Captain Mike Panebianco is the Vice President of the Southwest Airlines Pilots Association (SWAPA). In the fall of 2017, he was elected to serve a second consecutive two-year term as vice president for the 2018-2019 period.

As vice president and director of operations, Captain Panebianco is one of only three SWAPA board members elected at-large by the SWAPA membership. In addition to overseeing the association’s committees and professional staff, his responsibilities include assisting the association’s president in carrying out all duties necessary to conduct the association’s business of representing the pilots of Southwest Airlines.

Captain Panebianco was previously elected to serve on the SWAPA board of directors as the Baltimore (BWI) domicile representative for the 2015-2016 term. In mid-2015, due a resignation, Panebianco was designated to fill the unexpired term of vice president through the end of 2015. Then, in the fall of 2015, he was elected to serve his first full two-year term as vice president for the 2016-2017 period.

A Syracuse, New York native, Panebianco received a Bachelor of Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 1993.

Panebianco holds an FAA Airline Transport Pilot License with Boeing 737, Embraer 135/145 and ATR 42/72 type ratings.

Prior to joining Southwest Airlines in 2000, Panebianco began his flying career operating in the charter, corporate and commuter aviation sectors. He is currently based in Dallas (DAL).

Captain Panebianco lives in the Dallas area with his wife and his two school-age sons. In his spare time, he volunteers as a coach and mentor with counter-bullying efforts and conflict resolution programs to help individuals build interpersonal skills and self-protection abilities.