

Superintendents,

Below is the summary debrief of the TEA Monthly Superintendent call that took place on September 17, 2026:

Posted recently on tea.texas.gov & <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-educators/superintendents>

9/17/26 Call Agenda:

- **Social Studies Personal Financial Literacy Graduation Requirements**
 - HB 27 amended the Foundation High School Program social studies graduation requirements for students entering grade 9 in the 2026–2027 school year.
 - TAA (9/17): [Updates to High School Social Studies Personal Financial Literacy Graduation Requirements](#)
 - [Social Studies Personal Financial Literacy Graduation Requirements \(HB27\)](#) (PDF), Published September 17, 2026
 - For questions regarding the social studies graduation requirements or required course offerings, please contact the Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division through the [TEA Help Desk](#).
- **Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnerships Program (PREP) Allotment**
 - [PREP Program Allotment](#) (PDF), Published September 17, 2026
 - [PREP Webpage](#)
 - For questions contact the [PREP Support Portal](#).
- **LASO Cycle 5**
 - TAA (9/3): [LASO 26-27 \(Cycle 5\) Application Opens September 23, 2026](#)
 - LASO Cycle 5 Application opens **September 23, 2026 and closes December 1, 2026** at 5:00PM CT. Estimated Award Announcement will take place in February 2027. Estimated NOGA Release is March-May 2027.
 - [LASO Cycle 5 Webpage](#)
 - Please direct questions about LASO 2026–2027 (Cycle 5) to LASO@tea.texas.gov.
- **Parent Access to Supplemental Supports (PASS)**
 - Parent Access to Supplemental Supports (PASS) applications, established under House Bill 2 in the 89th Legislature, are now open. PASS accounts are available for students who received a score of “Did Not Meet Grade Level” on the grade 3 Reading Language Arts (RLA) STAAR assessment beginning in spring 2026. Through PASS, eligible families receive a \$400 account to purchase literacy tutoring services from TEA-approved providers, including brick-and-mortar tutors, virtual tutors, or approved educators like TIA-designated teachers or Certified Academic Language Therapists.

- **Parents of eligible students can start the process today** by creating an account on the [PASS website](#). School systems are required to notify families of eligible students about this opportunity, and TEA has made several resources available to support outreach.
- TAA (9/17): [Parent Access to Supplemental Supports Grant Now Open](#)
- [Parent Access to Supplemental Supports](#) (PDF), Published September 17, 2026
- [PASS Webpage](#)
- For PASS questions, contact passhelp@region10.org or 1-800-656-4199

- **Special Education Performance Diagnostic (SPD) and Other Special Education Updates**
 - The Special Education Performance Diagnostic (SPD) provides school systems with a framework for understanding the overall health of their special education systems.
 - [Special Education Performance Diagnostic \(SPD\) and Other Special Education Updates](#) (PDF), Published September 17, 2026
 - Next Steps:
 - [SPD Introduction Video](#) (1 min)
 - In partnership with ESCs, TEA is hosting in-person and virtual SPD training opportunities between September 2026 and January 2027. [Special Education Performance Diagnostic \(SPD\) School Systems Lead Training](#)
 - Each school system will designate at least one representative with decision-making authority to complete the required one-day training and lead the self-assessment process within their school system team.
 - TAA (8/6): [Special Education Performance Diagnostic and Transition of Self-Assessment Requirements](#)
 - For more information, please review the resources within the [SPD collection](#) found on the [Texas SPED Support website](#). If you have questions concerning the SPD, please email spd@tea.texas.gov.

- **Celebrate America's 250th all year long and Celebrate Freedom Week**
 - Each year, during the week that includes September 17, Texas schools honor Celebrate Freedom Week to highlight the values and ideals on which the United States was founded as well as the sacrifices that were made for freedom in the founding of the country. Materials are available to continue supporting civics education and to celebrate America's 250th all year long.
 - [Celebrate Freedom Week Webpage](#)
 - [Celebrate Freedom Week Social Media Toolkit](#)
 - [Remarks from Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott](#)
 - [Civics Training Primary Source Library](#)

- **Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month - October**
 - [Texas Government Code, §662.116](#), establishes the month of October as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month to increase awareness of the dangers of fentanyl and potential overdoses.
 - Students and families need to know that other drugs may contain a deadly level of fentanyl.
 - **Fentanyl Awareness Week: October 11-17, 2026**
 - TAA (9/17): [2026 Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month](#)
 - [Fentanyl Response Communications Toolkit](#)
 - For questions, please email healthandsafety@tea.texas.gov or call the Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division at 512-463-9581.

- **Next Call: Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 3:00 PM**

- Superintendents, to receive monthly call reminders via email, please update your information via AskTED. If you are not receiving call reminder emails, please check your Gov Delivery subscriptions or connect with your ESC or TEA for support with AskTED.