We need to be ready to advocate beginning in January 2021, and we will work on the plans and share them with TASL members so they can participate in contacting their leaders.

#### **AASL STATE-LEVEL LEADER TASK FORCE**

**Erika Long**

Nothing to report.

#### **HANDBOOK REVISION TASK FORCE**

**Elizabeth Shepherd**

#### **Committee Actions:**

Committee has commented on the working document of our Handbook on potential changes. All comments have been cleared and changes made.

Due to the formation of the EDI Committee, President Vicki Winstead submitted a section of guidelines for that committee that was added to the Handbook.

#### **Committee Plans:**

The committee will submit the Handbook to the Webmaster for uploading to the website and will also make available to all current Officers and Committee Chairs so they have an updated version to pass along to their successors.

You can access a copy of the file here:

TASL Officer and Committee Handbook 2020-09-21.pdf

***UPDATE: The handbook is still under construction (see notes under Discussion below) and will be submitted to the membership before the end of the year.***

#### **AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Buffalo Region Area Representative Report****Angela Secrest**

Nothing to report.

**Clinch River Region Area Representative Report****Blake Hopper****Regional Actions:**

Please supply actions taken by the area representative since the last board meeting.

- Back to School Email was sent
- I sent an email this month asking if anything needed to be shared. I did not get a response.

**Regional Plans:**

Please supply any future plans for your region.

- I plan on sending out monthly emails

I want to try and collect good things happening in the libraries

**Davidson County Region Area Representative Report****Katelyn Jernigan****Regional Actions:**

Informed members of updates  
Reminded members of upcoming conference  
Encouraged member to renew their membership  
Assisted in compiling state-wide librarian list

**Regional Plans:**

Attend virtual conference  
Share updates after the annual business meeting and board meeting

**Falling Water River Area Representative Report****Vacant****Hamilton County Region Area Representative Report****Melanie Collins****Regional Actions:**

**July 2020-** Virtual Summer Professional Development

Topics included:

- Teaching Books- a wonderful teaching tool for librarians and any reading teacher
- Using Canvas- Hamilton County's New LMS (Class DOJO for elem)
- Tech Teaching Tools- Flipgrid, Nearpod, EL (elementary literacy platform)
- Anti-Racism Dialogue

**August 2020-** The Library Leadership Team worked collaboratively to complete a safety plan and protocols for using our school libraries.

Many librarians in our district have become the issuers and technical support for Chromebooks. The district is using BookTracks (Book Systems) to manage the tracking of these devices.

**On-Going Initiatives:**

Partnership with the Chattanooga Public Library in which all Hamilton County Public School students receive a free public library card.

Partnership with Read20 that provides free books to elementary schools

**Regional Plans:**

We are working to get a system-wide digital library with Overdrive. Several middle schools piloted a Consortium last year, and we are adding more schools this year. Each school makes a \$500 commitment to purchase titles.

**Hatchie River Region Area Representative Report**

**Sherry Copeland**

**Regional Actions:**

Please supply actions taken by the area representative since the last board meeting.

I enjoyed the summer pd sessions. The other members from my region that attended also thought the format and sessions were very point-on. The only issues I heard about were related to being able to get their district to pay for the sessions but that was mostly related to the Covid issues and not being able to get in touch with the right people at the right time.

I did my best to find addresses and phone numbers for all the librarians in the region and forwarded that.

**Holston River Region Area Representative Report**

**Johnnie Sue Hawley**

**Regional Actions:**

I attended the Summer PD provided by TASL and had a great experience. I was able to add a few members to our group because they wanted to do the PD.

I started on the Directory of 2020-2021 Librarian List, but need to work more on that project as I still need to complete a great deal of the area.

I have promoted the upcoming TASL conference within my area as well as reminded members to renew.

**Regional Plans:**

I plan to attend the virtual conference on September 26, 2020.

Tackle the Directory of Librarians with more success (Honestly I started on it and then it totally slipped my mind in all the pandemic digital teaching. During summer it left my memory!)

**Additional Comments:**

No other comments at this time. I am open to suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,

Johnnie Sue Hawley

\*\*\*I have moved to another school--elementary. I'm now the librarian at South Side School in Johnson City, TN. (same district)

**Knox County Region Area Representative Report**

**Raina Scoggins**

Nothing to report.

**Obion River Region Area Representative Report**

**Sandi Walden**

**Regional Actions:** none

**Regional Plans:** Touch base as needed throughout the school year and pass along info

**Ocoee River Region Area Representative Report**

**Martha Harris**

**Regional Actions:**

I reached out to the members of my region to encourage them to participate in this year's annual conference.

**Regional Plans:**

We hope to grow the number of members in our area. There was also mention of regional get-togethers, so I hope we can make that happen as well.

**Red River Region Area Representative Report****Anita Fentress**

Nothing to report.

**Shelby County Region Area Representative Report****Emily Squires****Regional Actions:**

Contacted SCS Regarding Directory of 2020-2021 Librarian List

Several librarians in the region are presenting at TASL

Completed the Directory for Germantown Municipal School District

**Regional Plans:**

Follow up about SCS for Library Directory

**Additional Comments:**

SCS Librarians are spending half their day answering tech support requests due to every student having a device and being 100% virtual

**Stones River Region Area Representative Report****Liz Hicks****Regional Actions:**

Promoted membership, professional development

**REPORTS FROM AFFILIATES****AASL/ALA****Vicki Winstead****Affiliate Actions:**

In June 2020, I attended the virtual AASL Chapter meetings on behalf of TASL. The Presidential Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion shared a presentation focused on how they are working to empower librarians to equitably serve all students and promote a culture of belonging in school libraries.

Information about chapter conferences was shared. I shared information about TASL's Virtual Summer PD, and our successes and challenges.

Mary Keeling presented the AASL's President's Report which included information on the strategic plan, goals, and leadership activation.

Commendations and concerns were shared. Our commendation for the "Maryville City Schools One Book Blitz" passed and will move on to the Board of Directors.

TASL's Lindsey Kimery was elected as Chapter Assembly Chair-Elect.

**Affiliate Plans:**

The Tennessee Association of School Librarians was selected as the recipient of the 2020 American Association of School Librarians' Chapter of the Year Award. We have received the \$1000 award, and a certificate. I will attend the Virtual Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, October 21, 2020.

**Additional Comments:**

The 2021 AASL Conference will be held October 21-23, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**TLA**

**Blake Hopper**

**Affiliate Actions:**

Please supply actions by the affiliate since the last board meeting. Angela Fredrick is the new TLA Rep.

**Affiliate Plans:**

Please supply any future plans of your affiliate.

Erika Long would love for a liaison to work with our TLA legislative committee. She is hoping to build school librarian relationship within the association and there's 2 things I want to achieve this year.

1) TLA providing more support in advocating for a state supervisor alongside TASL

2) we may not be able to do this in person as I had originally planned, but I want librarians to do advocacy field trips with their kids to speak to legislators throughout the year rather than just on legislative day.

Ideally that's working with TASL's advocacy chair.

**TENN-SHARE**

**Jenifer Grady**



**Affiliate Actions:**

Tenn-Share has a new Vice-President, David Ownby, Technical Services Manager at Johnson City Public Library.

Tenn-Share was able to attract 13 schools to order Gale Literature Resource Center at a 70% discount when it was discontinued by the Tennessee Electronic Library (TEL).

Tenn-Share has a partnership with the Library Discount Network, which has relationships and discounted groups for resources that Tenn-Share does not.

<https://www.tenn-share.org/ldninquiries>

**Affiliate Plans:**

Tenn-Share will host DataFest and Fall Conference this year, but not Collection Fair. The events will be October 27-30, with DataFest in the morning and Fall Conference in the afternoon. We will have a track for K-12 library staff.

Tenn-Share's next goals will be in part based on responses to the "What Does Your Library Need?" survey opened in September. Thus far, we are happy to see that half of the respondents have been from K-12 schools.

Tenn-Share's next Board meeting is tentatively Thursday, October 22 from 1-3 pm. All are welcome to the Zoom call.

**Other:**

The three K-12 reps for Tenn-Share are:

Rebekah Ellis, [rebekah.ellis@knoxschools.org](mailto:rebekah.ellis@knoxschools.org), L&N STEM Academy Library  
Michelle Kornberger, [michellekornberger@att.net](mailto:michellekornberger@att.net), Havenview Middle School  
Rachel Rich, [rerich@lipscomb.edu](mailto:rerich@lipscomb.edu), Lipscomb Academy Upper School Library

**TEL****Andrea Zielke****Affiliate Actions:****TEL Database Updates -**

- Kids InfoBites platform upgraded and new name change - Gale In Context: Elementary on 5/28.
- Tumblebooks trial ended on 8/31.
- Literature Resource Center discontinued on July 13, 2020 due to budget tightening.

- Career Transition retiring on 9/30. Replaced by Peterson's Career Prep. TERC will be getting an interface update and name change (Peterson's Test Prep) at the end of October.
- Will be starting the World Book RFP process - current contract ends on 5/31/2021.

Working with Follett to see if I can get some TEL documentation for Destiny users.

Requested Listserv for School Librarian contact list - still working through details.

### **Affiliate Plans:**

New State Library and Archives building will be opening in early April 2021. We are excited that we will finally have space for visiting classes and groups who want to learn about using primary documents for history and social studies. Details about scheduling classes and groups will be sent out closer to the opening.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **DISCUSSIONS:**

#### **COVID-19 GUIDELINES Winstead**

**Vicki**

The EB met with the TNDOE to discuss putting out information related to COVID and libraries. After meeting with them it was decided not to put out our own information for a few reasons. First being that we as librarians are not health professionals and therefore would never want to offer recommendations that may inadvertently put someone's health at risk. Second being that we would never want to put out any information that might lead to school librarians being closed or being underutilized. Vicki did share AASL's Pandemic Resources website as guidance for our school librarians.

#### **TASL CREDIT CARD**

**Katie Capshaw**

Katie brought up that getting a TASL credit card has been under discussion for a while. Ginny shared that right now the only way we can pay for anything is through check. Katie shared that an advantage of having a credit card would be avoiding excessive reimbursements and also providing for those librarians who don't have the kind of personal credit limit that can hold costs until things can be reimbursed. Costs for the President and President-Elect can get into the thousands depending on where the

conference is held. Erika mentioned that TLA has one. Blake mentioned that other state organizations have them, as long as there is a system of checks and balances in place. Jennifer suggested that the Treasurer and President have copies of the card. Ginny said that she could look into what Regions can do for us. Katie is also going to reach out to those other associations to see what they do.

## **MEMBERCLICKS UPGRADE**

**Christa Cordrey**

Christa shared that we are upgrading our Memberclicks. We held off as long as we could but essentially Memberclicks stated we had to upgrade. The process will start in November and it will take about a month. The Memberclicks team is supposed to help with that. The user end should look relatively the same but the back end will look quite a bit different. Trainings will be offered in the spring to appropriate officers and members. We will also use a new payment platform, not PayPal. Erika asked if the Listserv would be affected and Christa said there would be some reorganization but should be okay in the end. Elizabeth asked if there was a cost involved in the upgrade. Christa said that we got the fees waived with Memberclicks for the upgrade because we are essentially being forced into it. Overall Christa and Ginny expect the financials associated with Memberclicks to even out and be much more stable. Christa will also clean out our membership of inactive members and that may also bring our overall costs down.

## **HANDBOOK REVISION**

**Elizabeth Shepherd**

Elizabeth shared the updated Handbook and discussed some of the changes that the committee worked on. Most changes were organizational, updating the wording, etc. A section for the new EDI committee was added via Vicki. The plan is that Christa will add to the website and the EB will individually be responsible for passing the Handbook on to their successor. Jenifer Grady asked if we have the responsibilities of our affiliates included in our Handbook. After some discussion we determined that we should be adding in a section for affiliate responsibilities. Erika said she would share what TLA says about their affiliates. We definitely need to include expectations about membership, sharing reports, attending meetings, speaking at the annual business meeting, and possibly something about benefits of booths at annual conference being a reciprocal agreement.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements to share.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**M-SEPT24-02: Jennifer Sharp moved to adjourn. Blake Hopper seconded. Motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 6:00PM CST.**

## **SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 MOTION SUMMARY**

**M-SEPT24-01: Katelyn Jernigan made a motion to accept the Agenda as written. Motion seconded by Lindsey Kimery. Motion carries.**

**M-SEPT24-02: Jennifer Sharp moved to adjourn. Blake Hopper seconded. Motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 6:00PM CST.**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

September 25-26, 2020	TASL Conference - Virtual
November 7, 2020	TASL Board Meeting - Virtual
January, 2021	ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits
June 24-29, 2021	ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
September 23-25, 2021	TASL Conference, Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro, TN
October 21-23, 2021	AASL Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Elizabeth Shepherd**

**TASL Secretary 2020**