

Summer 2023

# TAFE Newsletter

## Texas Association of Future Educators

Monica Oliver, TAFE State Program Director

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### From the President:

**KAMERON KELLER, ALIEF TAYLOR HS**

ALOHA to all my fellow TAFE members. I hope everyone enjoyed the summer as much as I did. Over the course of the summer, me and the officers were able to become closer than before. We spent the majority of our summer with each other, which came with many laughs, smiles, memories and even being stuck in the elevator. I am thrilled to see what the future has in store for us as an entire organization.

For me, June's highlight was nationals, and I want to first say congratulations to all of those who had an opportunity to compete. Regardless of placement, it takes a lot of courage to do what you all did, and for that I'm proud of you all. I'm also very grateful for nationals as I was able to meet many people not only from Texas, but from all over the world. I talked to a lot of people, made new friends, and made countless memories. Thank you all for a great first experience.

We hosted the Teacher Leader Workshop in July which was a great success. We were able to give a warm welcome to all those who attended.

As school starts back, be sure to get your pineapple so you and your chapter can participate in the "Pineapple Challenge." We look forward to seeing the new brothers and sisters' pineapples for the state officer's team. Remember as you begin to name your pineapple and take pictures, upload them to the website, and post them and tag us in them.

Although summer is over I want to leave you with a quote from Denis Waitley which says "A good life is a collection of memories." This quote is very important to remember because you can't live in the same moment for life, but as long as you create memories those moments will be forever with you.

*If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so: [Kameronkeller2006@gmail.com](mailto:Kameronkeller2006@gmail.com) or [Ali3fKam3ron](https://twitter.com/Ali3fKam3ron) on twitter!*

[www.tafeonline.org](http://www.tafeonline.org)



## KUDOS

### PEYTON CRABILL, LOCKHART HS, TAFE SECRETARY

On behalf of everyone involved in TAFE, I would like to give a big THANK YOU to Highland Lakes Camp for hosting our latest and largest officer training camp! Myself and the other State officers had a blast and were so happy that we got the chance to meet all of our area officers and even some local officers from different chapters. Thank you to all of the teachers and students who traveled to Spicewood in order to better develop the relationships between your officers and to make memories that will last a lifetime.

We also want to give a giant CONGRATULATIONS to all of our National competitors and winners, I couldn't imagine a better way for Texas to be represented at the National Conference!

And lastly, the State officer team would like to thank all of the teachers who traveled to this year's Teacher Leader Workshop, and those that presented during the workshop. Also another big CONGRATULATIONS to the teachers that were awarded one of the four pineapples from the State officer team, thank you for standing tall, wearing a crown, and being sweet on the inside!

## TAFE CONNECTIONS

I hope everyone had an exciting summer! As we kick off this 2023 - 2024 school year please remember to send me all your TRAFLES activities so I can include you in our TAFE CONNECTIONS. Email me at [peytoncrabill@gmail.com](mailto:peytoncrabill@gmail.com) with your pictures and a description of the activity.



### State Officers (Educational Awareness) - TAFE Table

Our TAFE State officers at the TAFE Table during the Teacher Leader Workshop and the FCSTAT Convention getting ready to explain and give information about TAFE to other teachers from all over Texas.



### State Officers/Local Officers from Lockhart High School (Leadership) - Team Building Exercise

Some of our State officers and some of Lockhart High Schools local leadership team building communication and leadership skills in a team building exercise.



## PICTURE THIS: *Virtual TAFE Scrapbook*

**JACQUELINE SERRANO – KAUFMAN HIGH SCHOOL  
TAFE HISTORIAN**

This summer was an awesome experience since we had so many memories made with TAFE!

What better way could there be other than sharing these memories with yall! Our team LOVES taking pictures and here are some of many that the officers and teacher leaders took! If you want to share any special memories with us, don't hesitate and send them to [jserranotafe@gmail.com](mailto:jserranotafe@gmail.com)



TAFE representing BIG at the National Conference in Orlando, Florida



First Board of Directors Meeting!



TAFE officer team representing the colors at the FCSTAT Opening Ceremony





Are you up for the challenge? [Visit here for more information!](#)



Tyler from Timpson HS



Mikayla from Veribest HS



Noah from Clark HS.



Bella from Clark HS.



Officers doing the #PineappleChallenge at the Teacher Leader Workshop!

## College Connections:

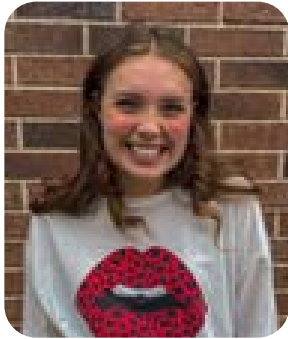
**ANASTASIA CAMDEN, KILLEEN CAREER CENTER  
TAFE VICE-PRESIDENT**

There are so many opportunities for you to continue your education in Texas. We love that we get to hear from **Sam Houston State University!**

*If you have colleges you want posted or have recruitment info for, don't hesitate to let me know! You can contact me at [anastasia.camden1052@gmail.com](mailto:anastasia.camden1052@gmail.com)*



### Why Choose Sam Houston State University to Become a Teacher?



"The College of Education's history of producing excellent educators is the reason I came to SHSU! I knew I was walking into an atmosphere of amazing professors, programs, courses, and one-of-a-kind opportunities (with over a dozen certification options)! Paid student teaching opportunities provide means to support my learning and receive the most genuine experience in the classroom. I get the chance to be supported by a mentor, as a teacher in a district of my choosing, before I have to teach on my own."

• **Cheyenne Wisecup, EC-12 Special Education | Clear Springs HS, class of 2020**



"My favorite part about being a College of Education student is that I connect with people in my classes with the same goal of teaching kids, and my professors want me to succeed. The College's TAFE organization is like the one in middle and high school. Our TAFE encourages its members to consider a career in teaching and gives them opportunities to enhance their character, service, and leadership abilities to become successful teachers. The Charles Butt Scholarship for Aspiring Teachers supports future educators. The scholarship provides \$8,000 - 10,000 each year in funds, as well as mentorship from public school teachers and chances for professional growth."

• **Monica Contreras, 4-8 Math | Teague High School, class of 2020**



"My favorite part about being a SHSU student is the community and the involvement of people in the College! Everyone is so supportive about classes, extracurriculars, and getting closer to experience the real world! One amazing thing about the College is we have our own living community in Piney Woods Hall! Education majors live on the same floor, making it super easy to make friends, study groups, and hear everyone's experience in college! Applying to SHSU was easy with the help of Apply Texas! After filling out the super quick application with no essays needed, you can get in touch with some amazing staff to figure out your next steps to become a Bearkat!"

• **Sidney Radous, EC-6 Core | Clear Springs High School, class of 2021**



Apply to Sam Houston State: <https://www.shsu.edu/beabearkat/freshman-journey/>

Need help with your application? Email Sara Miller: [s.miller@shsu.edu](mailto:s.miller@shsu.edu) for more info

Teachers, bring your students to SHSU in person or virtually!

Email: [coe@shsu.edu](mailto:coe@shsu.edu) to schedule



## From the Director

Monica Oliver | [monica@tassp.org](mailto:monica@tassp.org) or 512-443-2100 ext 8512

**New Teacher Leaders and Mentors:** If you are a new chapter leader and would like some help getting started, please email the state office and we will connect you with someone in your area who can give you help and support.

Wow, what a summer! We had a record turnout at the Educators Rising Conference! It was amazing to see everyone and hear of all the success we had as a State. The state officer team and I have had time to discuss and plan a great start to the year and we are looking forward to the opportunities we are planning for you. It's going to be another great year, and we are excited to celebrate our 40th birthday this year!



There were several changes made this year that were announced at the Teacher Leader Workshop and during the How-to TAFE webinar. If you missed both, and are looking for updates, you can find the video recording on the Teacher Resource Page under the [TAFE Presentations button](#). There are major changes to the dress code and the edition of several competitive events. Please be sure to review these changes before conferences begin!

With “Say Aloha to Teaching” as our theme we ask that you think about how your local chapters interpret this theme. [Please use this memo](#) as a guidance resource for your chapters theme interpretation.

The state officer team has challenged each area officer team and your local chapters to begin the pineapple challenge. The pineapple challenge is, “Be A Pineapple: Stand Tall, Wear a Crown, and Be Sweet on the Inside” recognizes those students who display outstanding leadership qualities. If your chapter participates, please post your photos tag us @tafestate on Instagram or [submit your photos here](#) to be displayed on the Pineapple Challenge page!



- **Help our Maui Schools - From NASSP** The people of western Maui in Hawaii have suffered a horrible tragedy with the recent fire. Several schools and educators, students, and their families have been directly impacted. We received several inquiries about how we might be able to support our friends and colleagues in Maui right now, and Lisa DeLong, the NASSP Hawaii State Coordinator, shared the information below. 100% of all contributions made via the State Department of Education/Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation below will go directly to the impacted schools. Please feel free to share this information to help the educators and students there directly. [CLICK HERE TO HELP](#)
- **Area conference registration is coming** September 28th-October 10th, with Area Conferences following soon after in November and December. Area conference dates and locations have been posted under each area tab on the [www.tafeonline.org](http://www.tafeonline.org) website. If there is not a date or location listed, please know we are working fast to secure a date and location.
- **2023-2024 membership renewal is now open!** Your state and national affiliation must happen BEFORE your students are allowed to compete at Area Conferences in the Fall. **This is not optional.** Educators Rising dues need to be paid for by December 1st. As a reminder all dues for Educators Rising students will be invoiced by our office to teacher leaders. Please review the [How to EdRising page](#) for more details.
- **40th Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit** planning is underway, and we are excited to be at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock February 28 - March 1, 2024. As details are finalized, they will be posted on the [Teach Tomorrow Summit](#) events page, so check back periodically for information.

## TAFE DRESS CODE FOR ALL CONFERENCES

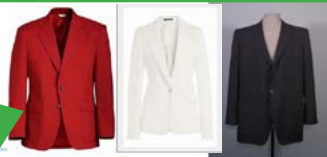
**NEW!** Student Mandatory Attire for General Sessions, Recognition Sessions, Exhibits Workshops, Breakout Sessions, Competitions and Luncheons

**CLICK TO VIEW/PRINT!**

### TAFE BLAZER INFORMATION:

TAFE black blazer is encouraged, however any red, black, or white blazer can be worn. The official TAFE black blazer, can be ordered online.

NOTE: Area and State Officers cannot wear their royal blue blazers during competitions.



### Dress Code Do's



### Black and Brown Shoes Preferred



Sandals with a heel / ankle strap are allowed

### Dress Code Don'ts



**No athletic shoes including designer athletic, flip flops or sandals!**



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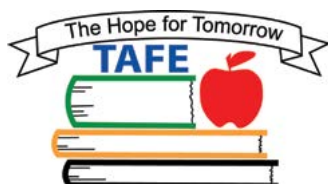
## 2023-2024 MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- July 17-18 TAFE TEACHER LEADER WORKSHOP ..... Renaissance Dallas Addison  
July 17-21 FCSTAT CONFERENCE ..... Renaissance Dallas Addison  
September 28 REGISTRATION FOR AREA CONFERENCES AND COMPETITIVE EVENTS OPENS  
October 10 REGISTRATION FOR AREA CONFERENCES AND COMPETITIVE EVENTS  
CLOSES @ 5:00 PM CST  
November 1 DEADLINE FOR TAFE AFFILIATION & EDUCATORS RISING AFFILIATION  
Chapters must pay an \$80.00 state chapter affiliation fee and \$10.00 individual  
dues for all TAFE members prior to competing at Area Conferences.  
December 1 DEADLINE TO PAY FOR EDUCATORS RISING AFFILIATION FEES  
\$10.00 individual dues for all TAFE members prior to competing at Area Conferences.

### November - December ..... AREA CONFERENCES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Area 1 – Dec. 9 @ Mary Carroll High School       | Area 7 – TBD @ Midwestern                               |
| Area 2 – TBD                                     | Area 8 – Nov. 11 @ South Plains College                 |
| Area 3 – Dec. 2 @ Texas State University         | Area 9 – TBD  |
| Area 4 – Dec. 1 @ University of Houston Downtown | Area 10 – Nov. 4 @ Tarleton State University            |
| Area 5 – Nov. 13 @ Sam Houston                   | Area 11 – Nov. 11 @ University of North Texas at Dallas |
| Area 6 – Dec. 8 @ Texas A&M Texarkana            |   |

- December 11 TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT REGISTRATION OPENS  
January 10 APPLICATION TO RUN FOR STATE OFFICER POSTED BY 5:00 PM CST  
January 10 APPLICATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY 5:00 PM CST  
January 26 DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING ONLINE FOR TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT  
January 26 DEADLINE UPLOADING LESSON PLANS, POSITION PAPERS, AND VIDEO LINKS  
FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS BY 5:00 PM CST  
January 29 REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS TIMES OPENS  
February 1 EDUCATORS RISING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS  
February 2 REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENT TIMES CLOSES @ 5:00 PM CST  
Late January CAPITOL LEADERSHIP - Austin, TX  
January 31 TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEES DUE  
Checks must be postmarked by January 31, 2024 to receive the \$80 per person  
discounted rate. Postmarked February 1, 2024 or after the rate is \$100 per person  
Feb 28 - Mar 1 TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT  
Kalahari Resort, Round Rock, TX  
April 1 EDUCATORS RISING COMPETITION APPLICATION AND EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES  
May 1 2024-2025 CHAPTER AFFILIATION OPENS  
May 9-11 LOCAL, AREA & STATE OFFICER TRAINING WORKSHOP  
Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center  
June 28 - July 1 EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
Marriott Marquis, Washington D.C.  
July 15-16 TAFE TEACHER LEADER WORKSHOP  
Hilton Anatole, Dallas, TX



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