

TCTELA SHOWS UP FOR TEXAS TEACHERS AT THE SBOE MEETING

On April 7, 2026, the Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts made its voice heard before the Texas State Board of Education at a pivotal moment in Texas education.

TCTELA President Markesha Tisby testified on behalf of the organization, joined by over 15 TCTELA members who provided oral or written testimony regarding the proposed literary works list — a list that, if finalized, will affect teaching, learning, materials, and assessment for nearly 400,000 K-12 teachers across Texas.

[The Texas Tribune covered the testimony, quoting President Tisby:](#)

"I believe that an acceptable list would be one that's created with teacher expertise, leaning on the strengths of everyone involved in this work. There's still time. There's no prize for making this decision quickly. We have time to build something great for our Texas students, and they deserve it."

The board gave preliminary approval to a revised list on April 10. The final vote is scheduled for June, and that means our work is not done.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special word of gratitude goes to Drs. Margaret Hale, Kim Pinkerton, and Diane Miller, TCTELA past presidents whose leadership, research expertise, and unwavering commitment to Texas teachers made this effort possible. Their work was at the heart of everything we brought to the board last week.

WHAT YOU CAN DO BEFORE JUNE

TCTELA will continue to monitor developments and advocate for educator-informed decision-making as the final vote approaches. We encourage every member to stay engaged:

- [Contact your SBOE member and share your classroom perspective](#)
- Stay informed as the revised list continues to evolve
- Watch for updates from TCTELA as we prepare for June

In June, nearly 400,000 Texas teachers are counting on us to see this through.