

# Representation of School Boards and Administrators in Challenging Times

## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual School Law Conference

### Panelists:

Joy S. Baskin, TASB Policy and Legal Services

Cory S. Hartsfield, Cory Hartsfield, P.C.

Jarod Russell, Underwood Law Firm, P.C.

Jim Walsh, Walsh Gallegos Kyle Robinson & Roalson, P.C.



1

## Your Panelists

Jim Walsh, Walsh Gallegos Kyle Robinson & Roalson, P.C., Austin, TX

Joy Baskin, TASB Policy and Legal Services, Austin, TX

Jarod Russell, Underwood Law Firm, P.C., Amarillo, TX

Cory Hartsfield, Cory Hartsfield, P.C., Grapevine, TX

**\*\*This presentation should not be construed as legal advice. It is not a substitute for research or consultation with the State Bar of Texas.\*\***

2

2

# ROADMAP



GENERAL  
PRINCIPLES



SCENARIOS



PRACTICE TIPS

3

3

## School boards become battlegrounds for nation's divisions on race, gender and more

Jun 21, 2023 6:20 PM EDT

4

## Same Song . . . New Verse

- Divisions or splits within school boards are not new
- Reasons for divisions include:
  - Ideological differences
  - Interpersonal strife
  - Local political issues
- The infusion of national partisan political issues into local school boards is increasingly contributing to divisiveness

5

5

## Same Song . . . New Verse

- Research conducted by Ballotpedia found that school board elections have drawn increased attention from the media
- In the last three years, Ballotpedia identified 2,080 school board elections where candidates took a stance on at least one of the following issues:
  - Race in Education/Critical Race Theory
  - Responses to the coronavirus
  - Sex and gender in schools

6

6

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](https://utcle.org/elibrary)

## Title search: Representation of School Boards and Administrators in Challenging Times

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2024 School Law eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
39<sup>th</sup> Annual School Law Conference session

"Representation of School Boards and Administrators in Challenging Times "