

TASL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES - April 24, 2021

Welcome, Introductions and Call to Order: An executive board meeting of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians was held virtually on April 24, 2021. The meeting convened at 9:03 A.M. CST with President Lindsey Kimery presiding.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Lindsey Kimery
Katie Capshaw
Ginny Britt
Brandi Hartsell
Vicki Winstead

Katelyn Jernigan
Laura Dowd
Heather Alexander
Elizabeth Shepherd
Andrea Batson
Sandi Walden
Elizabeth Parnell
Johnnie Sue Hawley
Blake Hopper
Martha Harris

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Angela Secrest
Raina Scoggins
Emily Squires

OTHERS PRESENT

Amanda Smithfield
Christa Cordrey
Susan Oldham
Suzanne Sherman
Kelly Messerly
Andrea Zielke
Angela Frederick
Xan Lasko

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M-APRIL24-01: Katelyn Jernigan made a motion to accept the Agenda as written. Motion seconded by Elizabeth Parnell. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the February 6th 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's Actions:

- Current balances in our accounts are:
 - Checking \$17,646.34
 - Secondary \$6,946.62
 - Savings \$22,000.35

 - **Total: \$46,593.31**

- Recent checks - Jennifer Sharp, Sir Speedy (bookmarks)
- Outstanding Checks from 2020 - \$175
- Outstanding Checks from 2021 - \$100 (winners of bookmark contest)

- All money received since January 1 has been for Membership Dues
- Conference - working on reviewing 2019 bill and preparing for 2021 conference
- Extending our Tax deadline, preparing with CPA to file 2020 taxes
- Cancelled PayPal account

Treasurer's Plans:

Budget for Conference, reviewing past years, etc.

Monitoring accounts, continuing to check the PO Box

Profit & Loss
January 1 through April 23, 2021

	Jan 1 - Apr 23, 21
Income	
2021 Membership	16,060.00
Interest Inc	0.39
VSBA Stickers	43.00
	16,103.39
Total Income	16,103.39
Gross Profit	16,103.39
Expense	
ALA - Midwinter	130.00
ALA Dues	174.00
Bank Charge	36.00
Bookmark Contest	529.00
Gifts Given	54.86
Insurance	331.00
Mailing Supplies	211.50
MemberClicks	1,622.67
PayPal Services	30.00
PayRoc Fees	472.20
PO Box Rental	148.00
Scholarship	964.00
Tax Preparation	125.00
TLA	90.00
Treasurer Expense	60.57
	4,978.80
Total Expense	4,978.80
Net Income	11,124.59

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Amanda Smithfield

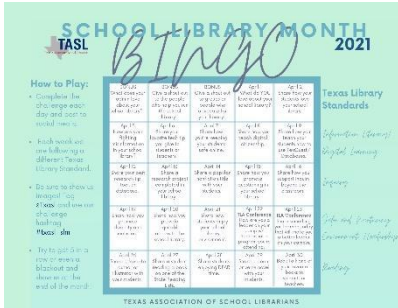
Committee Actions:

- met twice
- discussed microcredentialing and advocacy TASL website
 - looked at several websites of other state school library associations to decide how to redo the advocacy section of the TASL website,

- o many participated in Library Legislative Day.

Committee Plans:

- add “everyday advocacy” tab to the TASL website by end of may/early June.
- Continue working on possible microcredential.
 - o TASL ALL STARS? Begin next year as a transition to possible microcredentialing



Additional Comments: ran a successful TASL bookmark contest (150 entrants)

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Katelyn Jernigan

Committee Actions:

All award descriptions and applications are ready for release

Awards Include:

- School Library Media Scholarship
- Clara Hasbrouk Award
- Distinguished School Administrator Award
- Innovative Library Media Award
- Teacher Collaboration Award
- Diversity in School Librarianship Scholarship (awarded by EDI committee)

Committee Plans:

Applications will go live on May 1

Due date for all awards is August 1

Additional Comments:

Are Awards given at the banquet or the business meeting? Is the banquet on Sept. 24?

Question about Teacher Collab Award

- Description states: *As part of the criteria for entry, the winning participant agrees to present the idea for his/her entry in a 10-minute presentation during a session at the TASL conference.*
- Is that still applicable?

Award winners receive:

- The Innovative Library Media Program Award - \$500 and plaque
- The Distinguished School Administrator Award - plaque
- The Clara Hasbrouck Award - plaque
- The School Library Media Specialist Scholarship - \$1,000 and plaque(?)
- Teacher Collaboration Award - \$500 and plaque for each member of the team
-

CERTIFICATION & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Suzanne Sherman

Committee Actions:

No report.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Katie Capshaw

Committee Actions:

- Committee members met in March to get everything going and clarified
- Paid speakers have been secured and contracts have been sent
- Vendors have and are being contacted to begin registering
- Met with Embassy Suites to clarify contracts and make sure we are good to go

Committee Plans:

- Call for presenters and registration begins May 1st
- Begin social media and email promotion campaigns
- Begin scheduling sessions
- Secure all vendors
- Finalize details
- Additional committee meetings in May and July or August

Additional Comments:

Everything looks on track for an in-person conference. Other organizations have been having in-person conferences and Embassy Suites is having conferences. They will keep us abreast of their guidelines as the time draws closer. We will be sure to ensure everyone's safety and to follow all protocols in place at the time of the conference.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Brandi Hartsell

Committee Actions: Reviewed the constitution and bylaws to determine if any changes/amendments need to be made. TEL is not listed as an official affiliate.

Committee Plans: We will need to vote to add TEL as an affiliate in the constitution and bylaws during the September meeting.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Vicki Winstead

Committee Actions:

We reviewed the application for the Diversity in School Librarianship Scholarship. This application will be pushed out in May along with the other TASL awards. The application will also be shared with college and university contacts to help spread the word to students enrolled or entering graduate school programs.

We reviewed a description of the EDI committee that will be added to the TASL officers and committees handbook.

We have curated resources on padlet to support students and colleagues during AAPI Heritage Month. This resource will be shared the last week of May.

Committee Plans:

As this is the first year for this committee, we are working on ways to share information and resources with our members during special observances throughout the year. June is Pride Month. October is LGBTQ History Month. We plan to create resources to share for these.

We discussed the possibility of offering a summer book club to TASL members. It would be a professional development opportunity for TASL Members. Possible book selection: Stamped by Jason Reynold and Ibram Kendi. We would like to launch the book club on Juneteenth. It would be held virtually, with meetings to discuss the book throughout the summer.

We discussed starting a TASL List of Diverse books. This list would be announced at conference in September. We would like to see this be an annual list that we create and promote. The EDI committee would present a session where we would booktalk the titles. List would feature titles for elementary, middle and high school. The goal of this list is to create a tool that would assist librarians with collection development and increase diversity in school library collections.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ginny Britt

Committee Actions:

Find committee members

- Elizabeth Shepherd
- Nancy Dickenson
- Mallory Nygard

Committee Plans:

Working on planning out the 2021 year to support Summer PD and Fall Conference

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE

Xan Lasko

Committee Actions:

Monitoring the actions of the LGBTQ+ bill that is going through the state legislature regarding textbooks and other curriculum oriented materials. This could potentially regard titles that we carry in the library (I think) if we are pairing those with standards that are being covered via book study, etc.

Also, I attended a SIF (States Intellectual Freedom Network) meeting of the ALA OIF in

Committee Plans:

I still want our committee to get a TASL blog post submitted.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Vicki Winstead

No report submitted.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Martha Harris

Committee Actions:

Monitored renewals

Answered questions regarding procedures and fees

Current Membership Rosters			
Member Type	Lapsed	Graced	Active
Librarian	178	0	386
Librarian On Leave	5	0	10
Library Assistant	3	0	5
Retired Librarian	3	0	16
School District	1	0	1
- School Librarian	3	0	12
Student	24	0	26
Supervisor	2	0	5
Total	226	0	476
Prospect			290
Total Active			766

Committee Plans:

Encourage area reps to reach out to their areas and seek out any non-member librarians

Continue to answer questions from new and returning members

Any other duties as they arise

Additional Comments:

Any suggestions for actions are welcome

MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE

Susan Oldham and Kelly Shipman

Committee Actions:

- We are about to make our first mentor/mentee match!
- Promotion of program is ongoing through TASL newsletters

Committee Plans:

- To increase applicants, we are planning to create a graphic for social media and web

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vicki Winstead

Committee Actions:

The nominating committee met recently to begin selecting officers for 2022.

A form was sent to the TASL membership seeking nominations for President-Elect/Conference Chair and Secretary.

Committee Plans:

Committee will meet again soon to discuss possible nominees. The slate of officers will be presented to the president in July 2021.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Katelyn Jernigan and Blake Hopper

Committee Actions:

Working with Williamson County Public Library. They are providing sessions, money, prizes, and keynotes.

Virtual Days Set

June 22nd 8 CST 9 EST - 2 CST 3 EST

July 8th 8 CST 9 EST - 2 CST 3 EST

Two In-Person Days

Host: Carol Nanney

McKenzie High School

June 7th

9:00-3:00

Lunch 11:00-12:00

Laura Posey/Blake Hopper

Claiborne County -- Cumberland Gap High School

June 1

9:00-3:00

11:00-12:00 Lunch

Sent out a call for proposals and an email with Summer PD info.

Committee Plans:

Finish details with Williamson County Public Library
Work on schedules and sessions

VSBA**Julie Caudle**

Committee Actions: Final nominations were made and submitted for each of the committees and committee members are reading as many of the nominees as possible. Student voting deadline for the winners of 2020-2021 was set for May 7th and all votes will be submitted online. Links to the voting ballots were placed on the TASL and TLA websites, and were placed on all TASL social media.

Committee Plans: Each grade level committee is making plans to meet to discuss the nominees and vote for which books are on the lists. The middle and high school committees are meeting in early May. I have not heard yet when the primary and intermediate committees are meeting, but hope to hear soon.

After May 7th, Julie Caudle will announce the 2020-2021 VSBA winners and put it out on social media and the website. Julie Caudle will also discuss with the committee chairs about finalizing their committee's membership for 2021-22. Julie Caudle will also try to meet with the publicity committee over the summer to start up promotion for the 2021-22 VSBA's and make plans to form a new VSBA logo and website.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**Kelly Messerly****Committee Actions:**

- Dissolved TASL relationship with the Facebook *Group* (that we're not sure who created) in order to keep messaging from TASL consistent. Brian Seadorf took over as admin of that group, changed it to private, and changed the name to School Librarians of Tennessee. It's now a place for fun/general conversation/meme sharing, etc. that TASL doesn't have to worry about monitoring/policing. The TASL Facebook *Page* remains as a place to disseminate information and messaging from TASL (on that platform).

Committee Plans:

- Begin marketing Summer PD and #TASLCon21
- #TASLTestimonyTuesday (asking all board members, regional reps, etc. to fill this form out for advocacy/content purposes (will send via chat/email):
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceNR1E_ZH7efeNSKeuwSg1-iPjE31dIWDmqLQnTpk8UNtwv/viewform?usp=sf_link

Additional Comments:

- Hootsuite (used to schedule tweets) has recently changed its free platform. Users are only allowed to schedule 5 posts at a time (as opposed to 30!). Paid version is expensive (\$49/month).

STATE COORDINATOR TASK FORCE**Lindsey Kimery****Committee Actions:**

- Attended TN Library Legislative Day and gave a brief presentation about our need for a State Coordinator and shared information about HB0219/ SB0347.
- Met with Rep. Whitson and members of the State Coordinator Task Force to discuss the plan for HB0219.
- Provided talking points to Rep. Whitson and Sen. Yarbro about the need for a state coordinator for HB0219/SB0347.
- Spoke with Betty Latture, who was the “Media Coordinator” for the TN Dept. of Education in the 1990’s and is the last known person to hold the state coordinator position.
- Spoke with TN House attorney to approve wording for the amendment for HB0219, which outlines the ask for a state coordinator.
- Created a job description for the state coordinator based on job descriptions from other states who have a similar position; draft was approved by Dr. Welch, Dr. Bivvins, and Sarah Searles.
- Lindsey Kimery spoke to the House Education Committee on March 24, 2021 to ask for their support of HB0219. The bill passed and was scheduled for the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee put the bill behind the budget, which means funding is considered once everything else is funded in the budget.
- SB0347 failed on April 7 in the Senate Education Committee.
- Emails were sent to Rep. Whitson and Sen. Yarbro for their support and efforts this year. Emails were sent to Senate Education Committee members to ask for their support next year.
- Encouraged TASL members to invite their legislators to their libraries and work on building a relationship with them.

Committee Plans:

- Rep. Whitson reported that Sen. Lundberg has agreed to sponsor the bill next year.

- Will attend and will encourage others to attend the ALA Advocacy Summit in June and will meet with task force members to discuss strategy going forward.

AASL STATE-LEVEL LEADER TASK FORCE

Erika Long

No report submitted.

AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Buffalo Region Area Representative Report

Angela Secret

No report submitted.

Clinch River Region Area Representative Report

Blake Hopper

Regional Actions:

- Emailed the region
- I will be sending emails about Summer PD and Conference

Regional News:

(Gatlinburg-Pittman Junior High) started using the Sora eBook program (via Overdrive) this spring. We kicked off the use of the program on March 1 and have had great success with increasing our circulation.

Even more exciting is the fact that we created a promotional video to post on social media along with several social media posts. The theme was "March Madness." We entered the Sora School Stars contest with our social media campaign, and we won Sora's Grand Prize for the year - a \$2500 book credit! We'll be featured on their company's blog soon.

Davidson County Region Area Representative Report

Katelyn Jernigan

Regional Actions:

Sent monthly emails
Updated independent school librarians and emails
Added job posting websites of independent schools

Regional News:

Nothing to report

Falling Water River Area Representative Report

Andrea Batson

Regional Actions: Emailed members once a month about upcoming TASL summer PD dates and also TLA and Tenn-Share meetings. Requested updates and news from members.

Regional News:

Putnam County Schools librarians have kept the lines of communication open this year, despite not being able to meet in person. They established a Google Classroom just for librarians in the district. Throughout the year, librarians have posted questions and concerns in the stream. It has been a helpful and centralized way for librarians to communicate and collaborate while we cannot meet in person.

Hamilton County Region Area Representative Report

Laura Dowd

Regional Actions:

Library Leadership Team presented this video to the School Board
<https://youtu.be/3sYIXGSuCZA>

Regional News:

Additional Comments:

None.

Hatchie River Region Area Representative Report

Elizabeth Parnell

Regional Actions:

None.

Regional News:

I have sent monthly reports and asked for news, but none to report from my region.

I will send a recap of this meeting this weekend to members and ask about any job openings for the region, I know Jackson Madison County will have at least 3 openings, and at least 2 for high school. I will then pass this along to Lindsey.

Holston River Region Area Representative Report

Johnnie Sue Hawley

Regional Actions:

none

Regional News:

none

Additional Comments:

I have had some librarians ask me if anyone/how many were still quarantining books and is that a procedure we would recommend to maintain or terminate.

Knox County Region Area Representative Report

Raina Scoggins

No report submitted.

Obion River Region Area Representative Report

Sandi Walden

Regional Actions: I updated my region on the VSBA & fall conference.

Regional News: There is an in person summer PD in McKenzie on June 7. They need presenters!

Ocoee River Region Area Representative Report

Martha Harris

Regional Actions:

Email sent to membership. Topics included

Share job openings with TASL E-list

Information about summer PD days, link also provided

Be on the watch of summer conference

Reach out to area school librarians

Share any fun, interesting, or concerning news with me to pass on

Regional News:

None reported

Red River Region Area Representative Report

Heather Alexander

No report submitted.

Shelby County Region Area Representative Report

Emily Squires

Regional News:

On Friday, April 16- Superintendent Dr. Joris Ray announced a rebranding and reimagining of Shelby County Schools (<https://www.scsk12.org/stateofthedistrict/>). The district will undergo a name change and will now be called Memphis-Shelby County Schools.

I have communicated with Lindsey, about the difficulty reaching out to Shelby County Schools.

All the Municipality School district just wrapped up TCAP/TNReady Testing

Emily Squires was selected to attend the NEH Clotilda to Community: The History of Mobile, Alabama's Africatown. This workshop is about the last slave ship to enter into the US in 1860. Emily was one of 80 teachers selected to participate in this workshop.

Additional Comments:

None.

Stones River Region Area Representative Report

Elizabeth Shepherd

Regional Actions:

Sent an email to touch base with my people, informed them about communicating job postings in their area with me and with the listserv.

Regional News:

Christiana Middle School competed in Malcolm Mitchell's READ Bowl in January and February. We finished 2nd in the Middle School Division and 8th overall in the Global reading competition. The READ Bowl is put on by Super Bowl Champion Malcolm Mitchell each year as the World Championships of Reading in an effort to promote reading amongst students in K-8.

Additional Comments:

None.

REPORTS FROM AFFILIATES

AASL/ALA

Lindsey Kimery

Affiliate Actions:

- Attended AASL Chapter Assembly meeting on April 7, 2021.
- Blake Hopper and I shared TASL's work in advocating for a state coordinator.
- Blake Hopper and Lindsey Kimery are taking an online course at Harvard with AASL President Kathy Carroll called "Deeper Than Edutainment: Taking Books

and Their Film Adaptations Seriously”]; The class runs from May 19-June 16 and our job is to provide feedback on the course before it’s offered to the public.

- Met with Megan Cusick from ALA’s Office of Public Policy & Advocacy and Deborah Caldwell Stone, Director of ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom and Erika Long, President of TLA to discuss developments in HB 1535 and HB 800. We discussed strategies and what has worked in other states.

Affiliate Plans:

- Attend ALA Annual in June
- Attend AASL Chapter Assembly meeting in June.
- We will watch for bills similar to HB1535 and HB800 to see if they come back next year.
- Encourage Advocacy and Intellectual Freedom Committees to work together to create talking points to share with librarians and teachers to help them speak out against bills that are part of the “slate of hate.”

TLA

Angela Frederick

No report submitted.

TENN-SHARE

Stephanie Garrett

Affiliate Actions:

The deadline for securing a K-12 Movie License with the exclusive Tenn-Share member benefits of 22 months for the price of 12 and an outdoor movie license exception ends on 4/31/21. You must send in your signed renewal notice, and, if applicable for your school or district, your purchase order before 5/1/21 to receive these additional benefits.

Affiliate Plans:

May 3, 2021: Ari Baker (they,them,theirs) takes over as the new Executive Director for Tenn-Share.

Additional Comments:

Your Tenn-Share School Library Representatives are:

- West TN - Leah Allison from St. George’s Independent School - Collierville
- East TN - Rebekah Ellis from L&N Stem Academy
- Middle TN - Open

To nominate a Middle TN School Library Rep, please email Stuart Gaetjens@tntech.edu.

TEL

Andrea Zielke

Affiliate Actions:

New Tennessee State Library and Archives is open to the public by appointment only now - Tuesday - Sunday, 8 - 4:30. They are doing tours with school groups, if you are interested, you can contact me and I'll send it to the group coordinating those events.

Summer Reading starts in May. Most public libraries will have programming for Summer Reading. They also have READSquared which is an online summer reading tool is available at most public libraries for students and adults.

Tennessee State Library & Archives is pleased to announce training for the Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit for the upcoming year. Based on research from the Bay Area Discovery Museum in California, the training provides support for the cognitive, emotional, and social growth children need to develop so they can enter schools ready to learn. Librarians and other educators are invited to attend one of the 4-hour training sessions to learn ways to interact with parents and provide activities which provide critical, research-backed early learning experiences for children birth through age 8. Please contact Kate Smith at kate.smith@tn.gov or (615) 253-6445 to learn more about the training.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

M-APR24-02: Xan Lasko moved to establish a TASL Micro-Credential Committee. Amanda Smithfield seconded. Motion carries.

DISCUSSIONS

EDI Committee description was presented and reviewed. No vote needed to approve.

Upgrading our Hootsuite account to a professional account due to the limitations placed on the free Hootsuite version. We will explore options before upgrading the account. It's 49/month, \$600/year. We will revisit in November, after the annual conference.

TASL collaborative effort with TN Geographic Alliance (TGA)

•[Inspiration](#)

•[Submit titles](#)

Mission & Vision statement revision will be done in June by Area Reps along with invites sent to Exec. Board and TASL membership. New statement ready for vote at annual conference business meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Area Reps are helping provide information for a “Jobs Page” for the website. We are creating a web page about MLIS programs in TN and contact info.

Attend/ support webinars.

Newsletter goes out on the 15th. Send Brandi Hartsell and Felicia Warden any news or updates from your committee by the 8th.

Check the website and add your committee meetings to TASL calendar and make sure your committee members’ names are listed.

Office Hours are Thursday, April 29 at 5:30PM. Board members are encouraged to attend.

TN Library Ecosystem- members of TLA and TASL working together to address issues concerning libraries in TN.

ADJOURNMENT

M-APR24-03: Blake Hopper moved to adjourn. Vicki Winstead seconded. Motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 10:51AM CST.

FEBRUARY 6, 2021 MOTION SUMMARY

M-APRIL24-01: Katelyn Jernigan made a motion to accept the Agenda as written. Motion seconded by Elizabeth Parnell. Motion carries.

M-APR24-02: Xan Lasko moved to establish a TASL Micro-Credential Committee. Amanda Smithfield seconded. Motion carries.

M-APR24-03: Blake Hopper moved to adjourn. Vicki Winstead seconded. Motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 10:51AM CST.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 1, 2021: Summer PD - Claiborne County

June 2, 2021: Mission & Vision revision- virtual meeting 3:00-5:00PM CST

June 7, 2021: Summer PD - McKenzie

June 22, 2021: Summer PD - Virtual

June 24-29, 2021: ALA Annual Conference - Virtual

July 8, 2021: Summer PD - Virtual

September 23-25, 2021: TASL Conference - Murfreesboro, TN

September 23, 2021: TASL Board Meeting

September 24, 2021: TASL Annual Board meeting

October 21-23, 2021: AASL National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT

November 6, 2021: TASL Board Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Brandi Hartsell

TASL Secretary 2021