

TSTA Mission and Vision Statements

Mission Statement

The Texas State Teachers Association will unite, organize and empower public education advocates to shape public education in Texas thus providing a quality public school for every child.

Internal Vision Statement

In order to shape public education in Texas, the Texas State Teachers Association (TSTA) will:

- Be receptive and responsive to the diverse needs of the membership, embracing differences;
- Be results-oriented, achieving outcomes that have a clear impact on members;
- Focus on systemic change, rather than on individual change; and
- Generate sufficient resources to expand association programs and services to meet all organizational needs.

TSTA will maintain an internal culture that values:

- Open, honest and respectful communication;
- Organizational and individual change based on data, assessment and evaluation; and
- Shared accountability, collaboration and teamwork among all stakeholders — members, leaders, management and staff.

Further, TSTA must:

- Focus its resources on organizing; and
- Recruit and visibly organize within locals that show potential and commitment.

External Vision Statement

In 2025, the Texas State Teachers Association (TSTA) is the largest, most powerful organization of public education employees in the state, respected by educational employees, the legislature, parents, the business community and all Texans.

As a “public education authority” in Texas, it proactively addresses instructional issues. As the “voice” of public school educators, it champions the best possible economic and working conditions for public education employees. As the “exclusive representative” at the local level, TSTA affiliates are the organization “at the table,” officially representing all educators in the district.

As with other professionals, educators govern their own profession, establishing the standards and process by which decisions are made about who enters and remains in the profession. They participate as equal partners in making the educational decisions that affect Texas classrooms, schools, districts and the state’s public education system.

Texas educators (teachers, educational support professionals, administrators and higher education faculty) are active and engaged in the political process at all levels because they understand the connection between political engagement and power and the decisions made which affect their personal and professional lives. Not only do at least 90 percent of educators vote but they participate in the electoral and legislative process, modeling civic engagement for students, parents and the community.

Texas has the systems, structures and resources that produce the optimal environments so that teachers and higher education faculty can teach; educational support professionals can contribute to the teaching and learning process; and students can learn. Texas has a balanced tax system that produces adequate revenue for all public services, leading to adequate and equitable funding for Texas public schools and institutions of higher learning with public money used only for public purposes. Texas has an accountability system for students, educators, schools and districts that is effective and understood by all stakeholders, including practitioners and parents.

In partnership with the other educational stakeholders, TSTA has spearheaded the creation of Texas’ public education system, which is a “model” for public education systems in the country, that meets the educational needs of all students collectively and each individual student; provides the finest, professional economic and working conditions for all public education employees; and serves the interests of all Texans.