

**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE  
2026 MEDIA HONOR ROLL**

For Release: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

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**Local Journalist Recognized Statewide for Excellence in Public Education Reporting**

(Austin) — \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of honoree*) of the \_\_\_\_\_ (*media outlet*) was named to the 2026 Media Honor Roll by \_\_\_\_\_ (*district*), as part of a recognition program held by the Texas Association of School Boards ([TASB](#)). The Media Honor Roll recognizes journalists across Texas for fair, accurate, and balanced reporting on public education news. Honorees represent newspapers, radio, television stations, and digital outlets recognized by their local school districts.

District selection criteria include the journalist’s efforts to build meaningful relationships with the superintendent, board president, and district leadership, as well as showing their commitment to regularly engaging with the district through campus visits and event coverage.

“Public schools are the heart of our communities, and it’s important to share what’s happening in classrooms and boardrooms,” said TASB Executive Director Dan Troxell. “When journalists take the time to get to know our schools and school leaders, they are better able to inform and update with accuracy and context.”

TASB President Tony Hopkins, Friendswood ISD board president, said the TASB Media Honor Roll program highlights the important role media plays in building trust and strengthening community support.

“This award highlights the contributions of journalists in communities across Texas,” Hopkins said. “We appreciate when reporters attend school board meetings and district events because it’s an important way to keep communities engaged with their local schools. Across the state, local media remains a vital source of information on district initiatives and student success.”

To honor their local journalists, school boards were encouraged to pass a formal resolution and present a personalized certificate to their nominee.

For more information about the TASB Media Honor Roll, visit the [TASB website](#).

TASB is a nonprofit organization established in 1949 to serve local Texas school boards. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent serve more than 5.5 million public school students.

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