

Texas Bandmasters Association

2018-19 Board of Directors

**John Morrison
President**

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
10300 Jones Road, Suite 724
Houston, TX 77065
281-897-4042
john.morrison@cfisd.net

**Phillip Clements
President Elect**

Texas A&M University-Commerce
P.O. Box 3011
Commerce, TX 75429
903-886-5285
phillip.clements@tamuc.edu

**Roland Sandoval
Vice President**

The University of Texas-San Antonio
1 UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249
210-458-4868
Roland.Sandoval@utsa.edu

**Daniel Allen
Treasurer**

Franklin High School
900 N. Resler
El Paso, TX 79912
915-236-2266
dallenep@aol.com

**George Little
Secretary**

Lufkin High School
309 South Medford Drive
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-630-4134
glittle@lufkinisd.org

**Reagan Brumley
Sergeant at Arms**

Highland Park High School
4220 Emerson
Dallas, TX 75205
214-780-3737
brumler@hpsisd.org

**Chico Portillo
Past President**

1412 Tamar Lane
Austin, TX 78727
512-796-9596
portillo.chico@gmail.com

**Michael Brashear
Executive Director**

Texas Bandmasters Association
1002 Central Parkway South
San Antonio, TX 78232
210-492-8878
mbrashear@texasbandmasters.org

Back To School

John Morrison, 2018-19 TBA President



Welcome back! School is in full swing, your halftime shows are beginning to take shape and beginners will soon be filling your band halls with the ever popular “Hot Cross Buns”. Now is the time to mark your calendars to join us for #TBA2019 on July 25-27, 2019. Highlights for #TBA2019 will include Featured Clinician Jerry Junkin from the Dallas Winds and The University of Texas at Austin, Featured Composer John Mackey, the U.S. Army Field Band from Washington D.C. and The Boston Brass. You can also count on a fantastic lineup of clinics and performances as well as the ever-popular Student Day and College Track offerings. Please visit the TBA website if you have a clinic or clinician recommendation. We’d love to hear from you!

There was no beginning, middle and ending to a school year like there was for 2017-2018. As I write my article this month it was exactly one year ago that my community, and many of yours, was in full recovery mode from Hurricane Harvey. The call to serve was answered by many and while several of you are still putting the pieces back together, many are back to their routines. Spring Break of 2018 had us glued to the news of the Channelview

High School Band bus accident on their return to Texas from

a band trip to Disney World. While it appears that the accident was the result of a medical emergency that ultimately took the life of the bus driver, the healing within that community has been

ongoing. The story of band directors Shane Goforth of North Shore HS and Kevin Knight of Crosby HS pulling together to take the Channelview top band to UIL C&SR while the director was recovering from injuries sustained during the accident, were inspiring. Finally, the tragedy of the school shootings at Santa Fe High School at the end of the year shook many of us to our core. The mere idea that instruments would need to be borrowed from surrounding schools to even be able to provide a band with

instruments for their own graduation ceremonies is unimaginable. Can you imagine your band hall taped off like a crime scene? Santa Fe’s was!

Fast forward to the start of school for 2018 and what do we come back to? New guidelines, policies, practices designed to create a “safer” school environment. Metal

If ever there was any advice for me to give my peers, it would be to “stay the course” and continue to provide for your community what they desire most—a quality band experience. Your ability to press forward and provide a place for students to connect with each other and build a skill as a musician is a necessary component for us to make progress as a society.

Back To School

detectors are more present, security vestibules are being built at the fronts of schools to check in visitors, doors are locked more than ever and constantly checked to see that they remain locked and schools are now holding active shooter drills. Clear backpacks for school children and clear bag policies for athletic stadiums are also now the norm. To think that I was at a meeting recently to discuss typical logistics for hosting UIL marching band contest, and we had to come up with a plan for how to enforce these clear bag policies for a marching band contest. This conversation about school and student safety summed up many of our first two weeks of school.

I hope that our students continue to find that their schools, and most especially their band halls, will always be a “safe” place for them. If ever there was any advice for

me to give my peers, it would be to “stay the course” and continue to provide for your community what they desire most; a quality band experience. Your ability to press forward and provide a place for students to connect with each other and build a skill as a musician is a necessary component for us to make progress as a society. One thing that hasn’t changed over time is the healing power of music. The ability for us to pass on that deeper appreciation of music through our lessons and our “lessons” in the band hall that will ensure that we continue to teach empathy for others and drives us to be more compassionate community members. Be the difference!

All my best for an “extra ordinary” 2018-2019 school year!