



The TESA CONNECTION

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

Volume LXXIV, Number 1—Winter 2024

Greetings TESA members!!

As I start this message, I would first like to wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2024. I hope everyone has had a great start to the New Year. As you all know, the theme that I chose for my TESA year 2023-2024 is Cultivating Excellence, Level Up: Personally and Professionally; as we start 2024 let us continue to enhance our skills through attending TPEP classes, workshops and work-related meetings to help us continue to grow personally and professionally.

President Elect, Eva Zamora, the TESA Board, committee members and I invite you to join us in the various events that will be taking place this second half of the year. We will be having TPEP classes (in person and via Zoom), an area workshop on March 23, 2024 sponsored by the Richardson Educational Support Staff Association and the Garland Educational Support Staff Association, which will also offer a TPEP class and of course our 2024 Summer Work Conference (SWC). SWC will be taking place June 18-20, 2024 in San Antonio, Texas at the Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio North Stone Oak.

Our SWC Committee is working hard to plan an excellent conference for you. As you have requested, additional TPEP classes will be offered. The SWC committee met on September 15-17, 2023 for their first planning meeting and will be meeting again on the weekend of January 19-21, 2024 to continue with their planning. We look forward to seeing you there this summer.

Eva Zamora is still in need of volunteers for next year, so I ask you to consider "Volunteering for TESA in 2024-2025" and go to the TESA website to volunteer or go to the following link: <https://bit.ly/3DNF1ZC>. If you want to be more involved in our fabulous organization, take the time now to sign up to be on a committee. TESA needs you and you need TESA!

Some other important dates to remember are February 15th through March 1st. This is when all current, paid members get to vote for the 2024-2025 officers. February 25th is the nomination deadline for Administrator of the Year, Nelda Van Dyke Administrative Assistant of the Year, submission for Newsletter and Yearbook awards and TESA scholarships. Visit the TESA website for important information and the appropriate forms.

Please do not hesitate to contact any members of the 2023-2024 TESA Executive Board with any questions that you may have. All of us are here to assist you and your local organizations. I am very happy and still most honored to serve as the President of this great organization this year.

I encourage you to visit the TESA website, www.tesatexas.org, regularly to stay updated on the latest information and events held throughout the year. This will enable you to continue "Cultivating Excellence and Leveling Up Personally and Professionally".

Sincerely,

Ofelia Barron, CEOP

TESA President 2023-2024



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Dates to Remember

Feb 15 - Online Voting Begins
Feb 19 - President's Day TESA office closed
Feb 25 - Awards & Scholarship Applications Due
Mar 1 - Online Voting Ends
Mar 11-15 - Spring Break TESA Office Closed
March 23 - TESA Area Workshop Richardson ISD
June 18-21 - Summer Conference San Antonio

TESA Connection

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FROM THE EDITOR

ALICIA LOPEZ, GARLAND ISD, EDITOR
SHERRY GRAY, SAN JACINTO COLLEGE, ASSISTANT EDITOR



I am honored in being this year's TESA Vice President and Editor for the TESA Connection, along with my co-editor Sherry Gray. We want to thank those who provided articles to place in our newsletter in order to share the great news our affiliates are experiencing this school year. From across the great state of TEXAS, we all share the love of our TESA organization and the opportunities we experience by networking and attending TPEP courses in order to obtain the CEOP certification. This issue has articles of shared times with our peers along with great pictures of last years Summer Work Conference

that was a big hit thanks to those who dedicated their time and talents. Please continue to share your stories on what is going on in your district for the SPRING/SUMMER issue of our TESA Connection. We love to keep everyone informed with upcoming events and share their success stories with our TESA family.

"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

BY SHERRY GRAY

HR 82

Social Security
Fairness Act

Watch the
progress of this
bill.

As of January
31, 2024 there
are 306
cosponsors in
the House of
Representatives

One of the important bills in legislature now is HR 82. The Social Security Fairness Act

This bill would make a big difference to Education employees as well as other State and Federal employees.

This bill was introduced January 9, 2023. As of January 31, 2024 it has 306 sponsors in the House of Representatives. This could mean it will pass when it goes to vote in the House.

President Joe Biden also supported these on his 2020 campaign.

Here is what the bill consists of.

Social Security Fairness Act of 2023

This bill repeals provisions that reduce Social Security benefits for individuals who receive other benefits, such as a pension from a state or local government.

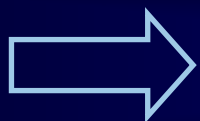
The bill eliminates the government pension offset, which in various instances reduces Social Security benefits for spouses, widows, and widowers who also receive government pensions of their own.

The bill also eliminates the windfall elimination provision, which in some instances reduces Social Security benefits for individuals who also receive a pension or disability benefit from an employer that did not withhold Social Security taxes.

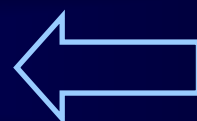
Check these links:

https://www.fedsmith.com/2024/01/29/wep-gpo-legislation-gains-co-sponsors/#google_vignette

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/82/cosponsors?q=%7B%22party%22%3A%22all%22%7D>



SAVE THE DATE



TESA SUMMER WORK CONFERENCE 2024



Join us at the
Drury Plaza Hotel
San Antonio North Stone Oak
823 North Loop 1604 East
San Antonio, TX

SWC
June 18-20, 2024

The room rate is \$130/night
Single, Double, Triple or Quad
We will let you know when you can
start booking your rooms at this rate.

Room Rates include the following for overnight guests:

Complimentary Hot Breakfast
Complimentary Evening Drinks and Hot Snacks
Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the Hotel
Parking Garage

HELLO, TESA RETIREES

2024 TESA Summer Work Conference (SWC)
June 18-20, 2024

All current TESA Retiree members will get a one-time special discount code to use to register for SWC. If you plan to attend SWC, you will need to contact Irma Ford before you register to get your code.
(irma.610@hotmail.com)

Room rate: \$130/night
(Single, Double, Triple or Quad)

**Includes: Hot Breakfast, Evening drinks and hot snacks,
wifi and free parking garage**

New Location:
Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio North Stone Oak
823 North Loop 1604 East
San Antonio, TX 78232

More information available soon on the
TESA Website



www.tesatexas.org

RESSA RICHARDSON ISD

Richardson Educational Support Staff Association (RESSA)

By: Lindsay Baronoskie, RESSA President

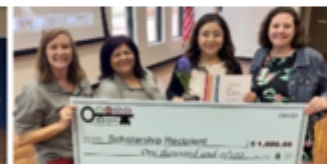
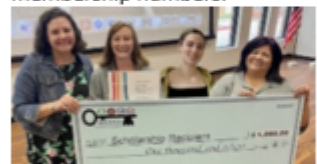
RESSA members finished off the 2022-2023 year with several events and meetings that were the perfect representation of what the organization is all about. The purpose of RESSA is to provide educational opportunities to members and students of members through scholarships, to improve the standards of the membership through professional growth, to increase interest in school and community relationships in a charitable manner.

The annual RESSA Airplane Toss brought the Richardson ISD community and RESSA members together for fun, fellowship, and a chance to raise money for the RESSA Scholarship Funds that go to paraprofessionals and members' children and grandchildren.

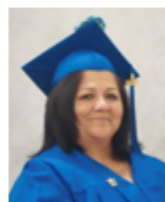


The 2023 RESSA Bosses Event was another amazing evening where awards were given, door prizes were won, and members and their bosses came together to celebrate the year and honor each other. We recognized the 2022-2023 Supervisor of the Year (Laura Lucas), Rookie Supervisor of the Year (Dr. Trey Ivey), and Member of the Year (Katherine McKinney) for their outstanding accomplishments and qualities.

At our April 2023 "RESSA in Review" general meeting, the four RESSA scholarship recipients were recognized. Our paraprofessional recipients were Meredith Kent and Viri Gutierrez. Our members' children who are college students that received scholarships were Alex Rangel and Lauren Baronoskie. RESSA also presented membership awards to several campuses and central buildings for their membership numbers.



In June, RESSA had five members attend the 2023 TESA Summer Work Conference where our very own Mary Rodriguez graduated and received her CEOP certification. We are so proud of her! RESSA also received 1st place for the RESSA Yearbook, 2nd place for the RESSA Newsletter, and the 3rd place Spirit Award. RESSA is excited for more members to begin working on their CEOP certification this year and to attend the 2024 TESA Summer Work Conference next summer!



At the final RESSA meeting of the 2022-2023 school year, our newly voted in Executive Officers were installed by Gaya Jefferson, Richardson ISD's Executive Director of Professional Learning and the 2023-2024 RESSA Administrative Advisor. Lindsay Baronoskie was installed as the 2023-2024 RESSA President and spoke about the exciting things to look forward to in the new school year.



"Stay Warm" donation drive was kicked off and collected winter clothing needs for Richardson ISD students and families who benefit from the RISD Clothes Closet.

RESSA members were so excited to kick off the 2023-2024 year with the September General Meeting on September 11th in Richardson, Texas. The year's theme, "We Are All in This Together," aligns with Richardson ISD's focus for the year, "We Are One." Amazing presenters came to speak on the RISD Refugee Program and how paraprofessionals and other members can support students in this program. The

Henry Ford once said, "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." We are enjoying a great year so far of exactly that! If you'd like to be part of RESSA, please email Lindsay.Baronoskie@risd.org for more information.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION (VESA)

Submitted by Lisa E. Gonzalez, CEOP
Donna ISD
2023-2025 VESA President

VESA members finished last year with their 54th Annual Bosses Banquet held on April 28, 2023 at J.S. Adame Elementary Cafeteria in Donna, TX. Here members had a chance to pay tribute to their Bosses, as well as recognize the 2023 Sandra S. McMurtray Award Recipient Co-Winners, Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD and Martin Saenz, South Texas ISD (unable to be present). Also, Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction for Donna ISD installed the 2023-2025 VESA Officers.

Officers for 2023-2025 are: President, Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD; First Vice- President, Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD; Second Vice-President, Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD; Secretary, Andrew Chew, Mercedes ISD and Treasurer, Linda Chimely, Mercedes ISD.

Five members represented VESA at the 2023 TESA Summer Work Conference (SWC). They were Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD, Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD; Andrew Chew, Mercedes ISD, Linda Chimely, Mercedes ISD and Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD. On June 29, 2023, two VESA members were installed to the TESA Executive Board or Committee, Ofelia Barron was installed as the 2023-2024 TESA President; Lisa E. Gonzalez was installed as the Web Advisor and Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD was installed as an Awards/Scholarships/Journalist Committee member. Special thanks to all VESA members for sponsoring Ofelia's Presidents reception after the installation. VESA is very proud of Ofelia for being elected to serve as TESA President and we stand behind her and support her 100%. Also taking place at the TESA SWC were the Awards presentation. For the sixth year in a row, VESA was awarded the Outstanding Newsletter Award.

VESA got the 2023-2024 school year going on September 14, 2023 at Donna ISD with the meeting hosted by the VESA Executive Board. We are pleased to say that we have another district join our association. We welcome the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD members and look forward to them being a part of our VESA family. Our speaker for the evening, Emily Anderson, Donna ISD Science Director spoke to us on *"Understanding My Core Value & How That Brings Value to My Team"*. Due to some districts still not allowing "outside" evening meetings, most meetings this year will be held in Donna ISD and hosted by the various school districts. On October 12, 2023, we held our second meeting of the year hosted by South Texas ISD VESA members at their new Administration Building. Our speaker for the evening Josie DeLaCerde from South Texas ISD spoke to us on *"Healthy Eating vs. Nutrition"*. Our November 9, 2023 meeting brought us back to Donna ISD with the meeting hosted by the Rio Grande City VESA members. We had no speaker this evening, but Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD did an activity with the group where we were to write something positive about each member on a paper that was placed on their back. Our busy month, December took us back to South Texas ISD for our December meeting and Christmas Social on December 14, 2023. After a brief meeting, VESA members enjoyed a nice meal that consisted of tamales, rice, beans and buñuelos. After the meal, members had fun playing loteria.

VESA CONTINUED

As part of our Community Service, VESA members voted to make a monetary donation to the Aurora House Foundation in Weslaco, TX along with each member bringing items to donate off the Aurora House “Wish-list”. The Aurora House is a licensed Special Care Facility that provides compassionate end of life services. This special house offers love and compassion through trained community volunteers and a staff of nursing assistants. This care is provided in a home-like atmosphere, with clean and comfortable, private rooms. We also voted to donate to the Tropical Texas Behavioral Health-Veterans Peer Center in Weslaco. This department offers assistance and resources to veterans and their families. We are so grateful to these men for their service to our country and for their continued service to their fellow veterans.

Our annual fundraiser and Bosses Banquet are in the works. Martin Saenz, Fundraising Chairman got our fundraiser started on January 11, 2024 and will run through March 7, 2024 when the drawing will be held. Plans are also moving along for our 55th Annual Bosses Banquet which will be held on April 26, 2024. This year Ofelia Barrón is chairing the Bosses Banquet Committee. Committee members are Gaby Borquez, Christy Cardenas, Maricela Cavazos, Linda Chimely and Rosie Morado. This committee has been hard at work since November planning an exciting Bosses Banquet.

The purpose and aim of VESA is to improve the standard of the group through study and professional growth, to promote fellowship, to increase intelligent interest in school and community relationship, and to render a finer and more efficient service to our schools.

VESA is also looking for new members. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Any educational support personnel in a Rio Grande Valley school district can join VESA. Anyone wanting more information may contact Lisa E. Gonzalez, President at lgonzalez@donnaisd.net or Ofelia Barrón, Membership Chairman, Donna ISD at obarron@donnaisd.net for more information.



Bosses present at the 54th Annual VESA Bosses Banquet on April 28, 2023



VESA members present at the 54th Annual VESA

In order for VESA to keep growing and moving forward, it will take the support and cooperation of all its members. To quote Mother Teresa, *"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."*

RIO GRANDE VALLEY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION (VESA)



Ofelia Barrón, installed as the 2023-2024 TESA President by her boss, Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction, Donna ISD



Pictured left to right with the Outstanding Newsletter Award are: Andrew Chew, Mercedes ISD; Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD; Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD, Editor; Linda Chimely, Mercedes ISD; and Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD.



Presidents Reception Table. Thanks to the volunteers who helped set it up. Pictured left to right: Lisa E. Gonzalez, Donna ISD; Darcy Blackstock, Channelview ISD; Eva Zamora, Lamar CISD; Andrew Chew, Mercedes ISD; Marie Enax, Retired-Lamar CISD; Sue Hand, Retired, Lamar CISD; Maricela Cavazos, Donna ISD; and Alicia Lopez, Garland ISD. Not pictured: Linda Chimely, Mercedes ISD.



Delivering donations to Tropical Texas Behavioral Health Center, Veterans Peer Center on December 18, 2023.

Pictured left to right: Veronica Adame, Veterans Peer Center; Enedelia Martinez, Gaby Borquez and Patty Garcia.



December VESA group picture.



VESA members supporting TESA and our own newly installed 2023-2024 TESA President, Ofelia Barrón.



Delivering donations to the Aurora House on December 15, 2023



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

TPEP Calendar

2023 – 2024

Date	Session	Time	Host
3/2/2024	Basic Communication	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	Mesquite ISD (Via Zoom)
3/23/2024	Professional Growth	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	RESSA/GESSA TESA Area Workshop
4/13/2024	Assertiveness Training	8:30 am – 11:30 am	Garland ISD
4/13/2024	Spelling and Proofreading	12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Garland ISD
4/20/2024	Managing Change	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	Richardson ESSA
5/4/2024	Interpersonal Communication	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	Mesquite ISD (Via Zoom)
5/18/2024	Time Management	8:30 am – 11:30 am	Garland ISD
5/18/2024	Stress Management	12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Garland ISD
6/18/2024	Personality Profile	8:30 am – 4:00 pm	TESA SWC
6/18/2024	Managing Change	8:30 am – 4:00 pm	TESA SWC
6/19/2024	Professional Image	1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	TESA SWC
6/19/2024	Leadership Skills & Team Building	1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	TESA SWC
6/20/2024	Assertiveness Training	8:00 am – 11:00 am	TESA SWC
6/20/2024	Professional Growth Plan	8:00 am – 11:00 am	TESA SWC

For more information contact Juliana Holmes, TPEP Chairman, or Alicia Lopez, TPEP Area Coordinator.

TPEP Committee

Juliana Holmes, CEOP

TPEP Chairman

Garland ISD

jholmes@garlandisd.net

Alicia Lopez, CEOP

Area Coordinator

Garland ISD

alopez@garlandisd.net

TESA Office

PO Box 11825

Killeen, TX 76547

Phone: (512) 528-0046

info@tesatexas.org

NEW TPEP CONSULTANTS

WOW!! If you missed the New Consultant Training on Saturday, October 29, 2023, you missed the fun, great learning, fellowship, fun learning, and seeing how easy it is to become a TPEP Consultant for TESA. Did I mention that we had fun learning? Seeing the four new consultants' faces light up when the "I got it" moments appeared was wonderful. Congratulations to Michelle Kuehnhold, GESSA, Alicia Lopez, GESSA, Mary Rodriguez, RESSA and Dorthie Thompson, MEPA for attending New Consultant Training! TESA is so proud of all of you.

It's very exciting to know that four more wonderful ladies will be joining the ranks of Consultant. We would love to have more people participate in the training and become Consultants. With more consultants available, TESA will be able to provide more classes. Any TESA member with their CEOP interested in having fun learning to be a TPEP Consultant, please let us know. It would be so much fun to hold New Consultant Training in a different location and add to our Consultant Team. Contact info is listed below for the TPEP Chairman and Area Coordinator.

Juliana Holmes, CEOP
2023-2024 TPEP Chair
jholmes@garlandisd.net



Alicia Lopez, CEOP
2023-2024 TPEP Area Coordinator
alopez@garlandisd.net



TESA PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (TPEP)



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

TPEP Committee

It's that time of the year to start renewing your CEOP (Certified Educational Organization Professional) distinction is beginning to come to mind. There are a few steps to keep in mind so you can receive your letter from Ofelia Barrón, TESA President 2023-2024, without delay.

Step-by-step Recertification Process:

Complete a total of six hours of continuous training in increments of three hours or more.

*Each Certificate must show a minimum of three hours each and be dated between **August 1 and July 31**.*

Fill out the Recertification Form – can be found at www.tesatexas.org under the TPEP tab.

Attach copies of your certificates for a total of six hours to the recertification form.

At least 3 hours in length for the class on a particular topic. This does not include general staff development and/or meetings.

In a classroom setting or online

Job-related

Taught by a qualified instructor

TPEP classes not taken for credit in last three (3) years

TPEP classes recently re-written

4. Attach a copy of your current TESA membership card or a copy of the cashed check for membership dues paid.

Submit via email to: info@tesatexas.org for quick processing OR mail to:

TESA
PO Box 11825
Killeen, TX 76547

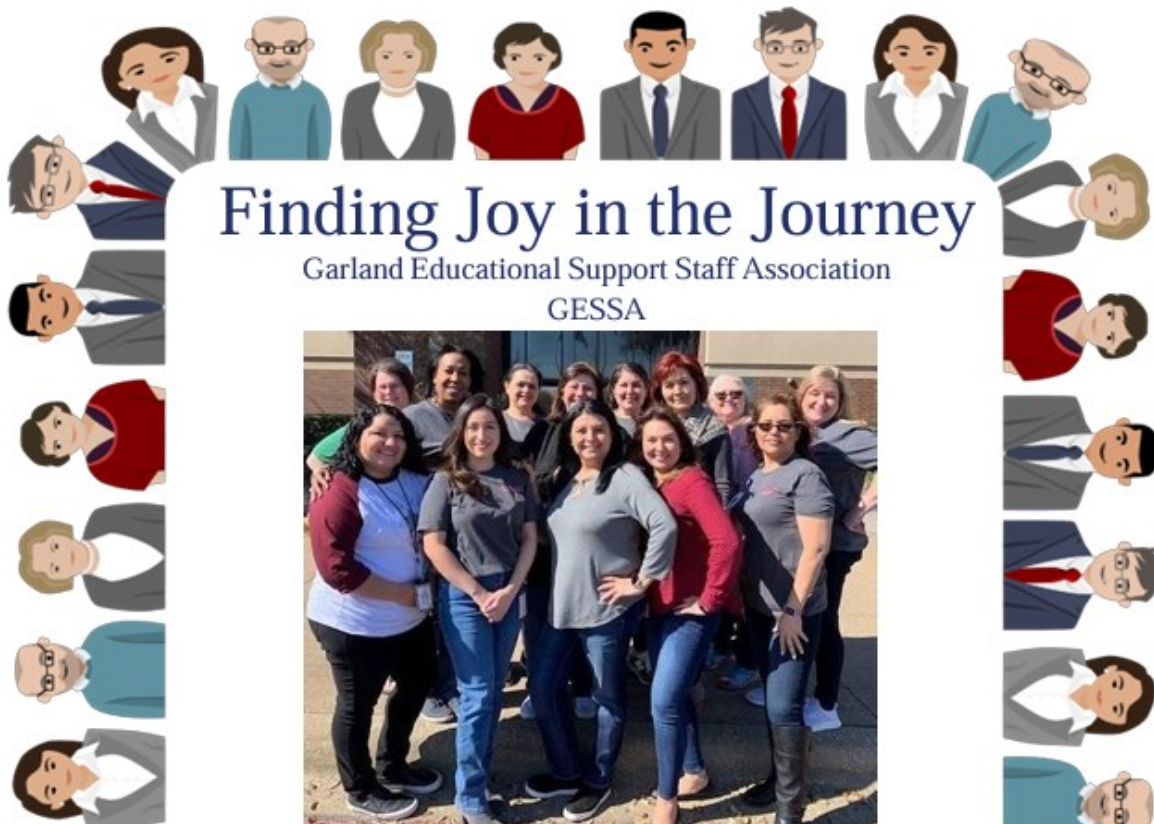
Once ALL information is received and verified, then the President will email you a recertification letter.

Please allow 8 to 10 days for processing once received.

Please remember that a TESA year is begins on August 1 and ends on July 31.

GESSA GARLAND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION

By Alicia Lopez, GESSA President, TESA Vice President



Learning from others provides joy!

At Garland Independent School District, we have many paraprofessionals that work at the campus level and at various district buildings across GISD. We provide support to our 71 campuses and many parents across our district. GESSA is a strong organization with over 200 members and we provide opportunities for all Para's to achieve their full potential by providing TPEP classes in order to grow in their positions.

We work together in various positions within our administrative buildings and campuses. As a team, we provide network capabilities and learn new skills when we promote our Para's within the district. The joy of having a support system in place provides an opportunity for stability and growth in our daily tasks.

In the years that GESSA has been in place, we have made lifelong friends and at times, call each other family. The JOY we provide each other in a gesture, a smile or lending a listening ear when someone isn't having a good day is a gift we provide to one another. GESSA opens doors for all who would like to achieve their full potential and provides support to those needing assistance on their journey.

GESSA GARLAND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION

By Alicia Lopez, TESA Vice President



GESSA held their first kick-off meeting at the Curtis Culwell Center on September 21, 2023. Our guest speaker, Dr. Jason Adams provided a great speech to over 100 Paraprofessionals.

We all came ready to listen and learn from each other. We had guests from Richardson ISD (RESSA) to be present at our first meeting in order to share our experience with other Paras from another district. This is how we begin to network and learn from others and find joy in making new friendships.



Teamwork makes the dream work

ALICIA LOPEZ – CEOP
SECRETARY TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF INNOVATION

In my journey as a Para-Professional in Garland ISD, I have worked on a campus and now at the administration building and have grown professionally. The joy in my journey is fulfilled with the support and guidance from my administrators and friends I have made along the way. I continue to learn from others and know with the help of our GESEA organization, we are provided opportunities to not only help ourselves, but others within our community. Spreading joy in our journey provides a positive outlook in life and makes working for a school district a rewarding experience.

LAMAR CONSOLIDATED EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION (LESSA)

WRITTEN BY VANESSA BAUTISTA, 2ND Vice President

I believe life is full of twists and turns, ups and downs, and unexpected opportunities. Sometimes, our dreams may seem out of reach, but it's important to remember that we shouldn't let them die. We should hold on to them and work towards achieving them.

As a first-generation college graduate, I know the value of holding onto dreams despite facing challenges and obstacles. I graduated high school in 2000 and began working full-time soon after. However, I didn't let my dreams of higher education fade away. In 2014, I completed my Associate's degree in Office Administration, and even though I withdrew from the University of Houston in 2015, I didn't let that stop me. I stayed focused on my dream and enrolled in Grand Canyon University in 2023. Finally, in July 2024, I will complete my Bachelor's degree in Applied Management.

My story is a testament to the importance of persevering and not giving up on your dreams, no matter how long it takes. We all have something God has placed in us, and it's our responsibility to bring it to fruition. It may take time, effort, and sacrifice, but the reward of seeing our dreams come to life is worth it.

So, if you need more time to pursue your dreams, remember that you have the power to make them a reality. Stay focused, work hard, and don't let anyone or anything stand in the way of what God has placed in you.



TESA AREA WORKSHOP



SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

**EARN YOUR CEOP &
MAKE CONNECTIONS**

**LEARN PROFESSIONAL
JOB SKILLS**



**7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the RISD
Professional Development Center**



Scan for Registration



Scan for Session Info

Visit the www.tesatexas.org for Registration Form and
Breakout Session Descriptions.



2023-2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD



TESA 2023-2024



OFELIA BARRON, PRESIDENT



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SUE HAND,
SUMMER WORK
CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR



BONNIE TOMCZYK,
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

2023 TESA Summer Work Conference BREAKOUT SESSIONS AND TPEP CLASSES



BURGERS AND BINGO NIGHT



TPEP GRADUATES



NELDA VAN DYKE AWARD



TEENA HANCOCK 2022-2023



AWARDS



BANQUET



BANQUET



BANQUET



JUST A FEW OF OUR FRAME PHOTOS



VENDORS



50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS

PROCEEDS GO TO SCHOLARSHIPS



BINGO NIGHT



PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON



BANQUET



Our Mission.

The mission of the Association is to provide professional growth through leadership, education, achievement, recognition, and networking opportunities for educational office professionals.



*Double Tree Downtown
Little Rock, Arkansas*

TESA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2023-2024

PRESIDENT - OFELIA BARRON – DONNA ISD

PRESIDENT ELECT - EVA ZAMORA - LAMAR CISD

VICE - PRESIDENT (TESA CONNECTION EDITOR) - ALICIA LOPEZ - GARLAND ISD

**SECRETARY/TREASURER & AFFILIATE SERVICES & MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON
TERI BALDRIDGE - TOMBALL ISD**

**MEMBER AT LARGE: AREA WORKSHOPS & LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT
SHERRY GRAY - SAN JACINTO COLLEGE**

**MEMBER AT LARGE: NOMINATIONS & AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/JOURNALIST
MELISSA RODRIGUEZ - LONG ACRES RANCH**

**SUMMER WORK CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON - IRMA FORD RETIRED
CO-CHAIR - SUE HAND - RETIRED**

PARLIAMENTARIAN - MARIE ENAX - RETIRED

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT/MARKETING - JULIANNA HOLMES - GARLAND ISD

WEB ADVISOR - LISA E. GONZALEZ - DONNA ISD

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - BONNIE TOMCZYK - RETIRED



TESA COMMITTEES 2023-2024

TESA CONNECTION EDITOR - ALICIA LOPEZ - GARLAND ISD

ASSISTANT EDITOR-SHERRY GRAY - SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

AFFILIATE SERVICES & MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON - TERI BALDRIDGE - TOMBALL ISD

DEBRA COLEMAN - GARLAND ISD

EVA GONZALEZ - KILLEEN ISD

DELORIA HARMAN - MESQUITE ISD

NSIKA SCRANTON - SPRING BRANCH ISD

DONNA SEARS - CEDAR HILL ISD

AKEEM STEVENS - LAMAR CISD

AREA WORKSHOPS & LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT - SHERRY GRAY - SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

DONNA MILTON - KILLEEN ISD

DOLORES ROBINSON - KILLEEN ISD

AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/JOURNALIST - MELISSA RODRIGUEZ - LONG ACRES RANCH

MARICELA CAVAZOS - DONNA ISD

MICHELLE GERARD - KILLEEN ISD

MARY RODRIGUEZ - RICHARDSON ISD

NOMINATIONS - MELISSA RODRIGUEZ - LONG ACRES RANCH

EVA ZAMORA - LAMAR CISD

LISA E. GONZALEZ - DONNA ISD

TEENA HANCOCK - RETIRED

ADVISORY BOARD

FELIPE CAMPOS - SPRING BRANCH ISD

BARBARA JENNINGS - RETIRED

IRMA FORD - RETIRED

LISA E GONZALEZ - DONNA ISD

TPEP CHAIRPERSON - JULIANA HOLMES - GARLAND ISD

AREA COORDINATOR - ALICIA LOPEZ - GARLAND ISD

SUMMER WORK CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON - IRMA FORD - RETIRED

CO-CHAIRPERSON - SUE HAND - RETIRED

EVA ZAMORA - REGISTRATION - LAMAR CISD

KELLI ISAACKS - EXHIBITS - TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MICHELLE GERARD - SOCIAL - KILLEEN ISD



Membership



All new 2022-2023 members, refer a new member to join in 2023-2024 and you will be entered into a drawing for a \$100.00 gift card. New member must join by April 30, 2024.



All current members, refer five (5) new members and you will be entered into a drawing for a FREE 2025 Summer Work Conference Registration Fee! New members must join by April 30, 2024.

BENEFITS OF JOINING TESA:

Broaden Your Knowledge
Expand Your Skills
Enhance Your Network
Area Workshops

Professional Development
Programs
Scholarship Opportunities
Summer Conference

<https://tesatexas.org/join-tesa-benefits/membership>

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: ☐ 2023-2024 ☐ 2024-2025

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

Check # _____	Date Mailed _____
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Payment: All fees must be paid in US Dollars.

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.

PAST PRESIDENTS RETREAT

Hello,

I hope everyone had a blessed Valentine's Day. The Past President's Retreat was so much fun. Teena Hancock put together a wonderful weekend at the Holiday Inn Club Vacations Hill Country Resort in Canyon Lake. WOW. Accommodations were fabulous. After a long day and a wonderful dinner on Friday night everyone met in Teena, Dianne and Lisa's condo to relax and plan Saturday events.

After a great night's sleep we headed to the Root Cellar for a great breakfast to fuel the body for shopping. Teena was a great chauffer and we headed to Gruene. We had so much fun shopping and eating. We enjoyed the music at Gruene Hall and a late lunch at the Gristmill.

After returning to the condo, we relaxed and enjoyed a power point presentation Lisa had put together for the Summer Work Conference. The committee has done an outstanding job. It will be affordable and so much to offer.

Sunday morning before heading home, we met at Café Maria in San Marcos for breakfast.

We laughed and prayed together! It was a relaxing and peaceful weekend.

Hope to see you at the area workshop in March and the SWC in June.

Submitted by Barbara Jennings



Shopping in Gruene



TESA Past Presidents

Teena Hancock, 2017-18, Barbara Jennings, 2006-07, Lisa Gonzalez, 2016-17, Irma Ford, 2003-04, Juliana Holmes, 2022-23, Dianne Lemons, 2015-16.

CANDIDATES FOR TESA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2024-2025



Meet the Candidates for the 2024 – 2025 TESA Executive Board



President-Elect
Alicia Lopez, CEOP
Garland ISD



Vice President
Teri Baldrige, CEOP
Tomball ISD



Secretary/Treasurer
Melissa Rodriguez, CEOP
Long Acres Ranch

Member-At-Large Position 1



Michelle Cardwell, CEOP
Lamar CISD



Donna Sears, CEOP
Cedar Hill ISD

Member-At-Large Position 2



Sandra P. Davis, CEOP
Garland ISD



Mary H. Rodriguez, CEOP
Richardson ISD

Member-At-Large Position 3



Michelle Gerard
Killeen ISD



Sherry L. Gray, CEOP
San Jacinto College

PHILOSOPHY

The organization of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc., exists for the sole purpose of promoting professional growth and rendering services to all facets of its membership. The TESA Board and all members of TESA are committed to the basic values found in our American heritage, including the system of Free Enterprise, the Constitution and Bill of Rights of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Texas. We feel the primary purpose of our membership is that of a supportive professional on the educational team which makes a vital contribution to the development of education—a student prepared to function in the mainstream of American society. We recognize the need to remain objective in our viewpoint. Only by consistently exercising good judgment in our communications and recommendations can we expect to earn the respect and confidence of our colleagues and serve TESA to the optimum of our ability. It is the intent of the TESA Board that all officers function according to the requirements of our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and that the professional growth and effectiveness of our total program be evaluated on a continual basis. In summary, the overall TESA program, then, must be broad enough in scope, yet specific enough in character, to provide for the needs of all its membership.

TESA
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Killeen, Texas 76547

Phone: 512-525-0046

