



## Agenda

### Thursday, July 9

9 am                    **Tech Check**  
12 pm                   **Tech Check**

1 - 2 pm                **Let's Make Lemonade! Progress in the Time of COVID-19**  
*Dr. Frances Stetson, Stetson & Associates, Inc.*

It is a long belief that when truly difficult times arrives, it offers savvy leaders the opportunity to reconsider – reimagine – and revitalize our processes and results. This is particularly true as we all face COVID-10 and its challenges. There truly are opportunities to rethink our delivery and we will look back on this time as one of personal and professional trials and undiscovered gifts! Leadership 2020!!!! As Winston Churchill said, “Never let a good crisis go to waste!”

### Monday, July 13

7:30 am                **Tech Check**

8:15 am                **Exhibitor Breakout Room**

9 - 10:30 am        **Opening Keynote: Habits of Resilient Leaders**  
*Anne Grady, Anne Grady Group*  
*Sponsored by MSB School Services*

We are living in an unprecedented time. The ability to embrace uncertainty, navigate ambiguity, and use adversity as a tool for growth are the new leadership currency and the fastest path to resilience. We often think of resilience as something you realize after a challenge or difficult event, but the truth is, resilience is built in times like these. Resilient leaders have teams with higher productivity, greater team well-being, higher levels of engagement, and better student outcomes. Fortunately, resilience is a set of habits, skills, and behaviors that can be cultivated. Learn to proactively manage stress, harness the power of emotional intelligence, and create a growth mindset culture so that you and your team may not only survive challenging times, but get stronger as a result.

**10:30 – 11 am**

**Break and Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

**11 – 12 pm**

**General Session: A Conversation with Education Commissioner Mike Morath**

*Sponsored by Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo & Kyle, PC*

Join Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath as he shares agency initiatives for public education in Texas and plans for the 2020-2021 school year. Commissioner Morath will also talk about changes to local education agencies in the wake of the corona virus pandemic and his vision for special education in Texas. If time permits, he will answer questions from participants.

**12 - 1:30 pm**

**Lunch with Friends**

Join us for guided conversations that focus on a hot topic. Learn from each other as everyone offers guidance and their strategies for navigating these challenging times.

**1:30 – 2:30 pm**

**General Session – Legal Panel: COVID 19 Compensatory Services**

*Paula Maddox Roalson, Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo & Kyle P.C., Jose Martín, Richards Lindsay & Martín, LLP, Jessica Witte, Thompson & Horton, LLP*

*Sponsored by SuccessEd*

Due to the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, school districts all around the country were forced to suspend normal school operations. Special educators went into high gear to ensure students received specialized services.

It is true that districts have been unable to provide some of the special education services in students' IEPs. So, what now? This session will feature attorneys from several Texas law firms as they discuss and offer guidance on services for students with disabilities in light of COVID 19.

**2:45 pm**

**Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

**5 – 6 pm**

**Social Hour**

A vital key to the event are the connections you make with people who do what you do. Take a break and join us later in the day to mix and mingle with other attendees in virtual breakouts.

## Tuesday, July 14

8:15 am **Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

9 – 10 am **General Session: State of the State**

*Dr. Justin Porter, Texas Education Agency*

*Sponsored by TASB Special Education & Student Solutions*

Join Dr. Justin Porter, state director for special education at TEA, as he shares the latest updates on the state of special education in Texas. Topics covered will include the state's COVID-19 response and TEA resources, technical assistance networks and the state's standing with the U.S. Department of Education.

10 – 10:30 am **Break and Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

10:30 – 11:30 **General Session: There Are No Experts Here**

*Cindy Moses, ESC Region 9, Audrey Ash, Burkburnett ISD, Krista Garcia, Northside ISD, Kathy Hutchinson, South Plains Educational Co-op, Dr.*

*Michael Webb, Tomball ISD*

*Sponsored by empowER*

We have no experience with so many of the things we are currently doing. Join a panel of Texas special education directors as they talk about what they have learned, in what ways they have experienced failure and what they are doing with the lessons learned. Have they managed to find a seat at the table when district decisions are made? What were some of the positive outcomes that were unexpected? Did new allies emerge? What will be the biggest challenges as we move into the next stage?

11:30 – 1 pm **Lunch with Friends**

*What Special Education Will Look Like in the Fall*

Grab your lunch and join us as we break into groups to talk about what special education might look like in the fall. What are the scenarios that special education leaders need to be prepared for?

1 – 2 pm **Learning Labs**

## Wednesday, July 15

8:15 am **Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

8:45 – 9:30 am **General Session: The 180 before the 140, Part 1**

*Moderator: Kristin McGuire, TCASE*

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many 180 degree shifts in thinking and priorities as we prepare for the 140-day Texas legislative session in January 2021. Join us for this first of two dynamic panels with education policy experts as we focus on the financial forecast of the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature and beyond.

The panel will discuss questions like:

- Will there be significant public education funding cuts?
- How much financial support will Texas receive from the federal government, and where will it be spent?
- Does helping every student succeed really mean every student?
- What are the equity issues that Texans face in education?
- How has HB 3 impacted property taxes?

Organizations scheduled to join the first panel are:

Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP)

Raise Your Hand Texas (RYHT)

The Equity Center

Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO)

**9:30 – 9:45 am**

**Break and Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

**9:45 – 10:30 am**

**General Session, The 180 before the 140, Part II**

*Moderator: Kristin McGuire, TCASE*

Now that we've addressed the elephant in the room that is finance, join us for Part 2 of The 180 before the 140 to focus on education policy priorities ahead of the 140-day legislative session.

The second panel will discuss questions like:

- How should education advocates begin to prioritize their asks of the legislature?
- How will public school employees, including those who are not classroom teachers, be impacted this session?
- Is the critical role of Texas teachers and importance of school buildings finally fully recognized by lawmakers because of the health crisis, and will that translate into future legislation?
- Will anti-public education groups use this pandemic as an opportunity to promote vouchers and other harmful practices that increase inequity?

Organizations scheduled to join the second panel are:

Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA)

Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA)  
Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)  
Texas Teachers Classroom Association (TCTA)

**10:30 – 10:45 am      Break and Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**

**10:45 – 11:45 am      Learning Labs**

**1 pm                      Exhibitor Breakout Rooms**