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Former TEA Associate Commissioner joining TSTA legislative team

Lisa Dawn-Fisher, former chief school finance officer for the Texas Education Agency, will join the Texas State Teachers Association’s legislative advocacy team for the 2019 session, TSTA Public Affairs Director Portia Bosse announced.

“Few people know as much as Lisa does about Texas’ school finance system and how it must be improved,” Bosse said. “I am happy that she has agreed to work with TSTA for legislative priorities that will strengthen learning opportunities for students and provide more resources for educators, beginning with additional state funding for public education.”

Dawn-Fisher was Associate Commissioner for School Finance at TEA from October 2002 to April 2016. In that role, she worked with the commissioner, the State Board of Education, the governor, legislators and other elected officials on school finance issues. She was TEA’s chief spokesperson on school finance and an expert witness in legislative hearings and legal proceedings.

Dawn-Fisher was a program specialist for TEA from August 1997 to August 1998 and in that role administered the Instructional Facilities Allotment program, which provides state funding for school facilities.

She also has been an associate with the Moak, Casey & Associates school finance consulting firm and was a research intern at the Equity Center, where she conducted statewide research on public school facility needs.

More recently, Dawn-Fisher has been Chief Financial Officer for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction in Washington state. She also was Director of Planning and Budget for Evergreen State College.