

**TAMS**  
**Texas Association**  
**of Music Schools**

**Advocacy and Governmental Affairs Commission**  
**Report 1/29/23**  
**Following the 2023 Annual Meeting**

**Members Present:**

- Eric Branscome, Texas A&M University-Commerce (Commission Chair)
- Camille Nies, Amarillo College (Commission Member)
- Douglas Lockhart (East Texas Baptist University)
- Cynthia Bridges (Del Mar College)

**Topics Discussed:**

- Function and purpose: The committee discussed any additional possible functions of the commission in addition to the regular report
- Report: The commission discussed the frequency of the report. Moving forward, the goal will be a report once a month unless there are topics that need to be shared or disseminated with more urgency.
- Transferability and Field of Study: Pending ongoing discussion in legislature
- TAMS Website: Ideas to make the TAMS website more of a regular tool/resource for members.
- Funding & Budgets: General discussion on departmental funding
- TEA, teacher credentialing: edTPA was voted down but discussions are still pending on the possibility of a Texas-version of the edTPA
- Dual Credit: Impact of students coming to college with 18-24 (or more) dual credits, resulting in 18 year-olds in junior-level classes.

**TAMS website links that need to be updated**

**Government: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)**

Should be: <https://www.highered.texas.gov/>

**Government: THECB Proposed Rules**

Should be: <https://www.highered.texas.gov/about/administrative/rules-statutes/>

**Government: THECB Undergraduate Academic Course Guide Manual**

Should be: <https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/guidelines-manuals/lower-division-academic-course-guide-manual-spring-2020/>

**Professional Organization: Texas Coalition for Quality Arts Education (TCQAE)**

Should be <https://www.tcqae.net/>

**Accreditation: Council for the Accrediation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)**

Should be <https://caepnet.org/>