

TAMS
Texas Association
of Music Schools

Advocacy and Governmental Affairs Commission
Report 2/1/2024
Following the 2024 Annual Meeting

Members Present:

- Eric Branscome, Texas A&M University-Commerce (Commission Chair)
- Camille Nies, Amarillo College (Commission Member)
- Gene Dowdy, Schreiner University (Commission Member)
- Shane Anderson, Austin Community College

Topics Discussed:

- Recent call to abolish the Texas Education Agency
https://thetexan.news/elections/2024/lawmaker-who-rejected-school-choice-proposes-abolishing-texas-education-agency/article_cfc71e42-bc6f-11ee-b9f3-53351aeb8e3f.html
- Ongoing conversations about the implementation of edTPA (TxTPA) currently in development
- Proposed changes to student teacher observations (email that Matthew McInturf sent to the TMEA College Division and that Eric Branscome forwarded to TAMS membership)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) impacting arts and arts education
- The need for the AGA commission to ensure our efforts address all aspects of music. The membership discussed that much of the recent year's agenda has prioritized music education, possibly at the neglect of other areas of study.
- Increasing numbers of high school students graduating with AA degrees, impacting enrollment and advising in 2-year schools and the eventual impact on 4-year schools
- Two-year schools tracking employment of music performers who may pursue positions as private lessons instructors and/or marching band techs in multiple campuses, thereby giving a false impression that they "did not get a job."