2023 TRS Board At-Large Election Candidates





Rashad Muhammad, Crowley ISD Student Services Director

Prior to his current role, he was an administrator for 12 years, all in Crowley ISD. He and his wife of 17 years, Nirvanna, are the proud parents of 3 children. He is a graduate of Bethune-Cookman University and obtained his MS from Nova Southeastern University. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Not only is he certified as a superintendent, he is also a seasoned Texas REALTOR®. Additionally, he holds memberships in TASA, AASA, NABSE, TABSE, and FWAABSE. RashadForTRS@gmail.com



Lynn Graves, Retired AD/Coach

Lynn coached for 42 yrs in our ISD's and University Systems, retired to his hometown, Carthage. Lynn received scholarship to SFA, remained as graduate assistant receiving his BS and Masters in Education, District/ State honors, State championship, Advanced to NCAA Nationals, Coach of Year HS/NCAA, served THSCA All Star Committee 4 yrs, professional memberships THSCA, NCAA, Hall of Fame Carthage and SFA. Married to Darline 59 years with 3 children also educators. Lynn loves bass fishing, outside work, politics and active in the Baptist Church. https://linearchampionships.nchi/



Laronda Graf, Atlanta ISD Director of Human Resources

Laronda Graf earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Texas A&M University - Texarkana, and holds school business and human resources certifications from TASBO and AASPA. She comes from a family of Texas educators and is in the twentieth year of her career in school roles including Director of Finance and Special Programs, Child Nutrition Comptroller, and Director of Human Resources. Laronda has served in officer and advisory roles for various committees and organizations. She has longstanding, in-depth knowledge of TRS both as a member and as a school business official. lgraf@atlisd.net



Kristi McAlexander Grant, Director of Payroll, Katy ISD

Kristi has been Payroll Director at Katy ISD for fourteen years. Born and raised in Lubbock, she graduated from Texas Tech with a BBA in Finance. Her family is rooted in education. Her mother, Sue, is a retired teacher/diagnostician and her father, Walt, was a sports writer, Sports Information Director at Lubbock Christian University and on the SID staff at Texas Tech. She is an active TASBO member, participating in the Payroll Mentor program, assisting in payroll boot camps, and presents on topics at TASBO's annual conventions. She is the mother of three sons. KristiGrant@katyisd.org



Phyllis Ruffin, Retired Educator

A proud graduate of Texas Southern and Carver High School in Aldine ISD, Phyllis Ruffin has nearly two decades of experience working in Houston area public schools. Phyllis began her career in the financial sector as a mortgage banker, but a family member inspired her to pursue a career in education. As a Behavior Interventionist in Alief ISD, Phyllis was incredibly dedicated to her students. Phyllis is the proud single mother of an Alief ISD graduate. Phyllis retired from her career as a public educator 10 years ago and now is an active volunteer with her church and NAACP.