

**BROOK ROBERTS**  
**State Delegate Candidate: Texas**  
*Statement 1*

**What are your qualifications that make you a strong candidate for delegate?**

Firstly, thank you for taking the opportunity to read this response and consider electing me as the NASP Delegate for Texas for this term. To be honest, there is nothing special about me. I'm a regular LSSP that stumbled into school psychology one day and became determined to enjoy my job, contribute to the profession, and work tirelessly to make a difference for kids. I enjoy mentoring graduate students and early career professionals in the field, and do my best to learn more skills and obtain new knowledge along the way. I'm constantly learning about how other LSSP's practice and experience their jobs and strive to add new competencies to my practice during the journey. I hope you'll see that my motivation to become the Texas Delegate is rooted in my desire to represent and advocate for you.

**What is the most pressing issue in your state? As NASP Delegate, how do you see your role in working with your state association to address this issue?**

Not all of us have made it through these past few years and remained whole. It seems like morale among our peers and colleagues is at an all-time low. Major school districts across the state are making the news (and not for doing all of the great things they do). It's almost like we're practicing out of fear – in order to avoid making minor mistakes, and it has us nearly paralyzed. We've had major storms and flooding that have disrupted school years, significant school shooting crises, and are still hoping for some sort of post-quarantine normalcy. And many of us have experienced so much more adversity than this. The shortage issue doesn't seem to be improving and Texas' special education compliance situation and U.S. Dept. of Ed findings pushed our practice backwards by years!

But there is hope! We're going to model resiliency! With TASP's help, we're not going to let all of these situations discourage us and distract us from the incredibly important work we must do. We're going to keep pushing forward and we're going to make more headway. We're going to convince LSSP's that they have much more to offer our schools and communities than acting as testing machines. We're going to keep expanding our roles and we're going to convince school systems that their best shot at improving education in Texas is when they utilize their SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS effectively. Morale may be low for now, but we must inspire the next generation of LSSPs to keep working and keep fighting. We will make school psychology visible in Texas because our passion for the field and love for our students and their families is contagious!