



TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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New TSTA president, vice president take office

President Noel Candelaria and Vice President Ovidia Molina, the new leadership team for the Texas State Teachers Association, took office today, following their elections by delegates to TSTA's annual state convention in April. Each was elected to a three-year term.

Candelaria, TSTA vice president since July 2011, worked as a special education teacher in the Ysleta Independent School District in El Paso, where he served as president of the Ysleta Teachers Association and TSTA regional president before being elected TSTA vice president.

He succeeds Rita Haecker, who was term-limited after serving two three-year terms as TSTA president.

"I welcome this opportunity to organize thousands of great Texas educators in an unyielding effort to make sure all students have the opportunity to attend a great school that prepares them well for college and the work force," Candelaria said. "Our teachers and support staff understand the challenges we face every day in our classrooms and on our campuses, and we must make our voices heard, from our communities and local school boards to our state and national Capitols."

"TSTA leaders and members value the support we receive from parents and community leaders who share our commitment to public education, and we look forward to working with them in the effort to give every child an opportunity to succeed," Candelaria added.

Molina has taught ESL and U.S. history at O'Donnell Middle School in the Alief Independent School District in Houston. She is a former president of Alief-TSTA/NEA and a former TSTA regional president.

"As TSTA Vice President, I will work to address the concerns educators and support staff must deal with as they work to overcome the difficulties caused by budget cuts, larger class sizes and standardized testing," Molina said. "I look forward to working side by side with TSTA members as we organize for excellence in the classroom and a bright future for our students."

TSTA is an affiliate of the National Education Association, a 3-million-member union of teachers, education support professionals and students planning to be educators.