



Texas Association of Community Schools

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Texas Educators Vote Update

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Plan Your Kick-off Meeting and Ask Employees to Sign the Oath

The March 6, 2018 primary election is where 90% of Texas leaders are elected. We want all educators to be in the practice of voting by then, so it will be second nature to make voting a priority. Many of you have bond elections coming up on November 7th and there are constitutional amendments on the November ballot as well. The last day to register to vote for the November election is October 10th.

1. Make sure everyone is registered to vote: [Voter Registration Application](#)
2. Sign up your district for Texas Educators Vote if you haven't already: [District Registration Form](#)
3. Ask your school board to sign the TASB Culture of Voting resolution [found here](#).
(*See this great article about Crosby ISD creating a culture of voting)
4. **Plan your kick-off meeting(s) where you will ask district employees to sign the oath.**
5. **This can be an assembly, individual campus meetings, department meetings, or any approach that makes sense for you and your district.**

At your kick-off meeting with all teachers and staff, explain that you are working to create a culture of voting and that they are role models who can exemplify civic engagement by voting in elections. Texas has a long way to go to move itself out of last place in voter turnout!

This year, with our handy-dandy new website, at your kick-off meetings, instead of handing out copies of the oath and collecting them, we are doing it for you! Just ask meeting attendees to pull out their phones and go to TexasEducatorsVote.com.

1. Ask them to scroll down to the grey section that explains what the people we elect decide:
 - A. Whether and how much to fund our schools
 - B. How much to test students and whether those tests should keep them from graduating
 - C. How much to contribute to teacher pay, health insurance, and more
 - D. Whether to support public education or privatize it through vouchers
2. **Scroll down from there and have everyone read the [Educator's Oath to Vote](#).**
 - A. Have them [click and take the Oath](#).
 - B. **Ask them to type the name of your district (not just initials, so we know whether it is Goliad or Granbury).**
 - C. Their registration will automatically come to us, and we will be able to send reminders for early voting, and other key deadlines.
 - D. We can also send you a list of who and how many people from your district have taken the oath at the end of each week if you want us to.

This will help us structure contests between districts, regions, and get you whatever information you need if you want to offer incentives (blue jeans days, etc.) to get your people to sign the Oath to vote.

If educators and public school employees vote for candidates that support public education, maybe we can get Texas schools funded, standardized testing reduced, and leaders who respect teachers and the institution of public education as a pillar of democracy. If educators don't vote, or if they vote based on other issues, we will likely get more of what we have right now – underfunded schools, over-tested students, and underpaid and under-appreciated teachers.

This week, plan your kickoff meeting! You can model this behavior by taking the [Oath](#) yourself and then posting it on facebook.com/TexasEducatorsVote/ and [Twitter @TxEdVote](https://twitter.com/TxEDVote).

Let us know how else we can help. Let's go create a culture of voting in Texas public schools!

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