

THE TESA CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOLUME LXVIII, NUMBER 3 – SPRING 2018

From the President | Teena Hancock, CEOP, CEOE



Greetings, TESA Members!
The Summer Work Conference 2018 clock is ticking! The registration form is on the website at tesatexas.org with a connection to the Omni Austin Hotel registration form only a click away! Just as the tide ebbs back to the sea, we are getting ready to ride the wave back to Austin!

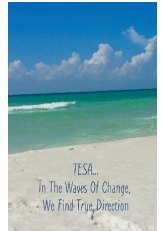
The conference offers many STEM class requirements for the CEOP, including non-STEM classes to add to your self-directed study...other great speakers and professional development. So register now so you will not miss anything that you want and need!

From the President's Luncheon to the Installation and Banquet, the choices are many. Looking back to SWC 2017 — What were your favorite events? From the First Timers reception to the CEOP graduation, or the President's Luncheon, Installation Banquet, or STEM classes, what were your memorable moments? Was there an affiliate group you admired? Did you set goals for your affiliate's focus at SWC for this year? You still have time for reflection and action

that will lead you to your "True Direction on your Waves of Change." Do not let the tide ebb too quickly...act now and bring all this enthusiasm to the "coolest beach party" in Austin, June 19-23, 2018!

As I mentioned in the last TESA Connection, the SWC Committee and all the TESA "connecting teams" are working together to make SWC 2018 the "wave to remember!" Your part now is to register and be there! I challenge you — Do Not Miss it! Commit to the entire conference — Tuesday to Saturday, and get the most out of your professional development dollars spent! If you have experienced budget cuts, consider meeting with your groups now to plan travel and room sharing... We want to see you there!

SWC keeps us busy, but we always have time for fun and relaxation, and "beach weather" finally is here! Now it is time to pull your beach attire to the front of the closet, tie up any loose ends to register, and pack your bags! With little more than two months away, I will be looking forward to seeing you in Austin — and as always, together we are keeping TESA great!



Dates to Remember

April 23-27, 2018
Administrative Professionals Week

April 25, 2018
Administrative Professionals Day

May 30, 2018
Last Day to Submit Input to Editor
For Summer Edition of TESA Connection

June 19-23, 2018
TESA Summer Work Conference
Omni Hotel, Austin TX

July 17-20, 2018
NAEOP Conference
Double Tree by Hilton, Bloomington MN

2018

TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION, INC.



On behalf of the Nominating Committee, we would like to thank each one of our TESA members who accepted placement on the TESA ballot. Congratulations and best of luck to our 2018-2019 TESA Executive Board and committee members.

TESA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2018 - 2019

President:	Darcy Blackstock, Channelview ISD
President Elect:	Marie Enax, Lamar CISD
Vice President:	Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD
Secretary/Treasurer:	Maria Campos, Spring Branch ISD
Member-at-Large:	
Affiliates/Membership:	Juliana Holmes, Garland ISD
Area Workshops/Legislative Consultant:	Lisa Acosta, Comal ISD
Nominations & Awards/Scholarship/Journalist:	Sharon Mena, Texas A&M University

Visit our website at www.tesatexas.org and submit your volunteer form when it becomes available.

Ofelia Barrón, Chairman
Donna ISD
obarron@donnaisd.net

Linda Sockwell
Richardson ISD
linda.sockwell@risd.org

Patti Walling
San Jacinto College
patti.walling@sjcd.edu

Darcy Blackstock
Channelview ISD
darcy.blackstock@cvisd.org

Texas Educational Support Staff Association
2018 Summer Work Conference
June 20 - 23
Austin, TX
In the waves of change, we find true direction

Things to Strive For:

Spirit Award

Bring the spirit and make your team stand out! Judging will be based on overall creativity and originality. Members are encouraged to wear their spirit gear during the Opening General Session on Thursday!

- Eligible participants must be current active TESA members or affiliates
- Entry must be an article of clothing, (hat/visor, shirt, scarf, vest, etc) and should represent the Summer Work Conference theme
- Each entry article should be the same as the theme article worn by the Affiliate while at SWC
- The Affiliate will also be judged by their attendance and participation at all events
- Entries must be at the TESA booth by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.
- An entry form must be obtained and completed at the TESA booth

Entries for yearbook, newsletter, scholarships, Nelda Van Dyke Award, Administrator of the Year Award, will be awarded at the Summer Work Conference.



Basket Awards

- Best Conference Theme
- Most Original
- Best Texas Theme

Ofelia Barrón, Chairman - Donna ISD
obarron@donnaisd.net
Sharon Mena - Texas A&M University
smena@vpsa.tamu.edu

50/50 Raffle Drawings

50% of money collected goes to Scholarships and the other 50% goes to a lucky winner!

Monica Allen - Region 10 ESC
monica.allen@region10.org
Kay Riggs - Pasadena ISD
kriggs@pasadenaisd.org

From the Editor | Felipe Campos, CEOP



Greetings TESA Members – and welcome to the spring issue of the TESA Connection!

Are you truly embracing the **Waves of Change?** Sometimes the waves are initiated by our actions and other times you must initiate the waves to make the change happen. In this edition, we are offering a feature

article that will help you think about (as well as to help you to establish) your own “career roadmap.” We also have an article that we hope will direct you in how to obtain funds for professional development.

If you need help obtaining **True Direction**, we hope you can take advantage of TESA’s Summer Work Conference (SWC) at the Omni Hotel in Austin, Texas, June 19-23, 2018. (Look for SWC information in this edition, as well as on TESA’s website at www.tesatexas.org.)

Just a reminder that the one most important part that does not change is your voice. You can be heard by sending in articles, information about events, and what you and/or your association are doing (include pictures if you can). Only with your input can we provide you an informative product. We look forward to hearing from you!

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. 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 request for subscriptions to: TESA Central Office, PO Box 11825, Killeen, Texas 76547.

Please send information for the Winter edition to:
Felipe Campos, Vice President – TESA Connection
Spring Branch ISD
9009 Ruland Rd. – Houston, TX 77055
felipe.campos@springbranchisd.com – (713) 251-4338

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Don't forget our website at <https://www.tesatexas.org>

Also, Follow us on twitter and facebook.

 **TESA @tesatexas**

 **Texas Educational Support Staff Association**

TESA 2018 Summer Work Conference
Conference Schedule Overview
"In the Waves of Change, We Find True Direction"



Tuesday, June 19

STEM Sessions	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
2017-2018 Executive Board Meeting	7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday June 20

STEM Sessions	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Registration Opens	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Exhibit Hall Opens	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Extended Session	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
	2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
2018-2019 Executive Board & Committee Orientation	4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
2018-2019 Executive Board Meeting	6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
"Game Night at the Beach"	7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 21

First Timers	7:00 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.
Registration Opens	7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Exhibit Hall Opens	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Flag Practice	9:35 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.
General Session/Flag Ceremony/Keynote/Business Meeting	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
"Making Waves" President's Luncheon	11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
TESA Past Presidents' Meeting	1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Registration Opens	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
STEM Session	1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Extended Session	1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
	3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
CEOP Practice	5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
<i>Enjoy your evening with your TESA friends</i>	

Friday, June 22

Registration Opens	7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Exhibit Hall Opens	8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Awards Celebration	9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<i>CEOP Graduation Celebration</i>	
Newsletter, Yearbook and Scholarship Awards	
Administrator of the Year	
Nelda Van Dyke	
Theme Baskets Drawing Immediately after awards	
TRESA Luncheon	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
STEM Session	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Extended Sessions	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Breakout Sessions	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
	2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
"Shell We Dance" Banquet and Installation of 2018-2019 TESA Board	6:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Incoming President's Reception, Dance	Following Installation

Saturday, June 23

"Watching the Tide Roll Away" Brunch and Closing	8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Awards: Spirit and Vendor Door Prizes	
2019 TESA Summer Conference Skit	

Do You Have a Career Road Map?

Sharon Mena

When you get behind the steering wheel, do you have a plan of where you are going? Whether you know your route, use GPS, or the old-fashioned paper map, you most likely have a route planned. As you drive along, you look for street signs, cities, or points of interest to make sure you are headed in the right direction. You may drive straight through; but, if your destination is quite a distance, you will have stops along the way – all while keeping on track.

Now, think for a moment what it would be if you looked at your career in that way. First, view your “eight-to-five” position as a career, *not just a job*. A job does not indicate an investment and it doesn’t say “I’m going somewhere.” If you see what you do as *just a job*, your route may be headed to a dead end. With this in mind, where do you want your career to end up or lead to? Would you like to move into management/administration, or is there a facet of your job that you wish you could do all the time?

As administrative professionals in education, we all wear many hats, and as such – we have vast experience in different aspects of a position. For example, in your position you may do budgeting, communication, event planning, training, supervising, manage projects, and I could go on and on. Consider for a moment if there is a particular part of your job that you truly enjoy and would love to do all day? Or, is there something in which you excel and could teach others? You may enjoy planning large meetings or events or enjoy sinking your teeth into a project and celebrating at its completion.

Once you identify your dream job, create a plan that can make it happen. Working in education, we have resources at our disposal and many of which are of little or no cost. Do you need college courses, workshops, online programs,

mentors, institutional journals? Are there professional associations that you can join to access their resources? When you identify where your career is to lead, first seek professional development – then map it out! If you are in a position to quit work and go back to college full time, do it... *but realistically most of us cannot*. In that case, your career is not a sprint but a marathon; then moving slowly and steadily can still get you to your destination.

Recently I polled administrative support staff in education to see what aspirations they had. Not surprisingly, more than 90 percent hoped to better their position. When asked what

position they would hope to have, answers included office manager, business manager, public administration director, accountant, while others just want to move up their current career ladder.

I next asked those polled if they knew of a colleague who had successfully advanced beyond the paraprofessional/support staff role.

The answer was very heartening as most did know co-workers who had achieved their desired position. One

responded they knew of a colleague who started working in a school cafeteria as a favor

for a friend and is now the Director of Human Resources for that same district. Another answered that they knew an administrative assistant who is now the Division Operations Coordinator. I worked with an assistant who advanced to the telecommunications director of a community college. Several knew of paraprofessionals who are now teachers and even assistant principal. When I started as a school secretary in 1995, I was filling the position of someone who had been promoted to Food Service Manager for the entire district. However, my favorite example is one of my mentors, Dr. Pam Boehm. Dr. Boehm started as an administrative assistant to the dean and now leads Hill College (Hillsboro, TX) as President.



► Once you identify where you want to go, *plot out your plan*. Choose professional development that can enhance your current position while moving you closer to your desired destination. If your role includes planning events such as large meetings, banquets, etc., consider a career in event planning. If you manage projects, then look into a career in project management. Project Management can be a very lucrative career and crosses over into many industries...not just education. Communication is a large part of our role, both written and oral. To name a few, this includes correspondence, social media, and face-to-face. With this experience, you could consider a career in public relations, marketing or journalism.

Many of you may find yourself in a similar situation as I. A former boss, president of a community college, has often encouraged me to branch out from the administrative

role but, *so far*, that is not where I see myself. My niche is in the support staff role. However, I am challenging myself by continuing my education and pursuing a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Office Administration. My road map is leading me to teach office administration courses someday.

I challenge you to dream big and think outside of the box. Identify things you can do and learn in your current role that will move you along the road to your desired destination. One of my favorite quotes is something I say over and over to myself when I jog. ***I don't need to be the first one to cross the finish line. I only need to take the next step.*** (Author Unknown.)

Sharon Mena, C.E.O.E., Coordinator in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Texas A&M University

How to Sell Professional Development Opportunities to your Supervisor

**Editor's Note: This is a reprint of an article published in the Summer 2008 Edition of the TESA Connection.*

When seeking funding for professional development opportunities, you should ask yourself the following questions.

What are the benefits to...

You? – Networking with colleagues? A shot in the arm? Validation that I am doing the right thing? Knowing that I'm valued? Reinforcing what I already know? Think: "This is what I learned and this is how I am going to use it."

Your Supervisor? – Will you be a better employee with a better attitude? Provide your supervisor with the handouts you received and talk through the benefits to the organization and share the knowledge you gained. Explain that you are willing to start a fundraiser to help with funds to pay for your professional development and that you will seek ways to get support. Be open with your supervisor by letting him/her know you are aware that funds may be tight and that you are willing to pick up the cost of your meals or share a room with someone. This will help your supervisor understand that the conference is very important to you. Before you leave for the conference, do your homework by making sure the office is covered in your absence and you have done as much work in advance as possible. Your supervisor will appreciate knowing that you are also willing to split the days you are out of the office between

professional development and vacation days. Sharing personal and professional time will send the message that the professional development is important to you and that you understand that it should also benefit your work place.

Your Organization? – If the cost of the conference is at \$2,000 to attend, one idea is to agree to work off half the air fare by teaching sessions to your colleagues at your hourly rate of pay. Or you may donate time to do this. Either way, you still win. A supervisor should take responsibility to grow people and you can help do that within your work place and the organization. You may want to develop classes for maintenance workers, aides and clerks. Inquire into what their needs are and build the professional development around those needs. This may provide another good reason for them to join the association - professional growth.

What are the costs to...

You? – Time away from your husband or wife? Child care arrangements and costs? The work you are leaving unfinished in your absence? The personal funds you are spending? Your co-workers who are left behind and may complain about the extra work that they are required to do in your absence? Leaving your comfort zone and entering the unknown?

Your Supervisor ...Who may not have funding with

budget cuts)? Or, who may be putting your work on hold while you are gone? Or, may be fielding their own calls while you are gone – and this may result in recognizing how valuable you really are! There may be more work for your colleagues when you are absent and your supervisor may really miss you. Your absence is a time for others in the office, including your supervisor, to understand just how valuable you are.

Your Organization? – The organization may gain a more dedicated employee when one is encouraged to grow and develop. In some cases, it may be important to explain that it is important to explain that it is important to that you get approval by a certain date so that money can be saved. Be sure to share how your attendance at the professional development activity will enable you to do different aspects of your job in a more timely and cost-efficient manner.

What are the barriers you may encounter?

Barriers that may prevent you from attending a conference are anniversaries; your own guilt; missing major family events; your supervisor is not happy that you are going to be out of the office; having the mind set of: “I can’t, too much work,” or “I’m not comfortable getting out of my comfort zone.” You may believe that the timing is not good, or your supervisor may get questioned from his/her supervisor about why you and others are gone for professional development. This is a good time to say “I have a great opportunity to learn by attending.”

What strategies may you use?

For any professional development opportunity to be a win-win situation, you must use excellent communication skills, decision-making skills, interpersonal skills, and lifelong learning skills. To sell the product of professional development funding you need to show the benefits of your attendance; share the knowledge you gain; be prepared to negotiate costs, time, etc.; get over the guilt of going; prepare ahead; anticipate needs of the office and supervisor while you are absent; and network and talk with colleagues regarding their support of your growth and development.

Ask yourself, “What will I do differently in seeking funding?” One valuable tool is to investigate several options for receiving the funds. Have a plan A and plan B; do not



easily take “no” as the final answer, and plan early for saving money.

While there is no “one sure way” to get funding for professional development, thinking about and planning for growth opportunities that benefit you, your supervisor and the organization as a whole is a great beginning. Communicating your needs and connecting those needs to the interests of your supervisor and the work place is important as all too often others do not understand or “see” the benefits of the time and money spent for professional development. Lastly, follow through with sharing what you learn so that it is solidified, and that others can clearly understand your commitment to professional growth that will benefit you, your supervisor, and the organization as a whole.

Secretary Report

Melissa Rodriguez, TESA Secretary/Treasurer

As President Hancock's theme indicates – "In the waves of change, we find true direction," TESA has certainly faced many waves this year.

We voted on a new administrative assistant, Bonnie Tomczyk, and moved offices to Killeen.

Please note the mailing address to the TESA office:

TESA Central Office

P.O. Box 11825

Killeen, TX 76547

(512) 528-0046

The office is open daily, Monday – Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Executive Board met in Rosenberg for the Spring Meeting on March 2, 2018. All motions were read into the minutes, and once approved, will be accessible on the TESA website under Meeting Minutes.

I'm excited to see everyone at Summer Work Conference in June!

Have a great spring!



TESA BVESA Quilt

Reminder all TESA Members — Be sure and get your tickets! BVESA will be giving away this "Waves of Change" quilt to the lucky ticket holder at SWC 2018!

If you would like to buy (or sell) the chances to win this quilt and help us reach our goal, contact: by email at: bvesa2017@gmail.com

Sharon Mena, C.E.O.E., Administrative Coordinator in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Texas A&M University

"Waves of Change" Quilt



Amanda Bruce with Waves of Change Quilt .

“Seas the Day” TESA Area Workshop

Hosted by Brazos Valley Educational Support Association (BVESA)

Sharon Mena



BVESA officers, Stacy Wright, Amanda Bruce and Sharon Mena.

Saturday, March 24, 2018, BVESA hosted their first area workshop at Texas A&M University. With the amazing help of the BVESA team, the TESA officers were also there every step of the way to provide assistance, including our celebration the end of the day... This workshop demonstrated firsthand to our colleagues what TESA has to offer in quality professional development, sound association structures, and personal relationships that make a difference. Conference purpose and success achieved!

We extend grateful appreciation to those on the A&M campus who served as our University sponsor for this event – our Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, acknowledging Vice President Dr. Daniel J. Pugh, Sr., who also provided our workshop luncheon keynote speaker. provided our keynote address over lunch. To credit other University staff who provided support were Dr. C.J. Woods and Mr. Tom Reber who also played a key role in securing rooms required for this event. Also, thanks to the Texas A&M Professional Support Staff Association (TAPSS) who sponsored financially the breakfast and lunch for the workshop! Thanks to their financial support our attendees were treated to a delightful breakfast that included a yogurt parfait, fruit cup, granola bar, breakfast taco and coffee. Lunch was Jamaican jerk chicken!

Workshop classes and presentations selected by Education Chair, Sharon Mena, provided a variety of topics and speakers. The training kickoff offered a choice of three breakout sessions, with an overview as follows: (1) **Leadership Boot Camp** — A&M’s Director of the Vet-

eran Resource and Support Center, Col. Gerald “Jerry” Smith, USMC Ret., presented leadership from the military approach and demonstrated how that can be used in our positions as educational admins. (2) **WordPress Essentials** — Joe Prather, TAMU MarComm, presented some of the advantages and features WordPress has to offer and how easy it is to create a website using one of the pre-made themes. (3) **Emergencies in the Workplace** — Michael Middleton, TAMU Medical Services, presented Reacting to Emergencies that may occur in the workplace.

Second breakout group included: (1) **“Eating the Elephant: Tips and Tricks for Project Success,”** presented by Carl Ivey, Project Manager, TAMU-IT Department – to explain basic principles of project management and how to use more effectively in our daily task roles. (Pictured left, Mr. Carl Ivey)



(2) **OneNote for Travel**, presented by Denise Vajdak, City of Bryan, reviewing a tool that can help us to organize travel plans, reservations, etc., and can be seamlessly shared with a colleague — all in an easy-to-use method.

After lunch, program, and fun — below were the final sessions offered:

Work Smart Salary Negotiation — presented by Heather Wheeler of the Women’s Resource Center and Katie Stober of May’s Business School.

This session touched on the gender pay gap and gave practical advice when negotiating salary increase in current job or looking for a new job.

Reframing Our Work-Tools to Navigating Complex Organization Dynamics.

Drs. Michael and Melissa Shehane presented this session focused on how to understand where colleagues are coming from and how to reframe our view by seeing the perspectives of others.



(L-R) Sharon Mena, Amber Imberg of Chartwells Catering and Stacy Wright.

► **Productivity Tips and Tricks for Windows** — presented by Denise Vajdak, providing practical advice to more effectively use Office and Windows and was packed with easy shortcuts.



Door prizes are always fun at workshops. Thanks for all contributions! Several TESA members, especially those from Lamar ISD, arrived with arms full of donated prizes! Our committee

members, Bonnie McDonough and Amanda Bruce really delivered...bringing in everything from gift cards to a Bundt cake. Amanda's handmade soaps and jewelry were a big hit!

In addition to the workshop sessions, TESA offered two Staff Training for Effective Management (STEM) classes: (1) Basic Communication taught by Debbie McFadden and (2) Stress Management, by Debbie Wade. Several first timers attended these two STEM classes and we encourage them to pursue their certification.

Other recognitions, almost too numerous to name...

but will mention a few — **TESA members** who served as facilitators in each session to ensure classes “ran like clock-work.” **LEGACIES (a group of young “Aggie students”)** were a great help. **Rudder Tower crew** under the direction of Stephen Senkel and Amber Imberg, handled rooms, AV and other needs. Also, Amber's creative touches including the “Seas the Day” theme (all flawlessly carried out) – and her luncheon details with **Chartwells’ Catering**. **Other individuals:** Dagmar Poteet, Mary Gutierrez and Wendy Klentzman, who assisted all throughout the day; Workshop Chair Stacy Wright, whose little touches created a memorable experience. To all — if you were there and helped, “You are appreciated!” Thanks to each who attended!

We also acknowledge a special luncheon guests — our State Board of Education member, Sue Melton-Malone and her husband, John. Sue has devoted her entire life to the education of the children of Texas and provided an update on the SBOE.

Sharon Mena, C.E.O.E., Administrative Coordinator in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Texas A&M University

University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL) UHCL Educational Support Association (ESA)



Article contributions by Margaret Garcia, Wanda Honeycutt, and Caye Trahan

Greetings to UHCL-ESA and TESA readers!

More than halfway through our **2018 Spring Calendar** of TESA STEM classes here at UHCL!

Chart below lists our final two training dates for this year... Unfortunately, due to lack of registrations, two recent classes cancelled. Your registration can “make April 24 and May 15 happen!” We appreciate your previous support, but need your registrations in order to hold these final classes. Thanks to many of you who have encouraged others to sign up and become part of our mailing list!

Join your “UHCL ESA” affiliate for professional development and attend STEM classes locally. Contact Dolores Galvan galvan@uhcl.edu for UHCL-ESA membership and Doris Buchan Buchan@uhcl.edu for class registration.

TESA SWC 2018 is coming — start planning and do not let the “tide roll in” without you! Everyone at UHCL-ESA is being encouraged to submit your TESA SWC registration forms on line now. UHCL-ESA members — let us know if you have not received a stipend application recently emailed

Our remaining classes are:

Tue., Apr 24	8:30-3:30p	Assisting Difficult People (6 hours)
Tue., May 15	8:30-11:30p	Assertiveness Training (3 hours)
Tue., May 02	12:30-3:30p	Professional Growth (3 hours)

to all our members for use in applying for professional development. You may apply stipends toward attending the TESA SWC in Austin, for the STEM classes, etc. ACT Now... submit the stipend application or your questions about details to Debbie McFadden mcfadden@uhcl.edu for details and the form.

Planning meeting. The time is approaching to plan for SWC 2018...and your travel to Austin. All UHCL-ESA members — **watch for the meeting date regarding stipends for UHCL-ESA members; travel and room sharing; and facts about all the opportunities at the conference** (STEM and other classes; awesome professional development speakers; events to expect such as the Presidents Luncheon, general meetings, flag ceremony, fabulous installation and banquet, etc.) Remember, you will derive maximum benefit by attending the full conference!

Comments from our ESA Fundraising Chair, Laura Wilder. UHCL ESA members have been fantastic this year in raising funds for training stipends, with the following two very successful fundraisers – with combined profits over \$1,000. We are excited because this will help several ESA members attend the TESA Summer Work Conference this coming June 2018!

The first fundraiser this year was our traditional February “Valentines Candy Grams,” and included an added option of a stuffed puppy with the candy gram. The stuffed animals came from the PetSmart donations through our Police Department. ESA members donated their money, time and effort to make the chocolate covered peanut clusters for the Valentine’s Candy Grams.

The second fundraiser was in March — which included a stuffed bunny or a stuffed kitty cat with a package of



Items sold during UHCL-ESA’s spring fund-raiser.)

Peeps. One special ESA member, also a member of our UHCL Police Department

Came up with the idea of donating the stuffed animals to ESA — and went the extra mile by purchasing holiday-themed material to make ribbons to tie around the necks of the animals.

We offered the stuffed animals at a low price of \$5.00, including the Peeps. This added an extra special touch. ESA members again donated enough to cover the cost of the Peeps, enabling that all sales went to fund-raising for ESA-member stipends.

A third fund-raising event (in planning stage) for a “summer fun-at-the beach” basket raffle. Watch for the details and get ready to buy your winning ticket! For questions about this and other UHCL-ESA fund-raising efforts, contact WilderL@uhcl.edu

See you soon at our next UHCL-ESA hosted STEM classes, and a little later as we “Ride into Austin on the Waves of Change!”

STEM Committee – Spring 2018 Update

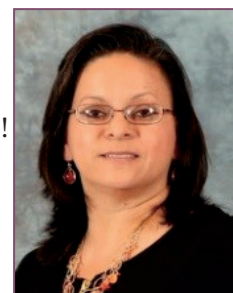
Eva Zamora

The STEM committee *has been busy surfing* with Consultant-in-Training (CIT) members *enjoying the ride and waves!* We hope to see more new CITs at our future trainings. Please keep checking TESA’s website for information on the next training opportunity!

Our *tidal wave celebration* for the **CEOP Graduation Ceremony** at the **2018 Summer Work Conference (SWC)** is coming together. The ceremony will be open to both

recent CEOP recipients and those who completed the coursework in the past but never participated in the graduation...so you will NOT want to miss this! Watch for more updates with information about signing up.

Have a safe end of year...We look forward to seeing you in June!



TESA
PO Box 11825
Killeen, Texas 76547

**Show your TESA Spirit at the Summer Work
Conference by submitting an entry for the**



- ♦ Design a shirt, a hat, visor, scarf, vest, bandana, etc. (*Must be something that can be worn.*) Item should represent the Summer Work Conference (SWC) theme.
Get creative!
 - Each entry article should be the same as the theme article worn by the Affiliate while at SWC.
- ♦ Entries must be from current TESA members or affiliates (August 1—July 31)!
- ♦ Entries must be at the TESA booth by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.
 - An entry form must be obtained and completed at the TESA Booth.
- ♦ Members are encouraged to wear their “Spirit” item to the Opening General Session on Thursday.
- ♦ The Affiliate will **also** be judged by their attendance and participation at all events.
- ♦ Winners will receive a “Spirit Award” Trophy!

