

Fund Members' Conference 2026

April 26-28

Kalahari Resorts and Conventions, Round Rock, Texas



Agenda

Sunday, April 26				
3-6 p.m.	Badge Pick-up <i>Registration F</i>			
4-5 p.m.	First-Time Attendee Orientation <i>Nile</i>			
5-7 p.m.	Welcome Networking Reception <i>Kalahari Event Barn/Lawn</i>			
Monday, April 27				
7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Badge Pick-up <i>Registration F</i>			
7-9 a.m.	Breakfast, <i>Kalahari Ballroom Foyer</i>			
8-9:45 a.m.	Welcome General Session: Welcome and Keynote Speaker, Joel Zeff, <i>Kalahari Ballroom</i>			
9:45 a.m.-5 p.m.	TASB Resource Row and Exhibitors’ Expo <i>Salon E Foyer</i>			
Education Sessions				
10-11 a.m.	Risk Pooling, Risk Financing & Underwriting 101	Addressing Misconduct from Incident to Resolution	The Benefits of Fund Membership: No-Cost Online Training	Breach Response: You're Only as Good as Your Last Tabletop
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Workers’ Compensation Made Simple	Partnering with First Responders for Safer Schools	An Insider's Tips for Managing Unemployment Claims (Repeat session)	Bus Safety Beyond the Driver’s Seat
12:30-1:45 p.m.	Membership Luncheon and Managing Risk in an Evolving Regulatory Environment <i>Kalahari Ballroom</i>			
Monday Afternoon Education Sessions				
2-3 p.m.	Property Resilience: Protecting School Facilities from Extreme Weather Events	Simulated Reunification Tabletop Exercise	An Insider's Tips for Managing Unemployment Claims*	Turning Your Claims Data into Actionable Insights
3:15-3:45 p.m. (fast-track sessions)	Introduction to Enterprise Risk Management	Cybercriminals Attacked. Now What?	Excellence Award Member Spotlight	Excellence Award Member Spotlight



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4-5 p.m.	Demystifying the Texas Tort Claims Act and School Immunity	Close Calls, Real Solutions: The Power of Near Miss Reporting	Game Night to Graduation: Keeping School Events Safe and Secure	Spotting Risk in Real Time
6-8 pm.	Member Awards Dinner <i>Kalahari Ballroom</i>			

Tuesday, April 28				
7:30-11:15 a.m.	Badge Pick-up <i>Registration F</i>			
7-9 a.m.	Breakfast, <i>Kalahari Ballroom Foyer</i>			
8-9:30 a.m.	Welcome General Session: Welcome and Keynote Speaker, Devon Harris, <i>Kalahari Ballroom</i>			
Education Sessions				
9:45-10:45 a.m.	Before the Breach: A Proactive Path to Cyber Resilience for Schools	Leave Management and Return-to-Work Roundtable	What Does a Risk-Ready Culture Look Like?	Connecting the Dots Between Behavior and Workplace Injuries
10:45-11:15 a.m.	Announcements, Coverage Credit Raffle, and Closing <i>Kalahari Ballroom</i>			



Educational Session Descriptions

Fund Members' Conference includes over 20 educational sessions led by TASB staff and other experts. The sessions cover a variety of topics, including risk pooling fundamentals, Fund coverage basics, emerging risk trends, and effective risk management strategies.

Monday, April 27

10-11 a.m.

Risk Pooling, Risk Financing & Underwriting 101

Texas public schools have options when securing coverage: self-insure, purchase a traditional insurance policy, or collectively self-insure by joining a risk pool such as the Fund. Attendees will leave with tools for making smart, compliant, budget-aware decisions their board and community will support.

Addressing Misconduct from Incident to Resolution

Misconduct isn't just a policy problem. It's a people, process, and documentation problem. This session provides a playbook for addressing employee and student misconduct compliantly, consistently, and compassionately. Attendees will learn how to document misconduct, involve the right stakeholders, and de-escalate situations.

The Benefits of Fund Membership: No-Cost Online Training

Employees can be among every school's strongest defense against risk, but training can be costly and time-consuming. Fund members benefit from a suite of online, interactive employee training courses through the PublicSchoolWORKS learning management system (LMS). Get acquainted with your new LMS and see how it can help streamline training, track completion, and ensure compliance.

Breach Response: You're Only as Good as Your Last Tabletop

State law requires schools to maintain a cybersecurity plan. Practice transforms plans from words on a page into confident staff who know exactly what to do when a breach happens. Participants will walk through a realistic breach and practice developing key messages, communicating with the media, and making critical decisions under pressure.

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11-15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Workers' Compensation Made Simple

Workers' compensation is a heavily regulated coverage including important responsibilities for employers. This session shares strategies for complying with state requirements, returning injured employees to productive work, and harnessing the collective expertise of TASB staff and health care providers to resolve claims efficiently and cost-effectively.

Partnering with First Responders for Safer Schools

Strong emergency response plans thrive on meaningful partnerships between schools and law enforcement, fire departments, and EMS. Participants will learn how to develop joint training plans and communication protocols, ensuring stakeholders are prepared and aligned. The session will also highlight ways to leverage shared resources and coordinate a unified response.

An Insider's Tips for Managing Unemployment Claims

Unemployment claims can have a significant financial impact if not managed effectively. This session equips attendees to navigate the unemployment eligibility and claims process confidently. Participants will learn best practices for documentation and communication to support claim decisions and discover proactive strategies to reduce costs.

Bus Safety Beyond the Driver's Seat

When talk turns to school bus safety, we naturally focus on human behavior: Do drivers avoid distractions, steer clear of flooded roads, and maintain a safe following distance? But fleet safety is not just about what drivers do (or don't do). This session explores comprehensive safety protocols for school transportation, including regulatory compliance, driver training, preventive maintenance, and cross-team coordination.

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12:30-1:45 p.m.

Managing Risk in an Evolving Regulatory Environment

A panel of legal and compliance professionals will explore the evolving landscape of education laws and regulations affecting Texas K–12 schools and community colleges. From new mandates on cell phone use and reporting abuse to curriculum changes and school governance, this session will help district leaders prioritize strategies to address potential compliance pitfalls.

2-3 p.m.

Property Resilience:

Protecting School Facilities from Extreme Weather Events

Burst pipes, flooded gym floors, and hail-hammered roofs have the power to compromise school budgets and disrupt education. Discover practical strategies for safeguarding school facilities against severe weather. This session will explore facility design considerations, preventive maintenance programs, and coverage coordination to help control downtime and repair costs.

Simulated Reunification Tabletop Exercises

During an emergency, nothing is more important to families than getting their children home safely. How do you establish expectations, manage emotions, and keep stakeholders informed along the way? Participants will put their reunification plan to the test during this tabletop exercise, capturing lessons learned and updating their plan to ensure students and families are reunited efficiently.

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Turning Your Claims Data into Actionable Insights

When it comes to managing risk, what gets measured gets done. But which claims metrics matter? And how do you manage all that data without drowning in spreadsheets? Join your peers and glean insights for leveraging data to drive strategic risk management decisions.

3-15-3:45 p.m.

Introduction to Enterprise Risk Management

School custodial teams face different risks than teachers. The same goes for maintenance staff and bus drivers. Enterprise risk management (ERM) breaks down silos among departments and replaces them with a collaborative approach to managing risk across the organization. Join this session and learn the fundamentals of ERM and how to integrate it into strategic planning.

Cybercriminals Attacked. Now What?

When cybercriminals attack schools, a swift response is critical to controlling the impact. This session provides a simple checklist for the first 48 hours after an incident. Topics include evidence preservation, legal and insurance notifications, vendor coordination, and clear communication with staff and families. Attendees will leave with a plain-language playbook for returning to normal operations quickly and cost-effectively.

4-5 p.m.

Demystifying the Texas Tort Claims Act and School Immunity

If understanding Texas immunity law feels like navigating a maze, this session is your roadmap. Presenters will demystify the Texas Tort Claims Act, clarify when governmental immunity is waived, and explain the implications for claims, defenses, and school budgets. Attendees will glean actionable tips that help prepare and protect schools.

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Close Calls, Real Solutions: The Power of Near Miss Reporting

A teacher sidesteps a wet spot on the cafeteria floor. A bus driver looks up just in time to avoid rear-ending another vehicle. Near misses are warnings that offer valuable improvement opportunities. This session introduces a simple, no-blame reporting habit that helps teams turn close calls into quick fixes, smarter training, and safer workplaces.

Game Night to Graduation: Keeping School Events Safe and Secure

Ball games, concerts, dances, and graduations bring big crowds and unique risks. With fewer staff, more open doors, and guests unfamiliar with district procedures, even the strongest security plans can be tested. This session offers straightforward strategies for managing after-hours events and addressing challenges like medical emergencies, severe weather, fights, and lockdowns.

Spotting Risk in Real Time

As staff and students navigate the day, risk is all around: cluttered walkways, blocked emergency exits, overloaded electrical circuits. Join this interactive session and learn to identify, document, and control risks in real time. Attendees will also glean tips for strengthening collaboration between operations, maintenance, and risk management teams.

Tuesday, April 28

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Before the Breach: A Proactive Path to Cyber Resilience for Schools

A cyber breach is not the time to discover gaps in your defenses. Presenters will pinpoint common attack paths and demonstrate how proactive policies, controls, and staff merge to strengthen schools in a constantly evolving cyber risk landscape.

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Leave Management and Return-to-Work Roundtable

Return-to-work and employee leave rules often collide. This roundtable addresses the gray areas with practical solutions. Attendees will share their challenges, learn what's working for their peers, and tackle tough scenarios—including coordination with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Family Leave and Medical Act.

What Does a Risk-Ready Culture Look Like?

Do your teachers take time to find a ladder instead of standing on a desk? Do business office staff forward "phishy" emails to your IT team instead of trusting the sender's intentions? Think of a risk-ready culture as the things employees do when nobody's watching. This session will share insights on cultivating a culture in which employees choose the safe path even if it's not the easiest path.

Connecting the Dots Between Behavior and Workplace Injuries

Safer workplaces start with what employees do (and don't do) on the job. This session introduces three practical steps to reduce injury risks: identify unsafe behavior, uncover why they happen, and implement solutions that make them unnecessary. You will leave better equipped to promote behaviors that keep employees safe every day.