



The TESA CONNECTION

The Official Publication of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

Volume LXX, Number 1—Fall 2019

From The President

Greetings TESA Members,

Busses are rolling, bells are ringing, and students are scrambling to get to their classes. Yes, the beginning of school has started. Welcome everyone to the 2019-2020 school year.

It is a privilege and honor to serve as your 2019-2020 TESA President alongside the Executive Board, Committees, Mentors and Advisory Board. Our goal is for TESA to continue to grow financially, embrace change, and provide exemplary professional growth.

My theme, “TESA.....Mind, Seeds, Grow, Service”, was inspired by this quote...“Your mind is a garden, your thoughts are the seeds, you can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds.” (~Author unknown.)

I encourage each of you to grow your mind with seeds of self-development, and share the bounty with acts of service. As school begins, it's like a fresh start, a new beginning and your mind is like an open vase. As we start the year, let's all set a goal to begin growing our mind by taking a course, starting a project, or planting a garden. Soon you will be *filling that vase* with knowledge, culture, and wisdom.

Sharon Mena, TESA Vice-President, and her committee have embarked on a new adventure to create the *TESA Connection* newsletter without the use of a publishing company. I applaud their eagerness to take on the task of cost-savings for TESA. Becky Melendez, Member-At-Large (MAL)-Membership & Affiliates Chair, along with her committee have started to contact members and affiliates to submit their renewal paperwork and dues. Stacy Wright, MAL-Area Workshops and committee already have an Area Workshop scheduled in Tomball on December 7, 2019. Tomball Educational Support Staff Association (TESSA) will be hosting the Area Workshop so check the website for more information.

Beth Hindman, MAL-Nominations, Awards, Scholarship & Journalist Committee has the Volunteer Form ready for you to complete for the 2020-2021 year. Deadline is November 30, 2019. The STEM committee, led by Juliana Holmes, is setting up contracts with numerous districts willing to provide professional development. The Summer Work Conference (SWC) committee met the first of October and are busy *working up the gardens to plant seeds for a beautiful bounty* at the 2020 SWC in Bryan-College Station. I suggest each of you visit the award winning TESA website at www.tesatexas.org for all details of upcoming events, scholarship and awards information, STEM program certification or recertification requirements.

Felipe and I are here to help you grow to your full potential. Do not hesitate to contact us or anyone on the Executive Board for assistance.

In closing, I want to leave you with this quote, “Like wildflowers; you must allow yourself to grow in all the places people thought you never would.” (~E.V.) So, don't let the weeds grow under your feet, take the challenge, and fill that open vase with the most beautiful bounty of all.

Bunches of Love,
Marie Enax, TESA President 2019-2020



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Dates to Remember

Nov. 20 —TESA Connection Deadline (Winter Issue)
Nov. 25-29 —TESA Office Closed (Thanksgiving)
Nov. 30 —Deadline to Volunteer for TESA Officer or Serve On a Committee
Dec. 7 —Area Workshop in Tomball
Dec. 23-Jan. 3 —TESA Office Closed (Christmas Break)
Jan. 16 —TESA Connection Posted Online (Winter Issue)
Jan. 30 —TESA Connection Deadline (Winter Issue)
Feb. 15 —Online Voting Begins
Feb. 25 —Awards & Scholarship Applications Due
Mar. 1 —Online Voting Ends
Mar. 9-13 —TESA Office Closed (Spring Break)
Mar. 24 —TESA Connection Posted Online

Garland Educational Support Staff Association (GESSA)

By Julianna Holmes

We are well on our way in the 2019-2020 school year, and it is time to get Garland Educational Support Staff Association (GESSA) under way as well. Our theme for this year is "We are the key to our success." To me, it says we determine our own outcome in life. The same is true with any organization-to be only as strong as its members are and we determine how successful GESSA can and will be. It takes all of us working together to make a difference. We are looking forward to this year and our success stories, both large and small. We are going to continue the theme into our newsletter by incorporating personal and professional success stories from our members.

At Summer Work Conference (SWC) in Bryan in June, we were successful in bringing a large group of our members to learn, network, make friends and walk the stage to receive their Certified Educational Office Professional (CEOP) distinction. Each graduate was a true success story both professionally and personally. We also had the largest group in attendance at SWC. We were very excited to have all the GESSA attendees spreading the word to other members, sharing stories about the fun they had and encouraging them to attend the SWC 2020.

"We are the Key to Our Success."



GESSA members at 2019 Summer Work Conference

Message from the Editor

Sharon Mena, CEOP, CEOE – Texas A&M University

Howdy TESA members and friends!

Your TESA Connection committee is excited to deliver your news in a new format. We are pleased to create this newsletter without the help of professional services. The reason is two-fold. First and foremost, this will save TESA money. Secondly, our membership is committed to professional growth and this allows our committee to hone our skills in desktop publishing. Sherry Gray (San Jacinto College) and Rose Mesecher (Texas A&M University) have been working on this newsletter since August 1. I am confident you will appreciate their dedication and applaud this finished product.

Our newsletters this year will reflect President Marie Enax's theme of **Mind ~ Seeds ~ Grow ~ Service**. The theme we chose for this issue is *"Come and Grow with TESA."* You will see this theme woven throughout this issue. Many thanks to each of you who has contributed to this issue with your articles and photos. Our affiliates are doing amazing things.



TESA Connection Committee:

Sharon Mena, Sherry Gray, Rose Mesecher

I invite each of you to share your news with your TESA family. *Together we can come and grow with TESA!*

Submissions to the TESA Connection can be sent to sharonm@tamu.edu. The deadline for the next issue is **November 20, 2019**.

TESA

Purpose Statement

We the members of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc., hold that the primary purpose of the educational support staff association is to assist, as a team member, in developing citizens who will safeguard, strengthen and improve America. The TESA Connection is published four times a year – fall, winter, spring and summer. Member fees include four online issues of the association newsletter.

TESA Connection

If you wish to receive all four issues in print, you will need to sign up for an annual newsletter subscription in addition to your annual membership. Newsletter Annual Subscription is \$10. Send requests for subscription to: TESA Central Office, PO Box 11825, Killeen, TX 76547.

Please send information for the winter edition to:

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TESA Connection
Texas A&M University
1112 TAMU
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sharonm@tamu.edu
(979) 847-9360 office
(254) 205-2086 cell

Deadline for submissions for the next issue:
November 20, 2019

Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff Association (VESA) Kicks Off a New Year



VESA Officers (left to right); Mary Ann Gallegos, President; Martin Saenz, 1st Vice-President; Linda Chimely, 2nd Vice President; Maricela Cavazos, Secretary; Ofelia Barron, Treasurer

The Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff Association (VESA) held its first meeting of the year on September 12, 2019, at Weslaco ISD. We are off to a great start under new leadership. Our 2019-2020 Executive Board consists of: Mary Ann Gallegos, President, Harlingen CISD; Martin Saenz, 1st Vice-President, South Texas ISD; Linda Chimely, 2nd Vice President, Mercedes ISD; Maricela Cavazos, Secretary, Donna ISD; Ofelia Barron, Treasurer, Donna ISD and Julie Briseño, Parliamentarian, Rio Grande City CISD. This new board is ready to keep moving VESA forward. Various VESA members stepped up to chair some of our committees. Our Audit Committee Chair, Andrew Chew from Mercedes ISD; Banquet Committee Co-Chairs, Patty Garcia and Belia Solis, both from Weslaco ISD; Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs, Ofelia Barron and Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD; Scholarship Committee Chair, Sandra McMurtry, Retired, McAllen ISD; and the Publicity/Newsletter/Website Chair, Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD. This was a great start to the year showing that our members are willing to step up and do their part for VESA.

President Gallegos' message to us this month is: "As we start the new school year, let's take some time to reflect. With so many devastating things going on from natural disasters to what looks like is becoming a common occurrence, shootings in schools and shopping centers. Let's think about what we can do to help VESA stay strong. Let's think about how we can get involved.

Let's think about what we can do for our community. Let's think about how **WE** can make a difference. I encourage each and everyone to share any ideas. Together we can make a difference."

Throughout the year, we will be having various team building activities as well as different presentations being done at our monthly meetings. Presentations will vary from health related, safety, motivational and ideas to do our jobs better.

Members are encouraged to invite their colleagues to step out of their comfort zone and join VESA where they will not only make new friends, but continue their professional growth.

We look forward to what this year has to offer.



VESA officers at the start of the first meeting of the year



Julie Briseño,
Parliamentarian



Thank you Weslaco ISD VESA members for hosting our first meeting of the year. Pictured (left to right): Patty Garcia, Kathy Tijerina, and Belia Solis.

Lamar Consolidated Educational Support Staff Association (LCESA)



Lamar Consolidated Educational Support Staff Association kicked off the year with a Welcome Back Breakfast to greet and bring in both familiar faces and new members. Their theme this year “Yes You Can” is based on a passion project letting everyone know that you are good enough, you are worth it, and that yes you can! LCESA liaison, Dr. Kathleen Bowen, delivered the welcome message.

LCESA presented \$250 donations each to Common Threads and the Lamar Educational Awards Foundation.



Keynote speaker was our very own Marie Enax, 2019-2020 TESA President.

LCESA's 2019-2020 Theme: “Yes You Can!”



Secretary Karen Vacek and Treasurer Daysi Valencia ready to help with membership registration



“The right atmosphere allows potential leaders to bloom and grow.”
~John C. Maxwell



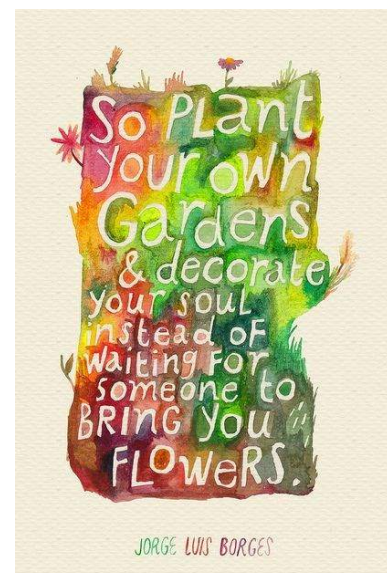
Donna French, Irene Salinas, Cris Cooper and Sandra Straub



SCENES
FROM
THE
LCESA
WELCOME
BACK
BREAKFAST



Susie Ortiz and Rose Lopez



Treasurer, Daysi Valencia (right) presenting a \$250 donation to Common Threads manager, Elida Castillo.



Guest Speaker:
Dr. Kathleen Bowen,
LCESA liaison



TESA President Marie Enax presenting the Spirit Award from the TESA Summer Work Conference to LCESA President, Erica Alvarado



"Growth is not automatic; it does not necessarily come with experience, nor simply as a result of gathering information. Personal growth must be deliberate, planned and consistent."

*~John C. Maxwell,
Developing the Leaders
Around You"*



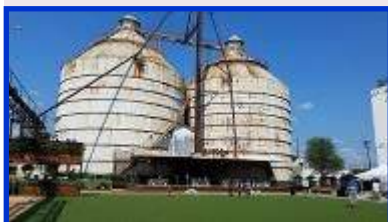
Meet us at Magnolia

The theme for the TESA Connection fall newsletter is ***Come and Grow with TESA***. BVESA members kept this theme in mind as they planned a fall field trip to the Magnolia Seed & Supply at the [Magnolia Market at the Silos](#) in Waco, Texas.

Saturday, November 2, 2019, the BVESA group will be traveling to the Magnolia Silo Marketplace in Waco. For more information, contact Dagmar Poteet at: Dagmar.poteet@blinn.edu.

This is an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us and have a day of TESA fun and great shopping. We will meet at Magnolia Market and shop in the morning. Before lunch we will take a group photo. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. After lunch, more shopping at Spice Village. Please RSVP to Dagmar so that we can communicate the details of the day and make a reservation for lunch.

Meet us at Magnolia!



BRAZOS VALLEY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION (BVESA)

"Sewing" Seeds of Service

The Brazos Valley Educational Support Staff Association is taking President Enax's theme of Service to heart this year. BVESA members began a service project incorporating into their theme, *"Sewing" Seeds of Service*, making a flower quilt that will be used to raise money for TESA scholarships.

Come and Grow with BVESA

Members of BVESA are kicking off a membership drive. BVESA membership is only \$5 to active TESA members and membership is not limited to the Brazos Valley. If you would like to "Come and Grow with TESA" we would love to have you. Find out how much fun an affiliate can be! For more information, contact Dagmar Poteet at dagmar.poteet@blinn.edu.



Left to right: Amanda Bruce, Stacy Wright, Dagmar Poteet, Sharon Mena and Jill Cauffman

Stacy Wright cutting out the quilt pieces.



Amanda Bruce (left) learning how to trace and cut the quilt patterns from the instructor Linda Caraway.

SAVE THE DATE



DECEMBER 7, 2019

TESA AREA WORKSHOP

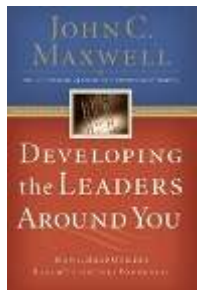
**Cultivating Paras, one
Seed at a Time!**

**More information coming soon
on the TESA website**

www.tesatexas.org

Developing the Leaders Around You: How to Help Others Reach Their Full Potential

Book Review by Sharon Mena



Recently I read Developing the Leaders Around You by John C. Maxwell. The author states that leaders are not born, they are developed. This book is a step-by-step guide to develop and equip those around you to allow them to reach their potential and make a much more productive and effective team.

Developing the Leaders Around You

is an easy read and can benefit anyone in any kind of leadership role. I've never seen myself in a leadership role but could relate easily to the author's passion to empower those around them to be their very best. Maxwell uses his vast experience to lay out a manual that anyone can use to build a better team.

First, you have to create an environment for potential leaders. He says to develop leaders, appreciate them for who they are, believe they can do their best, praise them and encourage them to accept the responsibility as a leader. The following is a quote by long-time coach, Bear Bryant. *"If anything goes bad, I did it. If anything goes semi-good, then we did it. If anything goes real good, they did it."*

Maxwell tells how to identify, nurture and equip future leaders. He uses the analogy of a major league baseball team deciding to sign a free agent or developing one of their minor league players from the farm team. Signing a free agent is usually very costly and risky as you never know if this new star will mesh with the team and the organization. Baseball fans have seen it time and again, a team will sign a big name player for a huge contract promising this move will bring home the pennant. Often, this is not the case. With players that are coached and developed on the farm team, the organization already knows their character, work ethic and the player can hit the floor running. The author equates this to developing leaders around you. Grow leaders within your organization.

Maxwell also gives techniques and methods to train the different styles of potential leaders. To develop leaders, one must model leadership. Model the qualities of leadership to those around you: strong work ethic, responsibility, character, openness, consistency, communication and belief in your people.



"Grow with someone. When you share what you are learning with others, it increases your insight, builds your relationship with them, gives you a common vision, and holds you accountable."



Come and Grow with TESA. As TESA members, you have demonstrated a commitment to your professional development but don't stop there. I know each and every one of you has gifts that will multiply when you share with your TESA family.

John C. Maxwell is a New York Times bestselling author, professional coach, trainer and motivational speaker. He has sold over 26 million books in fifty languages and his company and foundation has trained millions of leaders.

SPEAKING CONSULTING COACHING

As a John Maxwell Certified Coach, Teacher, Trainer and Speaker, Dr. Robert Riza can offer you workshops, seminars, keynote speaking, and coaching, aiding your personal and professional growth through study and practical application of John's proven leadership methods.

Working together, Robert will utilize his 23 years in education to move you and your school or organization in the desired direction to reach your goals.

WWW.ROBERTRIZA.COM

RIZALEADERSHIP@GMAIL.COM

STAFF TRAINING FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT (STEM) BY JULIANA HOLMES

Come grow with TESA...what better way to begin than with a strong STEM! STEM classes are going to help you grow into a more informed and better prepared educational support professional. The classes cover all ranges of topics from effective communications (Basic Communication and Interpersonal Communications) to how to write a professional email (Spelling and Proofreading, Business Grammar & Letter Writing, and more). Classes will even give you the skills to be confident at a special business event (Business & Social Etiquette). After completing the required classes, as well as the elective and self-directed studies, you will *grow and flower* into a Certified Educational Office Professional (CEOP).

For all the details about STEM classes and how to earn your CEOP, visit the TESA website (tesatexas.org) and check out all the information under the STEM tab. If your district/university/service center is interested in the STEM program, drop me a line, Juliana Holmes, STEM Chairman, at jholmes@garlandisd.net.



Juliana Holmes
STEM Chair

***Come grow with TESA
with a strong 'STEM'***



"For a flower to blossom, you need the right soil as well as the right seed." ~John C. Maxwell



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. **STEM Calendar 2019-2020**

Date	Session	Time	Host	Contact	Email
11/9/2019	Effective Workplace Practices	8:00a – 3:00p	Garland ISD	Juliana Holmes	jholmes@garlandisd.net
12/10/2019	Basic Communication	8:30a – 3:30 p	UHCL	Wanda Honeycutt	honeycutt@uhcl.edu
2/8/2020	Interpersonal Communications	8:00a – 3:00p	Garland ISD	Juliana Holmes	jholmes@garlandisd.net
3/28/2020	Spelling & Proofreading	8:00a – 11:00a	Garland ISD	Juliana Holmes	jholmes@garlandisd.net
3/28/2020	Time Management	12:00p – 3:00p	Garland ISD	Juliana Holmes	jholmes@garlandisd.net

STEM Committee

Juliana Holmes, CEOP
STEM Chairman
Garland ISD
jholmes@garlandisd.net

Dianne Lemons, CEOP
Area I Coordinator (North)
Past TESA President
Grannylemons58@yahoo.com

Barbara Jennings, CEOP
Area II Coordinator (South)
Past TESA President
barbobjennings@yahoo.com

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PO Box 11825
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info@tesatexas.org

Invasion of the TESA Past Presidents!

By: Lisa E. Gonzalez, CEOP

(Secretary for the TESA Past Presidents)

The Texas Educational Support Staff Association (TESA) Past Presidents held their annual retreat October 11-13, 2019, in San Antonio, TX. Past Presidents taking part in the trip were: Darcy Blackstock, Irma Ford, Lisa E. Gonzalez, Peggy Hudson, Phyllis Hyden, Marilyn James, Barbara Jennings, Wendy Klentzman, Debbie McFadden, Debbie Wade, Gerald Wharton, and Mary White.

The weekend began on Friday evening with dinner at the Café Rio, the first Mexican restaurant on the famous San Antonio Riverwalk. Canoes, gondolas, and paddle boats, evolved into tour and dinner boats, which began here and helped create the Riverwalk of today. Unfortunately, because of a cold front that came through, we had to dine inside of the restaurant instead of on the Riverwalk edge but that didn't hold back any of the fun or laughter for the group. Before we left the restaurant, we had a Mariachi group sing "Las Mañanitas" to Marilyn James and Barbara Jennings for their birthdays. After dinner, we gathered in Debbie M. and Wendy's room to brainstorm on how we might help with the 2020 TESA Summer Work Conference. Ideas and suggestions will be emailed to all Past Presidents for input before making any final decisions. Before we called it a night, we were asked to team with a maximum of three per team for a Scavenger Hunt. Debbie M. and Wendy provided us with a list of the items or pictures to take of what we were to bring back after dinner on Saturday.



Saturday began with an early breakfast at La Quinta, and then we loaded a trolley/bus to travel to the Market Square, El Mercado. Once there, everyone split up with their teammates and went shopping, sightseeing, and all trying to complete our tasks for the Scavenger Hunt. We met up for lunch at Mi Tierra Restaurant. Mi Tierra is a world-famous landmark, the place where hometown locals and hungry tourists go for authentic Mexican food and a warm Texas welcome. Mi Tierra is a



signature of downtown San Antonio that also has a Mexican bakery. Of course many of us purchased some homemade Pan Dulce and/or Mexican Candy.

After lunch, we continued in our adventures at the River Center Mall and around the Alamo Plaza with sightseeing, shopping and looking for items to complete our Scavenger Hunt. Everyone met up before dinner in front of the Alamo for a group picture before heading to Margaritaville for great food and drinks. After dinner we returned to the hotel to present our Scavenger Hunt items, to visit and to watch Game One between the Houston Astros vs. New York Yankees. Even with all our cheering, our Astros lost Game One. Debbie M. and Wendy checked the items or pictures the teams presented and the winners were declared: Darcy Blackstock, Lisa E. Gonzalez, and Debbie Wade (*one very competitive team*). But no team found the elusive wooden nickel!!

Special thanks deservedly goes out to Debbie McFadden for planning this exciting weekend full of fellowship, shopping, competition, and of course eating. Everyone had a great time, and as we all said our goodbyes and began our respective treks back home, we were already looking forward to the 2020 Past Presidents Retreat...always a treat!





"Come and grow with TESA"

*Your mind is a garden, your thoughts are the seeds,
You can grow flowers or you can grow weeds.*



SAVE THE DATE

2020 Summer Work Conference
June 22 – June 25, 2020
Bryan-College Station



Hilton Garden Inn
3081 University Dr E
Bryan, TX 77802

**LODGING
BREAKFAST
SOCIAL NETWORKING**

More information coming on the TESA website www.tesatexas.org



3 minute drive
distance 2.2 miles

**STEM CLASSES
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
VENDORS/SHOPPING**



Brazos Center
3232 Briarcrest Dr
Bryan, TX 77802

Secure your Vendor Booth at Summer Work Conference

Deadline: April 15, 2020!
Cost is only \$75.00



www.tesatexas.org

For the complete
Exhibitor Packet, please
contact Dora Elder at:
dora.elder@hcisd.org

Mesquite Educational Paraprofessionals Association (MEPA) News

By Kim Bingham

On Monday, September 30, 2019, the Mesquite Educational Paraprofessional Association (MEPA) met for our first meeting of the school year. Our members enjoyed two great presenters – one speaking on “Pulling the Plug on Power Struggles” and the other telling us all about “You.” We learned how to deal with students and adults with difficult problems, why we react in different situations, and what stimulates our brain to overcome certain circumstances.

Our MEPA business meeting covered a preview of upcoming events, as well as a review of events from last year, such as the \$11,000 in student scholarships MEPA awarded from funds we raised at our Christmas Bazaar, as well as another \$3,000 distributed in scholarships to our paraprofessionals.

MEPA keeps its membership informed by updating Facebook and Twitter with upcoming news and events. Please follow MEPA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and anytime you post on our page, please use the hashtag, #MEPAROCKS.

Our next MEPA meeting will be on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. We are looking forward to a great year, and are making sure that our members know how special they are!

<https://www.facebook.com/MEPAMISD/>

<https://twitter.com/MesquiteMEPA>

Shari Halpin teaches the MEPA paraprofessionals about how and why we react to certain situations.

Follow MEPA on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!
Use the hashtag
#MEPAROCKS.

Kelly Smith teaches about “Pulling the Plug on Power Struggles”

“The point of the journey is not arriving. The point is what you learn and whom you become along the way.”
~John C. Maxwell



Kelly Smith and Lisa Porter talk over what they learned in Ms. Halpin's presentation.



Spring Branch Educational Support Staff Association (SBESA)

By Diaelva "Dee" Benefield, SBESA President

As another school year begins, I want to express my sincere gratitude to each one of you. You all could be working somewhere else, but you have chosen to be where you are today.

My theme for this year is *"Inspire to be Inspired."* One might ask, "What does that mean?" I think that we inspire in things we do every day, intentionally or unintentionally, so when we do that, we become inspired or inspire others to continue to push forward and not give up.

I wish each of you a wonderful school year full of inspirations!



Diaelva "Dee" Benefield,
SBESA President



Killeen Educational Support Staff Association (KESA)

The Killeen Educational Support Staff Association (KESA) started the year off with a Back to School celebration that featured guest speakers from Killeen ISD; the Homeless Awareness Response Program, and Killeen ISD Distribution Center.

KESA has kicked off the annual Pecan Fundraiser. Each year the profits from the fundraiser are used for scholarships. A graduate from each area high school receives a scholarship from KESA.



TESA Affiliates in Action

11/2/2019	BVESA	Meet Us At Magnolia Market (Waco, TX)
11/5/2019	LCESA	Meeting and Staff Development
11/12/2019	SBESA	Thanksgiving Pot Luck & Board Meeting
11/12/2019	UHCL ESA	Fall Kick-off/STEM class planning
11/21/2019	KESA	Deliver Pecans Nov. 18-22
12/3/2019	LCESA	Holiday Luncheon
12/6/2019	SBESA	Santa's Farm
12/7/2019	TESSA	TESA Area Workshop
12/9/2019	KESA	TESA Christmas Party
12/3/2019	SBESA	Holiday Party
1/7/2020	LCISD	Staff Development
1/13/2020	KESA	Self-Defense Class
1/14/2020	SBESA	Board Meeting
1/18/2020	LCESA	STEM class
1/27/2020	RESA	Staff Development
1/30/2020	SBESA	Bosses Night
2/4/2020	LCESA	Meeting and Staff Development
2/10/2020	KESA	Meeting
2/11/2020	SBESA	Board Meeting
2/19/2020	RESA	Bosses Banquet
3/2/2020	SBESA	Nominations Board/Member of the Year
3/3/2020	LCESA	Meeting & Staff Development - Spring Fundraiser Begins
3/7/2020	LCESA	STEM class
3/10/2020	SBESA	Board Meeting
3/17/2020	LCESA	LCESA Banquet
3/28/2020	LCESA	TESA Area Workshop



WWW.NAEOP.ORG



2019-2020 TESA EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT MARIE ENAX – LAMAR CISD

PRESIDENT ELECT FELIPE CAMPOS - SPRING BRANCH ISD

VICE PRESIDENT SHARON MENA – TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

SECRETARY/TREASURER OFELIA BARRON - DONNA ISD

MEMBER AT LARGE/WORKSHOPS & LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT STACY WRIGHT-TEXAS A & M

MEMBER AT LARGE/NOMINATIONS & AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/JOURNALIST BETH HINDMAN—IRVING ISD

MEMBER AT LARGE/AFFILIATE SERVICES/MEMBERSHIP BECKY MELENDEZ -LAMAR CISD

SUMMER WORK CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON SUE HAND - LAMAR ISD

STEM CHAIRPERSON JULIANA HOLMES - GARLAND ISD

WEB ADVISOR LISA E. GONZALEZ – DONNA ISD

PARLIAMENTARIAN LISA ACOSTA - COMAL ISD

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT MARKETING CHAIRPERSON DARCY BLACKSTOCK - CHANNELVIEW ISD

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT BONNIE TOMCZYK - TESA CENTRAL OFFICE

TESA would love for you to share your talents!

- Serve on a committee
- Chair a committee
- Run for an elected office
- Help as needed

All you need to do is fill out the [TESA Volunteer Form](#) posted on the TESA website by **November 30, 2019**.

Go to the services tab on the website and you will find the qualifications for board positions along with the volunteer form.

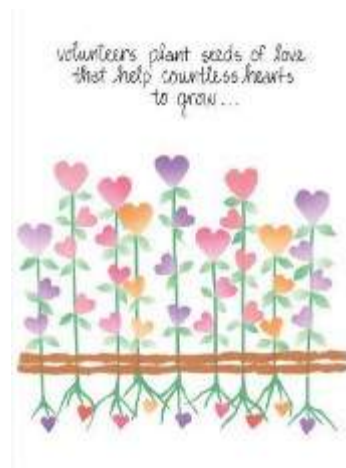
For more information, email one of the committee members listed below:

Beth Hindman – Irving ISD – beth8hindman@gmail.com

Felipe Campos – Spring Branch ISD – felipe.campos@springbranchisd.com

Lisa Gonzalez – Donna ISD – lgonzalez@donnaisd.net

MaryAnn Hollingsworth – retired



TESA Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee

TESA offers several opportunities for members, administrators, and children/grandchildren of TESA members to receive scholarships and/or awards. In addition it also offers YOUR association opportunities to shine with your Newsletters and Yearbooks. **DEADLINE: February 25, 2020**

Awards

- [Newsletter of the Year](#)
- [Yearbook of the Year](#)
- [Nelda Van Dyke](#)
- [Administrator of the Year](#)



Scholarships

- [Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship](#)
- [Dr. Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship](#)
- [Founders Scholarship](#)

For further details on the different scholarships/awards feel free to contact one of the committee members listed below or visit the TESA website at www.tesatexas.org for up-to-date information.

Beth Hindman – Irving ISD – beth8hindman@gmail.com

Erica Alvarado – Lamar CISD – ealvarado@lcisd.org

Diaelva Benefield – Spring Branch ISD – diaelva.benefield@springbranchisd.com

Alicia Lopez – Garland ISD – alopez@garlandisd.net

Area Workshops Committee Update

By Stacy Wright

The Tomball Educational Support Staff Association (TESSA) will be hosting the next TESA Area Workshop on December 7, 2019. Please visit the TESA website (www.tesatexas.org) under Events/Workshops for more information on registration, breakout session descriptions and directions.

The Area Workshop Committee encourages you to start *planting your seeds* and watch them *grow* by hosting a TESA Area Workshop this year! Hosting an area workshop is a great way to network with TESA members and other TESA affiliates, gain more professional development and to attend STEM class opportunities. No matter how large or small your affiliate is, remember you can always partner with other affiliates.

TESA will support your workshop by:

- Promoting at other workshops
- Posting on the TESA Website
- Placing on the TESA Calendar
- Advertising in the TESA Connection Newsletter

Additional support from the Area Workshop Committee is will include:

- Promoting your workshop in our area
- Sharing ideas
- Attending your event and facilitating sessions
- Helping onsite and with anything else you need to make your workshop a huge success!



When you sow your seeds, we all grow. We encourage you to set a date and be the next affiliate to start sowing your seeds through an Area Workshop!

For more information on hosting a workshop, please contact:

Stacy Wright at stacyw@vpsa.tamu.edu

Dagmar Poteet at dagmar.poteet@blinn.edu

Lesia Young at lesia.young@ectorcountyisd.org



On the Legislative Front

By: Stacy Wright

Governor Abbott releases report highlighting progress on school safety initiatives in Texas

Gov. Greg Abbott released the Texas School Safety Update report highlighting the progress made to keep students and teachers safe at school. The report provides an update on efforts by the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and state agencies to implement recommendations made in the School Safety Action Plan released on May 30, 2018, and the subsequent update in August 2018. "Because the safety of our students in Texas classrooms today is a top priority, I made school safety an emergency item in the 86th Legislative Session — and state leaders took substantial steps to deliver on this priority," said Governor Abbott. "I am grateful for the bi-partisan efforts of legislators that led to significant improvements in enhancing the safety of Texas schools, expanding students' access to mental health resources, and increasing support for teachers facing classroom challenges. As we look to the possibilities that a new school year may bring, school administrators, parents, teachers, and lawmakers must continue the conversation on school safety and continue to make the effort to keep our students safe in an affirming environment that strives for excellence and growth."

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-releases-report-highlighting-progress-on-school-safety-initiatives-in-texas>

What is House Bill 3?

House Bill (HB 3) 3, a sweeping and historic school finance bill was passed by the 86th Texas Legislature in 2019 and signed by Gov. Greg Abbott. The bill provides more money for Texas classrooms, increases teacher compensation, reduces recapture and cuts local property taxes for Texas taxpayers. HB 3 is one of the most transformative Texas education bills in recent history. The bill is the result of months of work beginning with the Texas Commission on Public School Finance and culminating in bipartisan work between the members of the Texas House and Senate.

Information on how the changes from House Bill 3 to the Texas Education Code and other Texas statutes will affect Texas public schools is listed at the link below. As more information becomes available it will be shared with Texas school systems and posted.

https://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Government_Relations_and_Legal/Government_Relations/House_Bill_3



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.
Individual Membership Form
Membership Application Annual Membership (August 1-July 31)

Please select year that you are paying dues for: ☐ 2019-2020 ☐ 2020-2021

Membership Type: *Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes.*

<input type="radio"/> Active - \$45 New Membership	<input type="radio"/> Associate - \$45 Membership Number: _____
<input type="radio"/> Active - \$45 Renewal Membership Membership Number: _____	<input type="radio"/> Retired - \$22.50 Renewal Membership Membership Number: _____

Newsletter Only Subscription: *Membership fees includes 4 online issues of the association newsletter. If you wish to receive all 4 issues in print, you will need to sign up for an annual newsletter subscription in addition to your annual membership.*

☐ Newsletter Annual Subscription - \$10

First Name:		Middle:		Last Name:	
Home Address			City		Zip+4
Home/Cell Phone			Office Phone		Ext.
Work Email			Personal Email		
Which email do you prefer to receive your TESA email at?			<input type="radio"/> Work <input type="radio"/> Personal		
Current Employer			Service Type (Elementary, Secondary, Administration, Higher Ed, Service Center, Retired)		
Office Address			City		Zip+4
Name of Local TESA Affiliate (if applicable):			Current Member of NAEOP? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		

For New Members (informational purposes only):

Recruited by (Name): _____

How did you hear about TESA? ☐ Colleague ☐ Sponsor ☐ Employer/Administrator ☐ Website ☐ TESA Event

Payment: *All fees must be paid in US Dollars.*

Check # _____ Date Mailed _____

FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT please go to the TESATEXAS.ORG Website.

(NOTE: There is a \$5.00 Convenience fee for all credit/debit cards!)

Click on the drop down arrow by [JOIN TESA/BENEFITS](#), click on [MEMBERSHIP](#) and then on [MEMBERSHIP \(NEW & RENEWAL\) ONLINE](#). Fill in the requested demographic information and payment information. Make sure to click on [CONFIRM DUES](#) to finalize.

For login questions/issues email Lisa E. Gonzalez (lisaegonzalez@donnaisd.net).

TOTAL Enclosed	
Membership Fee	\$
Newsletter Subscription	\$
TOTAL	\$

Mail completed form with payment to:

TESA
PO BOX 11825
Killeen, Texas 76547

Tomball Educational Support Staff Association (TESSA) News

By Bridgett Manuel, Historian

During the summer, our incredibly talented TESSA officers met and eagerly started planning the 2019-2020 school year. So much energy and thought came from that meeting, with exciting plans for our TESSA members to grow in friendships and prosper in their work environment.

The first event of the school year was our Annual Welcome Breakfast and Membership Drive, on August 14 at Tomball Memorial High School. We had 50 excited paraprofessionals attend, where they were treated to a full breakfast donated by First Watch and a plethora of door prizes, all of which were donated by local businesses. Besides the awesome food and door prizes, we had the honor to have Sharon Mena, TESA Vice President, as our keynote speaker. Her amazing story touched so many of us. Following Mrs. Mena, our TESSA President, Teri Baldridge, provided information regarding meetings, upcoming events, and what it means to be a TESSA member.

We were so blessed with all the donations of door prizes, that we had several flowered pots left over. We donated them to a local elderly-care facility, Grace Care Center. The sweet lady behind the desk was excited and very thankful for our donation. Through conversation, we learned that her name is Marjean Maxwell, a former paraprofessional at CyFair ISD where she was involved in TESA. She received her CEOP and was a STEM instructor. Such a small world we live in!

TESSA is proud to announce that we will have our first ever TESA Area Workshop on December 7. We are excited to reach out and support further growth of our paraprofessionals.



2019-2020 TESSA Officers. These incredibly talented women love their school district and LOVE TESSA!



Check in for the TESSA Breakfast and Membership Drive



Just a few of the many door prizes donated by local businesses.



Paraprofessionals Sherry Namken and Angelica Vest. Breakfast was donated by First Watch and HEB.



Paraprofessionals enjoying the breakfast.



Our amazing keynote speaker, Sharon Mena, TESA Vice President



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Full Page (7.5" w X 9.8" h)	\$125	\$400
Half Page (7.5" w X 4.8"h)	\$75	\$240
Quarter Page (3.6" w X 4.8"h)	\$50	\$175

EMAIL SHERRY GRAY TO PLACE AN AD sherry.gray@sjcd.edu

TESA

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Killeen, Texas
76547

Phone: 512-525-0046

