

VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 4 - SUMMER 2016

the TESA CONNECTION

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



President's Message



Dianne Lemons
TESA President

Well my time has come to an end, but I will still be involved and working for TESA as long as I live. It has been my honor and pleasure to lead the TESA team for 2015-2016.

I had a wonderful time at our SWC Conference in June and I hope you did too. Your conference experience is never perfect but I can tell you that each year the team in charge does everything in their power to make your conference experience a very memorable one. It is my hope that the classes you took were fun and beneficial to your professional growth. I hope you were able to share all of the things you learned with your co-workers and bosses when you went back to work.

I want to thank each one of you for taking time out of your busy schedule to come this year to the conference and your bosses for letting you have the time off.

I could not have made this year without our TESA Executive Board and Committees as well as everyone else that just showed up to volunteer. They did a great job working so hard all year as TESA members and I appreciate each one of them. I received such a beautiful bracelet and money from the board and committees and I just love it and really appreciate it.

Also, all of the members from Mesquite ISD (MEPA) that have supported me and helped me through so many times this year as the TESA President, I appreciate them so much. I work for a great district who really supports their support staff.

Also, so many individuals and districts gave me gifts last summer and this year at conference. Each gift was so special to me and I really did appreciate them and please forgive me if I forgot to thank you.

I also received so many hugs, encouraging words, kicks in the rear (lol), very wise wisdom and just so many things that I was so overwhelmed with each one and so appreciative of each one.

I think my favorite part of the conference was the Celebrations all together. I really felt like it gave special meaning and honor to each award that was given and made all of the 2016 STEM Graduates, Administrator of the Year and the Nelda Van Dyke winners a special time to enjoy what each accomplishment meant to them.

I can't thank, Lisa, Melissa and Gerald, SWC and STEM committee along with the advisory committee and many past presidents enough for carrying me through this year. I will be praying daily for Lisa and Teena and their board and committee members as they lead all of our TESA members next year.

Music is a huge part of my life and I hope you enjoyed the times during the conference when we had music playing, the dancers at the luncheon or just watching our very own members enjoying dancing at the banquet. Two of my favorite songs are, "You've Got a Friend" and "It Is Well with My Soul".

I have had to put in my retirement notice effective August 31, 2016 because of my health, so I will need your continued prayers and will still be active in TESA and MEPA. As I move into the role of past president and a retiree, I hope you will always know that you have a friend in me and that if my health doesn't get better, I know I will be with my Lord in Heaven.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support and I ask you to keep those prayers going up for me daily. I love each member and I look forward to us working together to continue to keep TESA alive and going strong.

Thanks for my wonderful journey as your president,

Dianne Lemons
TESA President 2015-2016



Letter from the Editor & Table of Contents

From the Editor

Just like that and it's over – another year in the books. Before closing the final page, I want to take a moment to thank the people I had working with me on this team: Yvonne Smeltzer, Assistant Editor and Wanda Honeycutt, Advertising Manager, for their dedication and hard work to help get the job done and produce great issues to the membership! Many thanks also goes to our Graphic Designer, Ben Albers, who does amazing work! A special thanks goes to Dianne Lemons, TESA President, and Lisa Gonzalez, TESA President Elect, for their guidance and expertise

in producing a great magazine.

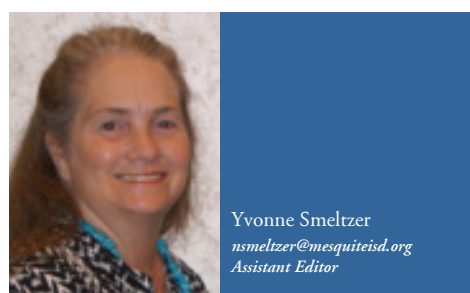
This year our focus for the magazine was to showcase the affiliates. We believe this was achieved as we had great success in bringing you highlights from many different affiliates from around the state. Thanks to all affiliates who contributed – you were super!

It has been an honor to serve as the editor of The TESA Connection. I appreciate everyone who provided words of encouragement and support

throughout the year. Now I look forward to working with each of you in the next stage of this journey.

Best wishes to each of you for a blessed school year. May you be a light to those who need encouragement and a blessing to everyone you meet.

Teena Hancock
Editor



Ben Albers - Graphic Designer

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Beat the Heat with Summer Reading

by Shari Halpin



Shari Halpin

Summer reading time is upon us! As an English teacher and future School Counselor, I believe the best way to close achievement gaps is through reading increasingly difficult, complex texts throughout the

summer. Why summer reading? The importance of reading can be lost in the hazy, lazy days of summer, but kids who engage in even a few hours a week of summer reading end up faring far better than their counterparts in the long run. In fact, according to a Johns Hopkins School of Education study and report, "Most youth lose about two months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months" which translates to an entire year of learning lost for most students by the 9th grade (New Horizons for Learning, 2010). Studies further show this gap is more profound with children in poverty. Fortunately, there is a clear solution to the "summer slide."

Here are a few tips for reinforcing summer reading:

Go to your local library and let your child enroll in the Summer Reading Program. Your librarian is an indispensable resource for discovering increasingly challenging texts that appeal to your child's interests.

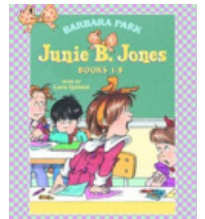


- Consider resources like Tumblebooks (found on your school library webpage). These are interactive and contain visually stimulating reading assistance for children of all pre-k and elementary school ages.
- Have you thought about reading in themes? As a family, maybe you could learn something new about reptiles or read the entire Captain Underpants series. This continuity is helpful as you attempt to discover new reads!
- If you're going on a long road trip, consider pairing chapter books with books on CD/audible. Your child can read along while the read-aloud plays. You can pause frequently and ask questions or make predictions. We love Junie B. Jones. The kids read along in the back, but we're all listening and just cracking up along the highway. Check out the audio book by checking it out at your local library or by clicking here:



- If you go to your local Barnes and Noble or Half Price Books, you'll find a reading incentive program as a means to encourage your child to read, read, read! Find out more here:

- <http://b.hpb.com/fyb/>
- http://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/summer-reading/_/N-rs9



We know that early reading/exposure to texts is a huge indicator of future success. What a gift you can give to your child or grandchild today!

Resources:

- <https://blog.firstbook.org/2013/05/29/kids-who-read-beat-summer-slide/>
- http://www.wylietexas.gov/about/calendar_test.php
- http://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/summer-reading/_/N-rs9
- <http://b.hpb.com/fyb/>
- <http://www.audiobooks.com/audiobook/junie-b-jones-collection-books-1-8-stupid-smelly-bus-monkey-business-big-fat-mouth-sneaky-peaky-spying-yucky-blucky-fruitcake-meanie-jims-bday-handsome-warren-monster-under-her-bed/160680>
- <http://www.eolib.org/childrens-ebooks.php>
- <http://www.scholastic.com/captainunderpants/>
- <http://education.jhu.edu/newhorizons>
- <https://blog.firstbook.org/tag/summer-slide/>

SUMMER SLIDE ADDS UP

When kids don't read over the summer they fall behind.

By the end of 5th Grade, kids in need are nearly 3 grades behind their peers in reading skills.



Summer Work Conference - First Timers

A Firsthand Look at a First-Timer's Fabulous Experience

by Caye Trahan, CEOP



First-Timers Breakout Session

“Pinch me, I must be dreaming,” I continually thought throughout my five-day journey spent with almost 300 remarkable TESA members during the 2016 Summer Work Conference. As a member of my local affiliate ESA (Educational Support Association) at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, I felt very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend this incredible annual event. My role as secretary for a suite of 16 faculty members in the School of Human Sciences and Humanities began almost a year ago as a second career after working many years in corporate America in the field of Human Resources. This TESA Summer Work Conference rivaled any corporate event I’ve ever seen and completely surpassed my highest expectations. After being greeted by four enthusiastic TESA volunteers at the registration table early Tuesday morning, I was immediately immersed in a first-class training session lead by TESA Consultant Debbie McFadden. The Profile for Success class offered an in-depth personal behavior analysis as part of the STEM professional development program. Over the last year, I’ve had the pleasure of participating in ten well-written STEM

classes expertly presented by truly inspiration-

al TESA consultants. I never imagined after leaving corporate America that I would ever again be provided such exceptional training opportunities; however, the STEM program reaches above and beyond to fill this need for educational support staff.

I was also extremely impressed with the warm, welcoming atmosphere created by the TESA officers and their committees. I now lovingly refer to them as TESA royalty. It was obvious these individuals poured their hearts into every element of the conference—from the wonderfully creative handmade chocolate piano replica centerpieces at the final night’s banquet to all the many outstanding door prizes assembled as gifts given generously throughout the week. Dianne Lemons, the current TESA President even delivered heartfelt messages of concern requesting our thoughts and prayers for a couple of TESA members who left the conference early due to unfortunate personal circumstances. By the end of the conference I knew most of these phenomenal people on a first name basis, had received many hugs of encouragement and support from them and enjoyed shared

laughter as well as many memorable moments. It is difficult to adequately describe the compassion for others emanating from the TESA membership. They genuinely care about their fellow members, coworkers, families, friends and communities they serve. This was evidenced by several scholarships awarded during the conference, various fundraising initiatives and a breakout session devoted to creating awareness of the devastation caused by human trafficking and the exploitation of children.

Those attending the conference as “first-timers” were invited to a special session hosted by the past presidents to learn more about the organization and the many ways to serve and become involved. We also felt very important when official TESA tote bags were given to everyone in attendance. Finally, we were carefully lined up for a spectacular photo of our entire first-timer group behind a large sparkling TESA logo. Moments later, I saw this photo on Twitter and felt so proud to be a part of this group.

At the opening session Thursday, I was absolutely overwhelmed by the flag ceremony as our nation’s flag was carried forward followed by individual flags representing many of the TESA affiliates from all over our great state. It was an extremely moving experience listening to our national anthem in the company of my new brothers and sisters of TESA. Also on Thursday was the fantastic “Harmony at the Hop” President’s Luncheon. President Dianne planned an entertaining musical event complete with dancing, songs, and memorabilia including malts and souvenir tumblers!

Summer Work Conference - First Timers

This was so much fun, complete with burgers and fries!

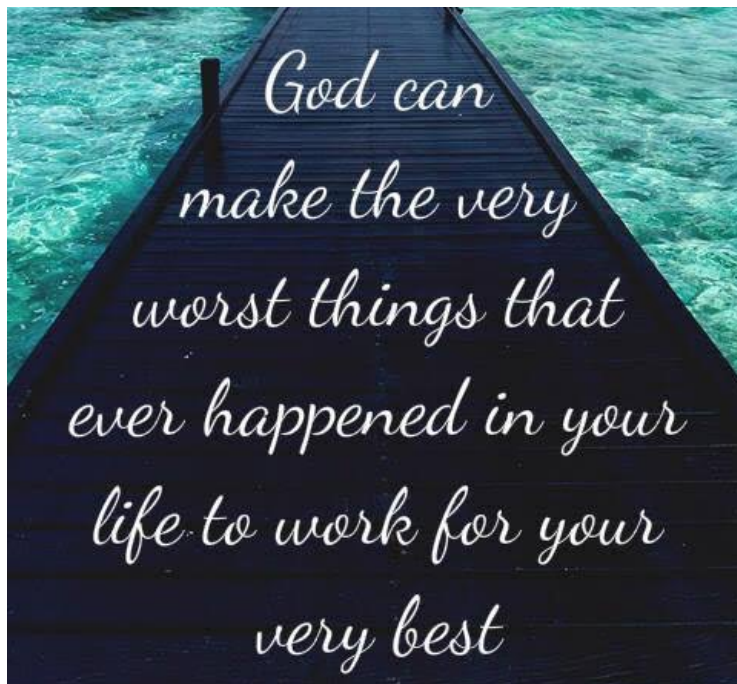
Next, my heart pounded in anticipation as I found myself waiting anxiously in line with 19 other TESA members to receive the coveted CEOP (Certified Educational Office Professional) designation. As CEOP graduates, we filed into the Awards Celebration to the tune of the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" graduation march, donning our royal blue caps and gowns, adorned with radiant butterfly pins received from Darcy Blackstock, the STEM Chairman. As our names were called and a description of what the STEM program meant to each of us was read, we were hugged by President Dianne and given a special CEOP pin before walking across the stage as CEOP recipients. As I stepped down from the stage, I fondly remember hearing the applause and cheers of the TESA members and immediately spotting the consultants who became my best cheerleaders during this quest for professional development. Wanda

Honeycutt, Barbara Jennings and Debbie Wade were among the STEM Consultants glowing with pride as they witnessed this sensational declaration of our achievement. For me it was an especially magical moment as I had never before participated in a cap and gown ceremony, even after obtaining a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the very school for which I now work.

On Friday evening, it felt like I was suddenly transported to a cruise ship vacation as I entered the "Grand Slam" banquet. It was a magnificent event highlighted by the installation of the 2016-2017 executive board and committee members who were dressed so elegantly. After a delightful meal, topped off by a mouthwatering piece of chocolate cake, we were all invited to a reception honoring Lisa Gonzalez, the newly elected 2016-2017 TESA President. Lisa and her team were gracious hosts making everyone feel special and welcome as they handed out popcorn, peanuts and crackerjacks to build excitement

for next year's conference theme, "TESA - A Winning Team." I feel confident under Lisa's leadership, TESA will continue knocking the ball out of the park as a winning team throughout this next year and beyond. It was at this point, the DJ cued the music and we danced through the night. I felt like Cinderella, not wanting it to end. Fortunately, I was recharged the next morning at the "Name That Tune" brunch, where I had a final opportunity to share more laughs and visit with my new TESA friends.

As I left the conference, I proudly wore my new shirt emblazoned with the familiar TESA star logo. Now, in my mind, I see this logo as a symbol of the superstars who make up this fabulous organization and give so much of themselves to ensure others have the tools needed to succeed as extraordinary educational support staff.



Summer Work Conference - First Timers

TESA Convention 2016

by Stephen Mouser

My name is Stephen Mouser, and the TESA Convention 2016 is one experience that I will never forget. I will admit, going into this, I did not know what to expect. However, the moment I walked in to the Omni Hotel in Austin, I knew this was something big. I was

immediately welcomed and I felt like a part of the team. The classes and the entire event was well put together and I had tons of fun. Most of all, I feel that I walked away from this convention with more knowledge on how to be a better person, as well as a better educator.

I absolutely loved my time learning about different types of perspectives, and I can't wait to get back to next year's convention.

TESA Summer Work Conference 2016

by Rose M. Kilgore, CEOP

My experience as a first timer at the TESA Summer Work Conference 2016 was amazing. My stay at the Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark was great. The staff was very professional and eager to assist your every need. The work conference was well planned and exceeded my expectations. There were plenty of classes to attend. Some people were allowed to finish classes at the conference and be a part of the graduation ceremony which was excellent as well. I am proud to say that I graduated at the 2016 conference.

One class that really caught my attention was "I'm Not for Sale! Modern Day Slavery" which was taught by Sergeant Lance Cox of the Austin ISD Police Department. He was amazing and kept

our interest. It was a comprehensive overview of human trafficking and how it affects the students of school districts all across the country and the state of Texas. Sergeant Cox informed us that we all are responsible for identifying and addressing sudden changes in our students' demeanor and dress in order to combat trafficking and abuse problems.

There was plenty to do. There was a "Harmony at the Hop President's Luncheon" in which there were professional dancers there to entertain us and also to teach us some of the moves. There was also a "Grand Slam Banquet" and a "Name That Tune Brunch" which was a lot of fun.

I would recommend if you are not a member of TESA that you consider becoming a member. I was hesitant at first and never imagined that I would be graduating with my CEOP (Certified Educational Office Professional). My intention was to take a class here and there to get away from the office. I have really enjoyed the experience.

Finally, my hats off to the TESA staff who worked really hard in putting this conference together. They did an excellent job and were very helpful and attentive as well. Good job guys!



Summer Work Conference - First Timers

TESA Summer Work Conference 2016

by Iris Martinez, CEOP

I joined TESA about two years ago through the University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL). A wonderful lady named Wanda Honeycutt told me that for hourly staff there were STEM classes available that could lead to a certification...and could be paid for by the University. Any time I can get free education, I jump on it. She then told me that they had a conference every year in Austin and that I should ask if my department would pay for it. Because I had not been on staff very long, I wasn't very hopeful. But because our President, Dr. William Staples, backs the SSA and ESA "support staff groups," I was able to get approval to attend.

I loved my first conference and learned a lot. During the next year I spoke to a co-worker,

Rose Kilgore, who had never attended the conference. I explained what I did last year and she decided to ask for approval. So we both were able to attend this year and we BOTH graduated at this year's TESA 2016 Conference. At conference we met a fantastic person – Caye Trahan, and she was also graduating! Caye is from UHCL, working in another building, and we had not met her before. But we definitely will stay in touch now, as the three SWC 2016 CEOP graduates from UHCL! I think we all felt pretty proud to walk that stage and it felt good to know we accomplished our goals.

One of my favorite classes at SWC was presented by Sgt. Lance Cox from the Austin ISD

Police Department. He spoke about watching and interacting with our students more. The purpose – to see changes with those students, to identify trouble they might not easily get out of, and to know procedures that can be most helpful. He moved us to tears and told us to not forget why we work where we work. Most importantly, he taught us to be the person who we would want to be there for our own student (child) and to be the best we can be.

We definitely "Believe We Can Fly" through any new obstacles that face us in our workplace now! We Learned, we Rejuvenated, we Socialized, and we Graduated. And we will be back for a chance at playing in the 2017 TESA Conference "All-Star League!"



To all of the affiliates, districts, colleges and universities that hosted a STEM session. Your support is truly appreciated as our STEM program would not be successful without your continued commitment to professional development.

A very special thanks to Debbie Faires, Mesquite ISD and Eva Zamora, Lamar CISD for your outstanding dedication to the 2015-2016 STEM Committee. Your service to TESA and this committee is a shining example of working in harmony for the greater good of the association.

It has been a tremendous honor to serve with you and I am forever grateful to have worked with each of you.

Darcy Blackstock, STEM Chairman
Channelview ISD

Please contact Darcy Blackstock, STEM Chairman at darcy.blackstock@cvisd.org for questions about STEM or the CEOP program.



2016 CEOP Graduates

The 2016 Staff Training for Effective Management (STEM) graduation ceremony celebrated these 20 TESA members accomplishment of earning their Certified Educational Office Professional (CEOP) distinction at the TESA Summer Work Conference in Austin. Many more TESA members have earned their CEOP this year but were unable to attend the celebration ceremony.

It is always an exciting time to see our members proudly walk across the stage to celebrate this tremendous accomplishment. Our

graduates are full time employees, who are living life as parents or spouses or individuals, and have spent many hours and miles traveling to attend STEM sessions while working towards the CEOP certification. STEM Committee members Darcy Blackstock, Debbie Faires, and Eva Zamora worked diligently to encourage members to participate in the graduation celebration and strived to make this a memorable experience as well as working with all of the hosting districts, colleges and universities that held STEM sessions this past year to afford TESA

members the opportunity to attend classes across the state.

TESA offers a variety of sessions through the STEM program that can be applied toward the required 60 hours of coursework needed for the CEOP certification. STEM sessions can be hosted by educational institutions, local affiliates and are always offered at the TESA Summer Work Conference in June. For more details about STEM visit the TESA website at www.tesatexas.org.



Front row: Eva Zamora, STEM Area II Coordinator; Dianne Lemons, TESA President; Iris Martinez; Yajahira Alamilla; Carol Saenz; Olga Obeso de Fajardo; Alida Garza; Maryann Gallegos; Michelle Kuehnhold; Teresa Sutherland; Darcy Blackstock, STEM Chairman; Lisa Gonzalez, TESA President Elect.
Second row: Melissa Rodriguez. Janna Barton; Deloria Harmon; Yvonne Smeltzer; Caye Trahan; Gabby Borquez; Linda Navejar.
Third row: Rose Kilgore; Felipe Campos; Janice Oleson; Donna Traylor,

Thank You from 2016 SWC Committee

The 2016 SWC Committee wants to say **THANK YOU** for attending this year's conference. Your presence was felt at the Opening General Session with the flag ceremony and keynote speaker, President's Luncheon with Laverne and Shirley and the dynamic duo dancers, the Awards Celebration, Installation Banquet, and the closing brunch. The STEM classes and Breakout sessions were enhanced because of your active participation.

To those of you unable to attend this year's conference, we want to say ***We Missed You***, and sure hope to see you next year.

To everyone who helped with 2016 SWC, working behind the scenes and/or at the conference, we want to say ***Could Not Have Done It Without You!*** Volunteers are exceptional people who encourage others through their unselfish and can do attitudes. Rest up because the 2017 SWC Committee will greatly benefit from your help.

TESA Members are the best!

2016 SWC Committee

Dianne Lemons, President

Lisa Gonzalez, President Elect

Sue Hand, Chairman

MaryAnn Hollingsworth, Mentor

Kay Riggs, Registration Chairman

Darla Hernandez, Exhibits Chairman

Ofelia Barron, Social Chairman



Summer Work Conference 2016

Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark
4140 Governors Row
Austin, TX 78744
512-448-2222



Thank you for being part of the TESA team!

Omni Hotels & Resorts

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SCALE HOTELS

Summer Work Conference 2016



Summer Work Conference 2016



Summer Work Conference 2016



Health and Fitness Tips - "Summer Time in Texas!"

by Denise B. Cazes, M.S., Faculty

As summer 2016 progresses, the sweltering heat and humidity can really take a toll on how we feel and on our commitment to our exercise routine. Hot weather leaves us feeling lethargic and drained of energy. When we're exposed to consistent temps in the 90's, we need to exercise a few precautions if we want to continue our workout routine and prevent serious problems.

Heat exhaustion is a heat related illness that occurs when one is exposed to high temps especially when inadequately hydrated. Some are more prone to heat exhaustion like the elderly, those with high blood pressure and those who exercise or work outside. Getting a bit over zealous while working in the yard or participating in sports event is a common contributor to heat exhaustion. The symptoms include: fatigue, weakness, sweating, muscle cramping, headache and nausea. The symptoms can appear the same day or the day after exposure to the heat. If you continue to work in the heat when experiencing these symptoms, heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke which can be fatal. Symptoms of heat stroke include very high body temperature with little or no sweating, being disoriented or

highly agitated, rapid pulse, seizures and loss of consciousness.

If heat exhaustion occurs, remove the person from the hot environment and cool them as quickly as possible. Place cool, wet compresses on the front and back of the neck, under the arms and the groin. Additionally, remove heavy clothing, give the person cool, non-alcoholic, non-caffeinated beverages to drink and have them rest. If symptoms don't improve, seek medical attention.

Summer heat and vacation tend to derail our commitment to exercise. There are ways to continue our routines in spite of the summer heat. It's wise to avoid exercising or doing outside work during the hottest part of the day so schedule your sessions before 8am or after 6pm. Find shady trails or parks to do your walking, running or biking and stay out of the sun. Consider using one of the new "cooling rags" around your neck. Utilizing a pool is another great way to get in a "cool" workout. If you aren't a swimmer, walking or running in the pool are great low impact forms of cardio. Special shoes are needed and

available where pool or sporting equipment is sold. While I hate swimming laps, simply using a kickboard is a great cardio and leg workout. You still need to hit your target heart rate and sweat, but it's a lot cooler in the water!

Adequate hydration is key to preventing heat exhaustion. Drink 2-3 quarts of non-caffeinated, non-alcoholic fluid each day. Consume ½ cup of fluid every 20 minutes and if activity lasts longer than 60 minutes, a sports replacement drink is advised to provide glucose for energy and electrolytes to replace those lost during sweating.

Don't stop just because it's hot! Stay committed to your exercise routine no matter what the temps or where you might find yourself during your vacation. You have one body: you have one choice!

Denise B. Cazes, M.S., Faculty
Clinical Health and Applied Sciences Department
School of Health and Human Sciences, University of Houston-Clear Lake

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. Membership in TESA entitles the individual to an annual subscription to the *TESA Connection* magazine, circulation approximately 1,200. Subscription rates for libraries and nonmembers is \$10 per year. Send requests for subscriptions to: TESA Central Office, 1460 E. Whitestone Blvd., Suite 175, Cedar Park, TX 78613.

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Bonnie.tomczyk@killeenisd.org

TESA Membership

Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.	
Membership Application	
2016 - 2017	
	
Name (Last/First/Middle): _____	Membership #: _____
Name of Institution (if seeking Institutional Membership): _____	
Current mailing address: _____	
City/State/Zip Code: _____	
Work Phone #: _____	Home Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____
Work e-mail address: _____	
Personal e-mail address: _____	
Employed by: _____	
Name of Local TESA Affiliate: (if applicable) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership (\$40)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal (\$40) <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (\$40)
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired (\$20)	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional (\$150)
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Education Service Center <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary <input type="checkbox"/> Other (_____)
Referred by: _____	
Name Change/Address Change Information: _____	
Are you a member of NAEOP? : <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Complete form and mail with your payment to:	
TESA, 1460 E. Whitestone Blvd., Suite 175, Cedar Park, TX 78613	
Renew online at: www.tesatexas.org	
Dues paid to Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, they may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Consult your tax advisor.	

REASONS for Joining TESA

Responsibility - It is your personal responsibility to see that our profession goes forward in education. Education is changing, as our work is. We need to accept this responsibility of adapting to these changes.

Expectation - We can reach our expectations through our united efforts. Our goal to be recognized as professionals can best be reached through our Association.

Advancement - Our advancement in professional status can best be pushed through joint effort. Other associations have demonstrated the need to have a strong association. Only through your efforts can we have a strong Association.

Satisfaction - TESA creates wider horizons and broader views for all members. The personal satisfaction a member can find in working with such a group is beyond measure.

Opportunity - There is an opportunity for YOU, each and every one of YOU, to help TESA reach its goals. ONLY YOU have the opportunity to do this.

Need - TESA has a very definite need for you, for your help, and you have a definite need for TESA. Never let it be said that you, as an educational secretary or office personnel, are allowed to cry and weep over your position and status if you do not put forth the effort to move forward.





TESA Retirees Join TRESA Now!

Texas Retired Educational Secretaries Association Membership Form

2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES - \$5.00
(January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY & STATE : _____ ZIP : _____

BIRTHDAY: Month _____ Day _____ PHONE: () _____ - _____

EMAIL: _____

- ☐ New Membership ☐ Membership Renewal
- ☐ Are you a member of TESA? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Are you a member of NAEOP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Make checks payable to: **TRESA**
Return form with your dues to Treasurer –
LORAS JONES
23707 Hawkins Creek Ct. – Katy, TX 77494





Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

Assisting TESA in 2017-2018

TESA needs members who are enthusiastic about the Association and are willing to give of their time and talents by helping behind the scenes. Let us know what you would like to do by completing the following information below and returning to Lisa Acosta, Nominations Committee Chairman (contact information below).

Please Print Clearly or Type Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

District/College/University/ESC: _____

Current Job Position (District/College/University/ESC): _____

☐ Elementary ☐ Secondary ☐ Administrative ☐ Higher Education ☐ Education Service Center (ESC)

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

Fax #: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Work Email: _____ Home Email: _____

Number of Years TESA Member: _____ CEOP: Yes / No _____

I would prefer to be contacted or receive information at: ☐ Home address ☐ Work address

Tell us where your talents lie and how/where you would like to assist TESA: creating flyers/forms, presenting a session at SWC, facilitator at SWC, making phone calls, sending emails/letters, other areas

Please complete and forward to:

Lisa Acosta

Member-at-Large, Nominations

Lisa.acosta@comalisd.org



TESA SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

TESA Central Office Scholarship Committee Chairman
1460 E. Whitestone Blvd., Suite 175 - Cedar Park, TX 78613

Name: _____
Association: _____
Address: _____
City/St/Zip: _____

Check one: ☐ Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship Fund
☐ Dr. Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship Fund
☐ Founders Scholarship Fund

Check one: ☐ Individual Amount: \$ _____
☐ Local Association Amount: \$ _____
☐ State Association Amount: \$ _____

Donation is made in memory/honor of: _____

Notification should be sent to:

President's Name: _____
Association: _____
Address: _____

LORENE ROBY ROGERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Texas Educational Support Staff Association established a memorial fund to Mrs. Lorene Roby Rogers after her death December 31, 1969, as contributions were received in her memory by our organization. The general assembly of TESA voted in May 1970 to establish a permanent fund to be named the Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship Fund for a secretary, clerical or instructional assistant in education to continue her education.

DR. MICHAEL ZOLKOSKI TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP

In June 1996, the Texas Educational Support Staff Association established the Dr. Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship. This scholarship is for TESA members who would like to take computer enrichment classes.

Dr. Zolkoski's commitment to TESA has been without precedent and exemplifies the spirit of TESA. This scholarship fund has been established to honor Dr. Zolkoski's efforts to enhance the paraprofessionals' knowledge of technology.

FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP

In April 2006, the Texas Educational Support Staff Association established the Founders Scholarship. This scholarship was created to honor past TESA leaders and members who laid the foundation for this association. This scholarship is for children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of active TESA members. Recipients must be graduating high school seniors.

Volunteering for TESA



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

Volunteering for TESA for 2017-2018

Insert
Photo
Here

TESA needs candidates who are enthusiastic about the Association, have effective leadership qualities, and are interested in serving as an officer or on a committee. Please complete the following questionnaire and return by October 31, 2016 to Lisa Acosta, Nominations Committee Chairman, email: lisa.acosta@comalisd.org

Please Print Clearly or Type Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Zip: _____

District/College/University/ESC: _____

Current Job Position (District/College/University/ESC): _____

☐ Elementary ☐ Secondary ☐ Administrative ☐ Higher Education ☐ Education Service Center (ESC)

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

Fax #: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Work Email: _____ Home Email: _____

Number of Years TESA Member: _____ CEOP: Yes / No _____

I would prefer to be contacted or receive information at ☐ Home address ☐ Work address

I would like to serve TESA because:

I would bring the following expertise to TESA:

Favorite Quote:

I would be interested in serving:

☐ On a Committee (specify) _____

☐ As a Committee Chairman (specify) _____

☐ As an Elected Officer (specify) _____



Volunteering for TESA

TESA Events Attended

Number

Date

Please enter the number of events attended and the date of the most recent

Area Workshop

Summer Work Conference

Fall Work Conference

Local Association Office / Committee Served

Year

Committee Name

Year

Committee Name

TESA Committee(s) Served

Year

Committee Name

Year

Committee Name

TESA Committee(s) Chaired

Year

Position Held

Year

Committee Name

TESA Office(s) Held – Elected and Appointed

Year

Position Held

Year

Position Held

NAEOP Office(s) Held and Committee(s) Chaired and/or Served

Year

Position Held

Year

Position Held

Staff Training for Effective Management (STEM)

Yes / No

Yes / No

Training Started?

Completed?



Volunteering for TESA

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Once elected and traveling for TESA would you most likely drive or fly? _____

If flying, which airport is most acceptable to you? _____

Supervisors

Superintendent/President/Chancellor/ESC Director: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Immediate Supervisor: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Additional Supervisor: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please complete and forward the entire form no later than October 31, 2016 to:

Lisa Acosta
Member-at-Large, Nominations
Lisa.acosta@comalisd.org





Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

STEM Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Host</u>
September 13, 2016	Business Grammar & Letter Writing	UHCL
September 17, 2016	Effective Office Practices	Mesquite ISD
September 20, 2016	Professional Image	Mesquite ISD
October 1, 2016	Basic Communication	Mesquite ISD
October 18, 2016	Professional Growth Plan (AM)	UHCL
October 18, 2016	Professional Image (PM)	UHCL
October 29, 2016	Managing Change	Mesquite ISD
November 8, 2016	Profile For Success	UHCL
November 8, 2016	Professional Growth Plan	Garland ISD
November 12, 2016	Time Management (AM)	Mesquite ISD
November 12, 2016	Stress Management (PM)	Mesquite ISD
December 8, 2016	Leadership & Team Building	Garland ISD
January 10, 2017	Assertiveness Training	Mesquite ISD
January 28, 2017	Assisting Difficult People	Mesquite ISD
January 31, 2017	Assisting Difficult People	UHCL
February 21, 2017	Leadership & Team Building (AM)	UHCL
February 21, 2017	Assertiveness Training (PM)	UHCL
February 28, 2017	Rules for Spelling & Proofreading	Mesquite ISD
March 2, 2017	Telephone Skills	Garland ISD
March 4, 2017	Profile For Success	Mesquite ISD
March 14, 2017	Managing Change	UHCL
March 25, 2017	Business Grammar/Letter Writing	Garland ISD
April 4, 2017	Time Management (AM)	UHCL
April 4, 2017	Customer Service (PM)	UHCL
April 4, 2017	Dialogue of Diversity	Mesquite ISD
May 2, 2017	Effective Office Practices	UHCL

Host Contacts

Marisela Maldonado
University of Houston-Clear Lake
Ph: 281.283.3309
E: Maldonado@uhcl.edu

Juliana Holmes, CEOP
Garland ISD
Ph: 972.494.6566
E: holmesj@garlandisd.org

Yvonne Smeltzer, CEOP
Mesquite ISD
Ph: 972.882.7335
E: nsmeltzer@mesquiteisd.org

STEM Committee

Darcy Blackstock, CEOP
STEM Chairman
Channelview ISD
darcy.blackstock@cvisd.org

Yvonne Smeltzer, CEOP
Area I Coordinator (North)
Mesquite ISD
nsmeltzer@mesquiteisd.org

Eva Zamora, CEOP
Area II Coordinator (South)
Lamar CISD
ezamora@lcisd.org



Tag Teaming With TESA

by Maria Campos and Felipe Campos



For most of my life I have always believed in personal ethics which has always grounded me with good moral values and modesty. It was the leading factor in me finding a loving companion to share my life with. Was it love and first sight??? No, not really. It was the kindness in his manner and his values, and his respect for love of country and family that sealed the deal for me. I saw respect and honor – something I had only felt before in the presence of my father. My husband is a quiet man and when he talks people listen. This is not because he is a boastful person, but a wise and humble man. He's a "lovable hambone," with everyday an adventure to make me laugh, which keeps my life awesome. He is my "go-to" person with everything. God truly has blessed me and my family. Life has not always been easy. After 30 years in the Air Force and being in a military family... we quickly learned that in order to survive family heartache, separation, family deaths, missed birthdays, anniversaries (yes, more than a few), we had to depend on family, church and people with the same values that we have, people that will uphold the true spirit of goodness. So it was no accident that I happen to attend a

Bosses Night hosted by the Spring Branch Educational Support Association that change my world for the better. 2001 was my year for personal growth, at first taking district training classes.

In 2003 I joined Spring Branch Educational Support Association (SBESA). These women became part of a family I never thought I would have;

they were all the most positive, uplifting, and encouraging ladies I could have ever wanted to meet. They would be the backbone to my sanity during my health issues and military separation from my husband for the most of 10 years off and on. During that time I would become Vice President, President twice (2006 and 2009) of our local association; a TESA member, a CEOP Graduate in 2004, and cancer survivor in 2008. During these times I had to rely on what I was taught in my CEOP classes... Quotes: "smile even when its bad"... "The sun comes up in the morning"... "tomorrow is another day" – and my two favorite ones: "tomorrow is a different day with a different outlook" and "if you smile at someone, someone will smile back at you." When I found people and an organization that believes in the same great moral values, and in professional and personal growth, it was a "no-brainer" for me to know that Felipe would want to see what this is all about. As he got closer to retiring and wanting to get into the educational field, it was automatic that he should be in TESA and obtain his own CEOP certification. But that's his story. (Maria Campos, CEOP) TAG you're it!

My first introduction to TESA began when my wife invited me to attend her CEOP graduation at the Fall Conference in San Antonio (2004). At first I thought it was just a group of ladies getting together to lift each other up. Man, was I wrong. I witnessed firsthand an organization dedicated to providing paraprofessionals with the tools needed to enhance their skills, and to not only grow personally, but to make an impact back at their educational organizations. I was impressed with the variety of classes offered and the camaraderie created by its leadership. I told my wife that it reminded me of the team building and unity environments created within the different military organizations. But I was most impressed with my wife's personal growth.

Eight years later, after retiring from the military, I began my transition to the civilian sector. After thinking long and hard, I decided to pursue work in the educational field. That first impression I got attending that fall conference stuck with me all this time and it was more than enough to influence my decision to seek a career that gave me a chance to qualify for membership. I was fortunate to be offered a job in the same school district as my wife. The benefits outweighed the potential problems; same days off, similar contacts, similar opportunities to learn, and the opportunity to attend workshops and conferences together. But most importantly, it has afforded a chance for us together to be involved in this great organization known as TESA. This definitely gives us the opportunity to "Tag Team," as we blend our different talents in a very unique way of serving TESA. (Felipe Campos, CEOP)





NAEOP 2016



Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee



Newsletter

First Place: San Jacinto College Association of Educational Office Personnel



Left to Right: Rhonda Parrott, Patty Garcia, Sherry Gray & President Lemons

Second Place: Garland Educational Support Staff Association



Left to Right: Rhonda Parrott, Patty Garcia, Juliana Holmes & President Lemons

Yearbook

First Place: Richardson Educational Staff Association



Left to Right: Rhonda Parrott, Patty Garcia, Tracey Fincik & President Lemons

Second Place: Garland Educational Support Staff Association



Left to Right: Rhonda Parrott, Patty Garcia, Juliana Holmes & President Lemons

Third Place: Weatherford Educational Support Association

Left to Right: Rhonda Parrott, Patty Garcia, Jana Worthington & President Lemons



Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee



Administrator of the Year

Celia Martinez, Donna ISD,
Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff
Association



L to R: President Elect Lisa E. Gonzalez, Celia Martinez &
President Dianne Lemons

Nelda Van Dyke (Employee of the Year)

Ofelia Barron, Donna ISD
Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff
Association



L to R: President Elect Lisa E. Gonzalez, Ofelia Barron &
President Dianne Lemons

Founders Scholarship Recipient Kaylee Acosta,
Comal ISD (accepting on her behalf her mother
Lisa Acosta)



Left to Right: Marie Enax, Patty Garcia, Rhonda Parrott,
Lisa Acosta & President Lemons

Lorene Roby Rogers & Dr. Michael Zolkoski
Technology Scholarship Recipient:
Lisa Acosta, Comal ISD



L to R: Marie Enax, Patty Garcia, Rhonda Parrott,
Lisa Acosta & President Lemons

Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee

Thank You for your Support!!

Theme Basket Winners

\$1663.00 raised for the Founders
Scholarship Fund.

Thank you all for your contributions!



Collected at all three events, Presidents Luncheon, Banquet & Brunch a grand total of \$888.50 was collected. All money will be going to the Founders Scholarship Fund.



Winner at President's Luncheon:
Betsy Krevosky, Lamar CISD
pictured with Marie Enax



Winner at Brunch:
MaryAnn Hollingsworth, Texas
State University
pictured with Marie Enax

Getting Ready for 50/50
Lamar CESA helping out



L to R: Susie Ortiz, Triny Zamora, Rose Lopez, Leticia Rojas,
Irene Salinas & Kendra Ramirez

Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee

Theme Basket Contest Winners

Most Unique Music Theme

**San Jacinto College Association of Educational
Office Personnel**



L to R: Sherry Gray, Patty Garcia & Donna Cubstead

Most Imagination

Debbie Wade



L to R: Debbie Wade, Past President & Rhonda Parrott

Best Representing Texas

Harlingen Educational Secretaries Association



Back Row: Rhonda Parrott
Front Row L to R: Gaby Borquez, Carol Saenz & Mary Ann Gallegos

Best Representing Conference Theme **Killeen Educational Support Staff Association**



L to R: Patty Garcia & Mary Flores, Killeen ESA

Awards/Scholarship/Journalist Committee

THE spirit AWARD

First Place

San Jacinto College Association of Educational
Office Personnel



L to R: Lisa Acosta, Debra White, & Paula Quiroz

Second Place

Mesquite Educational Paraprofessional Association



L to R: Darla Hernandez & Patty Garcia

Third Place

Lamar Consolidated Educational Support-Staff
Association



L to R: Eva Zamora & Rhonda Parrott

SPRIT AWARD ENTRIES



L to R: Harlingen ESA, Lamar ESA, Mesquite ESA & San Jacinto
College (Not pictured: Pasadena ISD entry)

TESA Area Workshop - April 2016

Hosted by Lamar Consolidated Education Support-Staff Association (LCESA) and the San Jacinto College Association of Educational Office Personnel (SJC AEOP)

by Melissa Rodriguez, CEOP

On a crisp, cool, beautiful spring day in March, the halls of Reading Jr. High School in Richmond, Texas were filled with laughter, comradery, and conversations long over due. Classes were in full swing, the cafeteria was filled with the aroma of sweet treats and coffee, and all 79 guests were excited to be there for a full Saturday of learning.

LCESA and SJC AEOP joined together to host a successful Area Workshop on Saturday, March 5, 2016. Reading Jr. High in Lamar CISD was once again the host campus. If you missed LCESA's 1st workshop in 2014 we hope you were able to attend this one. Guests came from Channelview, ISD, Donna ISD, Garland ISD, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, Harlingen CISD, Highland Park ISD, Houston CC, Killeen ISD, Lamar CISD, Mesquite ISD, Pasadena ISD, Pearland ISD, San Jacinto College, Spring Branch ISD, Texas A&M University, Texas State University, and the University of Houston at Clear Lake.

Guests were welcomed at the registration table manned by Donna Cubstead and fellow members of SJC AEOP, to receive their registration bag filled with lots of goodies donated by various districts and vendors.

The TESA and SWC 2016 tables were not to be missed as the display was very

inviting for all to see.

Once in the cafeteria, guests were treated to a variety of breakfast items, fruit and drink.

Many were perusing the raffle baskets and eyeing which ones would look great in their office or which of their favorite restaurants had a gift card included in the basket.

The big ticket items in the raffle were a laptop and a big screen t.v.

After convocation and the pledges guests were on the move to their various classes. This year's sessions included:
STEM – Professional Growth
How to Thrive and Survive During Times of Changes and Transitions
Electronic Communication Etiquette
Be an Excel Hero, Not a Zero
You Are The Gatekeeper... Ways to Keep Your Cool
Branding – What Does Your Personal Brand Say About You?
Purchasing for Non-purchasing Staff
Adobe Acrobat Pro X & One Note

Lunch was by Firehouse Subs and guests had a variety to choose from. TESA president Dianne Lemons welcomed everyone and spoke on her year so far and invited everyone to the SWC 2016.

Drawings for 50/50 and the theme baskets

were fun as everyone would walk by the baskets to see if their numbers matched.

Once lunch was over, guests reported to their afternoon sessions. You could hear laughter and friendly conversations in the sessions as guests participated and interacted with their presenters.

Putting on a workshop is no easy task, just ask Sue Hand and Marie Enax. These 2 ladies have co-chaired the past 2 Area Workshops held in Lamar CISD. There's many committees to be formed and many volunteers needed to fill various jobs. My duty for this workshop and in 2014 was Facility Chair, which made sense since this was being held on my campus.

At the end of the day, there were many smiling faces, hugs and high fives as this workshop was in the books. Great job to LCESA and SJC AEOP for a successful workshop!

We hope to bring you more TESA AREA Workshops in the near future.





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

UHCL ESA Affiliate Report on SWC 2016!!

Summer Work Conference (SWC) was awesome!! Several UHCL-ESA member attended, as well as three who graduated in the outstanding STEM Celebration and Graduation program: Rose Kilgore, Iris Martinez, and Caye Trahan. Separate articles from these three ladies will be found in this issue – read and get invigorated! Others from UHCL had completed their requirements for the CEOP, but could not attend. So by 2017, let's have an even larger ESA group attending conference and graduating as well. Debbie McFadden and Wanda Honeycutt (UHCL-ESA) also presented STEM classes at the conference.

Our last UHCL ESA Affiliate report to the TESA Connection focused on spring cleaning and a time for new beginnings, new life, and dreams! With the enthusiasm brought back from the SWC 2016, and positive comments from most all – we believe in a 2016-17 that new beginnings will include an upswing for UHCL-ESA!! To all affiliates across the state, we challenge you to recruit new members and add new life to your TESA affiliate association!

At least two from UHCL ESA were SWC first timers, and they say they will definitely be back next year! Comments heard include *"Every TESA conference I attend is the 'best one I ever attended'..."* and each keeps its own special memory, always with something to enjoy, friends to see, great classes for learning and development. For some of us who have been going for several years, we know the value of getting

involved in in our local affiliate and in TESA quickly, see the importance of committee volunteering, of promoting the STEM program, attending the workshops, and volunteering. But this year just seemed to have a *special fellowship and camaraderie* like I have not felt in a long time. *Wow... and then some!*

Kudos to the TESA Board and the SWC Committee and volunteers, including many dedicated Past Presidents! For those who could NOT attend 2016 SWC, put next year on your calendar and plan to travel to Austin on June 17-22, 2017...God willing, we will meet you there! And at UHCL-

ESA, we will work to recruit more "First and Second Timers!"

For the local ESA level, watch for announcement soon from ESA Secretary, Nicole Lenderman. You are urged to support your UHCL-ESA and to encourage more to join ESA and TESA members! Summer is a time for our affiliate to come together stronger and to transition with greater stamina and growth in the fall – including planning for the UHCL-ESA Bosses Day and nomination for Boss of the Year! STEM classes have already been presented by the ESA Board and recently approved by the TESA STEM Committee.

UHCL ESA STEM Calendar for 2016-2017 – 8:30-3:30 UHCL Campus, Forest Room
Contact Maldonado@uhcl.edu to be on mailing list in case of any class changes.

Tue	Sep 13	8:30- 3:30p	Business Grammar and Letter Writing
Tue	Oct 18	8:30-11:30a	Professional Growth Plan
Tue	Oct 18	12:30-3:30p	Professional Image
Tue	Nov 08	8:30- 3:30p	Profile for Success
Tue	Jan 31	8:30- 3:30p	Assisting Difficult People
Tue	Feb 21	8:30-11:30a	Leadership Training
Tue	Feb 21	12:30-3:30p	Assertiveness Training
Tue	Mar 14	8:30- 3:30p	Managing Change
Tue	Apr 04	8:30-11:30a	Time Management
Tue	Apr 04	12:30-3:30p	Customer Service
Tue	May 02	8:30- 3:30p	Effective Office Practices

Have a great summer, gear up for the fall – and support your local affiliate and TESA!!
Contributions from Margaret Garcia, UHCL-ESA President and Wanda Honeycutt, UHCL Retiree 2010



A Servant Heart

Mesquite Educational Professionals Association (MEPA)

by Yvonne Smeltzer, MEPA President Elect

In the world as it is today, it is very difficult to find a servant leader – someone willing to pull up their sleeves and help make things happen. These are mindful leaders, only asking of others what they are willing to do themselves. No matter what or how they feel, they want to contribute as much or more than anyone else. This demonstrates a “servant’s heart.” Again, such leaders are few and far between these days.

Most leaders are delegators. They want to sit at the top of the pecking order, and really not do very much except hand out duties to others. Most do not even know how to do what their subordinates are expected to know and to do. Many delegators have no concept of the process, and could not perform the process if their life depended on it.

This year TESA has had the privilege of being led by one who is exemplary of a leader with a true “Servant Heart.” This one IS 2016 TESA President Dianne Lemons. Having spent a good amount of time with her during this TESA Summer Work Conference, and having been around her during the course of this year, this Servant Heart is alive and well in Mesquite, Texas!

Mesquite’s MEPA members are so proud of our very own Dianne Lemons. Here are a few pictures that we hope you enjoy!



Stephen Mouser – MEPA Secretary; Dianne Lemons – TESA President; Lisa Porter – MEPA Membership Chair



Terri Craig – MEPA Programs Chair; Dianne Lemons – TESA President; Paula Lambright – Webmaster – TESA and MEPA; Yvonne Smeltzer – MEPA President Elect



Dianne Lemons – TESA President;
Ofelia Barron – 2016 Nelda Van Dyke Award



Dianne Lemons give sound advice to Lisa Gonzalez



Flag Ceremony

Affiliates in Action



Darla Hernandez – MEPA President; Darcy Blackstock – TESA Stem Chair



Name that Tune – TESA Style! Go team Harmony!!!



MEPA Group

*Ady Reyna – MEPA Historian, Stephen Mouser – MEPA Secretary; Darla Hernandez – MEPA President
Terri Craig – Programs; Deloria Harmon – MEPA; Yvonne Smeltzer – MEPA President Elect;
Dianne Lemons – MEPA Parliamentarian & TESA President; Lisa Porter – MEPA Membership*



*Darla Hernandez – MEPA President; Dianne Lemons – MEPA Parliamentarian & TESA Past President;
Dianne Hogg – MEPA STEM Teacher*

Affiliates in Action

RESSA 🍏 The Core of RISD



Our new Executive Board was installed in May and we held our Board Retreat in June to plan for the New Year.

Planning our Year



We had so much fun at the TESA Conference Austin. We attended some interesting classes and enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones.



Class with Candace Ahlfinger



RESSA 1st Place Winner Yearbook



RESSA Gals