

Spring 2024

TAFE Newsletter

Texas Association of Future Educators

Monica Oliver, TAFE State Program Director

TAFE State Office, 1833 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78741

Phone (512)443-2100 ext. 8512 | Fax (512)442-3343 | E-Mail: monica@tassp.org



From Our President:

JAYDEN PETTY, ALIEF TAYLOR HS

Howdy, I'm Jayden Petty, known as "Petty," and currently a junior at Alief Taylor High School. At 17 years old, I proudly call Houston, TX, my hometown. I have been in many roles throughout my high school career including teammate, study buddy, mentor, and even mentee, but one of my proudest roles is serving as the 2024-2025 State President of the Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE). After joining TAFE, I immediately submerged myself in projects and events, such as appreciation events for our staff and custodians, and recreation events that had a lot to do with bonding and making memories with each other. I also was able to join CIA (Children Interacting Afterschool). This program allowed me to go to an elementary school near me, mentor students, and learn the true aspects of being a teacher. Beyond TAFE, I balance my life as a student-athlete, excelling in both academics and sports. Family and friends hold a special place in my heart, and I prioritize quality time with them over anything else. Some of my best memories involve laughter shared with friends. I'm on a mission to make a difference and leave my mark on Alief Taylor High School and beyond.

In each newsletter, I will be posting a segment titled "FROM OUR PRESIDENT" that will feature updates or insights on upcoming or ongoing events associated with TAFE. Additionally, other state officers will contribute sections covering various TAFE-related topics.

Giddy-up, it's going to be an exciting year with all of your new TAFE state officers!

Feel free to contact me anytime at JayAPetty.07@gmail.com

TAFE 2024-2025 STATE THEME:

"Roundin' Up Future Educators"



www.tafeonline.org

College Connections:

**JACQUE ROE - LOCKHART HIGH SCHOOL
TAFE VICE-PRESIDENT**



Howdy y'all! I'm Jacquie Roe and I am from Lockhart, Texas. I love being an active part of my school. I am in the National Honor Society, Student Council, UIL Academics, and, of course, TAFE! Some of my favorite things to do are spend time with the people I love, listen to music, and I especially love making jewelry. I am so honored to have been elected this year's vice president and I can't wait to share my passions and represent the state of Texas for the 2024-2025 school year!

College Connections: In this section of the newsletter, I will be putting any information about opportunities you may have to connect with colleges and other institutions. This will include, but is not limited to, college recruiters, scholarship opportunities, and application resources. If you have any questions or specific resources you would like to see in the newsletter, feel free to reach out! You can reach me at jacquelineroe118@gmail.com

Goal: This upcoming year I aim to increase engagement with TAFE members and help expand our organization's reach. Encouraging participation in the teaching profession is vital, and TAFE provides an excellent platform for individuals to begin their journey in education.



KUDOS

**IZABELLA CROSSETT - KINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
TAFE SECRETARY**



Hi, my name is Izabella Crossett, though I go by Izi. I am currently a junior at Kingwood High School in Kingwood, Texas in area 4, and I have been a member of TAFE for the past 3 years. Besides TAFE, I am part of my school's Robotics Club, where I am the head of marketing and the club's secretary. This year my robotics team made it to the state and won the Rookie Inspiration Award. I am also a part of the Culture Club where I get to learn about other cultures and countries. My hobbies are baking and organizing, and I am always the type of person to bring sweet treats to any event. I have 5 younger siblings and 3 Cats Tinker, Bell and Fluffy. My favorite colors are pink and green, and I speak 2 languages. I am the type of person to always give my 110% percent and, most importantly, to never give up. TAFE has given me the confidence and motivation to become the best version of myself. I hope within the following TAFE season to help connect with TAFE members and help you become the best version of yourself.

I have two sections in the TAFE news. The first section is titled TRAFLES CONNECTIONS where I will be reaching out to chapters for the newsletters and giving them an opportunity to showcase their TRAFLES projects and activities within their school. The second section is titled KUDOS where I will be thanking all the very important people who help this organization. Check out these sections.

TRAFLES CONNECTIONS

Lockhart High School (Leadership)

The Lockhart High School TAFE chapter held an officer leadership camp for the Junior High chapter. Our goal was to promote character, service, and leadership skills necessary for becoming an effective member of TAFE and a leader for their organization, peers, and their community.

Dumas High School (Appreciation)

The Dumas High School TAFE Chapter held a carnival themed prom we named "Promival" to give the ACC kids a chance to have their own party. We believe this group of kids is often forgotten about and we know that some of them are unable to attend our school's prom for personal reasons so we wanted to let them know they are seen and loved. These students had so much fun and the smiles on their faces was worth all the hard work our chapter put into it.



Kingwood High School (Education)

Kingwood TAFE members visited Deerwood Elementary, one of our feeder schools during future mustangs' week. TAFE Members taught students in the fifth-grade different activities, each highlighting a TRAFLES by our members. From team building games to sorting games about leadership and what it means to be a true leader.

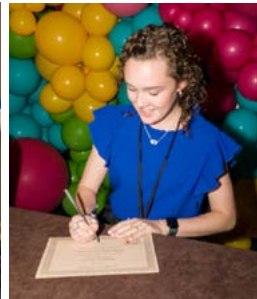


Alief ISD (Fundraising)

The 'Alief Goes Pink Breast Cancer Walk' is an annual event sponsored by the Alief ISD Girls Club and the Alief ISD Wellness Department. This year marked Taylor TAFE's first involvement, with hopes of making it an annual event due to positive feedback. Our sponsors introduced the idea to members, facilitating sign-up and payment. The walk aims to raise funds, celebrate survivors, and educate about prevention.

KUDOS!

We would love to give a big thanks to the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock for providing an exceptional venue for the TAFE State Conference. The accommodations, competition facilities, and indoor water park/arcade were amazing and made this Teach Tomorrow Summit like no other. Additionally, we thank our dedicated volunteer judges, timekeepers and door monitors, whose efforts ensured the smooth execution of the competitive events. Special thanks to Austin Ince, Monica Oliver, and all Area Coordinators for their essential role in organizing and coordinating our State Conference. We are also grateful to our keynote speakers for teaching us life lessons and enriching both our academic and personal growth. Lastly, we express our immense gratitude to the Audio-Visual team, but most importantly, thank you to all of our members who made this event the best one yet.





PICTURE THIS: Virtual TAFE Scrapbook

**KIMBERLY GUZMAN – DUMAS HIGH SCHOOL
TAFE HISTORIAN**

Hello TAFE members! My name is Kimberly Guzman and I am currently a sophomore at Dumas High School. Here's a couple facts so y'all can get to know me! I have been in TAFE for 2 years and I have competed in Interactive Bulletin Board and Chapter Yearbook! This past year I was the Area 8 Historian which was an amazing experience. Outside of TAFE I participate in my school's Band where I play the clarinet, do colorguard, and am part of band council. Through TAFE, I have been able to meet so many new people from all over the state. My goal this year is to encourage and meet as many people as I can! I am confident that this year's officer team will do amazing things! I hope to see you at nationals!



On the TAFE newsletters I will have a section called "Picture This". I will include pictures that highlight TAFE events from around the state. Please send pictures to me at kimber.guzman24@gmail.com



Lockhart High School



Kingwood High School



Dumas High School



Alief Taylor High School





From the Director

Monica Oliver | monica@tassp.org or 512-443-2100 ext 8512



THANK YOU!!!

THANK YOU for the time, effort, and patience you provide your students. The opportunities you are providing them are giving them skills to be successful in life. We had 3400+ students and teachers attend the 40th Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit. Conference growth was tremendous this year, and we anticipate it to continue into next year. It was also great to see so many students participating in our signing event. For photos of the signers please visit [HERE](#).

As we close out this school year, we are ending the year with 357 chapters! We are slowly and steadily rebuilding each area, way to go TAFE! We cannot continue to be successful without the support you provide your students and school communities as Teacher Leaders. **THANK YOU!**

END OF THE YEAR AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

It is that time of the year for you to provide recognition to your students for their hard work. Don't forget to order your patches, pins, and honor cords so that you have them in time for your awards ceremonies. In order to ensure your items arrive in time for May Graduations, orders must be placed by April 30th. TAFE policy is we only take checks or credit cards for store orders. We do not ship items out until we receive payment. For more information [visit TAFE Store](#).

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

I am looking forward to attending the Educators Rising National Conference, June 28-July 1, 2024, in Washington, D.C. I am excited to see the growth of our delegation at the national level. This year we have 30 voting delegates who will be voting for our next set of National Officers. It is amazing that Texas has two students running for National Officer, Journey Harris from Tarleton State University, in Area 10 and Alexcia Garcia from Royal High School, in Area 4.

Educators Rising has experienced a great amount of growth as well this year. All lunches this year will be boxed meals, as both ballrooms to be set theatre style seating. They are asking us to make sure all the STUDENTS sit in the main ballroom during the closing session, as they are the ones who go on stage. Their growth has dictated these changes, so please be patient and flexible.

State was tough, but at nationals, your students are competing with the best students from all over the United States. I wish the best of luck to all the competitors. **We will again be wearing the below conference wear during the opening general session on June 28th.**

T-Shirts \$15 Cowboy Hats \$6 T-Shirt Hat Combo \$20



TEACHER LEADER WORKSHOP

The TAFE Teacher Leader's Workshop will be **July 15-16, 2024**. It will be in conjunction with the FCSTAT Conference. We will be utilizing their two pre-conference days. For more information, please visit [Teacher Leader's Workshop](#).

[Use this ORDER FORM](#) to get orders placed by *May 5th for orders being picked up at Officer Training camp*. All other orders must be placed by May 24th. We will begin shipping orders out the week of May 20th.



• **CELEBRATE EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL SIGNING DAY ON MAY 7**

Do you have an upcoming graduate that has committed to pursuing a postsecondary degree in education? Please encourage them to participate in the 2024 Educators Rising National Signing Day on May 7, 2024! [Access your Teacher Leader Resources for the certificate and guidelines](#). Follow @educatorsrising on Facebook, X, and Instagram as we share the celebration.

• **HELP YOUR STUDENTS CELEBRATE THEIR NEXT STEPS AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

We are also excited to announce that we are bringing back the National Signing Day Event at the 2024 Educators Rising National Conference. Students from across the country will be celebrated for their commitment to education! Any graduating senior attending the conference is eligible for the event. [Students can sign up to participate today](#). Make sure your students sign up by June 1st.

• **PRESENT ON CHAPTER FUNDING AT THE 2024 EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

We are looking for teacher leaders who would like to present a session on how to fund a chapter at the 2024 Educators Rising National Conference. If you are attending the conference and are interested in sharing your experiences about securing funding at the chapter level in a 45-minute session, please contact Robyn Mintier at rmintier@pdkintl.org.

• **PARTICIPATE IN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK FROM MAY 5-11, 2024**

ApprenticeshipUSA, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Labor, is celebrating the first [Youth Apprenticeship Week](#) (YAW) next month. Taking place from **May 5-11, 2024**, YAW will not only recognize the skills and accomplishments of young apprentices ages 16-24, YAW will also build awareness and excitement around apprenticeship as the super “earn and learn” pathway leading to the future of America’s skilled workforce.

This first [YAW](#) will feature daily themes, highlighting specific youth apprenticeship stakeholders and there are many ways that Educators Rising chapters can get involved. [Learn more about the week by reading the YAW Factsheet](#) and join the celebration online via the hashtags #YAW2024 and #ApprenticeshipUSA.

• **COMPETITION SCHEDULES ANNOUNCED NEXT MONTH**

Thank you to everybody who is competing this year for applying by the deadline! We have a record number of competitors joining us in Washington, D.C., this year! PDK staff is working diligently to assign each competitor a presentation time! **Competition schedules will be posted on or around May 15, 2024, on the competition page in the [Student Resources section of the Educators Rising membership portal](#).** It is the competitor’s responsibility to check these schedules for their times. **We will not be emailing each competitor or teacher leader individually.** Unfortunately, due to the number of competitors, we cannot take requests for dates or times to compete. We look forward to rooting all of our competitors in June!

[PARTICIPATE IN OUR NATIONAL CONFERENCE SERVICE PROJECT](#)

PDK is partnering with Martha’s Table, a local children’s education, nutrition, and emotional wellness support organization, this year by hosting a book drive. Members can bring early childhood books written by authors from underrepresented populations to the conference to donate.

Learn more about Martha’s Table at www.marthastable.org



• EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Educators Rising Honor Society is a distinction that recognizes the academic accomplishments of our student members. This honor serves to elevate the image of teaching by highlighting high-achieving students who are dedicated to a career path in education.

Who qualifies?

- Be a high school junior or senior
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale, including grades from the first semester of the current academic year
- Be an Active-level, national dues-paying member of Educators Rising
- Pay a \$5 application fee

Those students who are accepted into the Educators Rising Honor Society will receive a personalized certificate of recognition. Those individuals whose schools will allow them to walk with honor cords at graduation may purchase a bulk package for \$20 which includes the application fee/certificate of recognition and honor cords to wear at graduation. Honor cords may also be purchased separately

at a cost of \$20 by Honor Society members and Teacher Leaders only. This honor is a résumé-building opportunity for students and a great way for them to receive the recognition they deserve for their academic achievements. Please note juniors may purchase cords as part of their initial induction into the Educator Rising Honor Society. However, they must re-submit and verify eligibility for their senior year to wear cords at graduation.

To apply, simply select the option of recognition that you desire to purchase, login to your membership account and follow the prompts through to checkout. Please note, you will need a copy of your transcripts or report card from this academic year with cumulative GPA listed. The cost to apply is \$5*, or \$20 for the bulk package including honor cords. You must verify your address on your Educators Rising membership account prior to ordering. You will be responsible for any fees incurred with the reshipment of your order if your address is incorrect.

Deadline to apply: May 31, 2024. For students to be included in the Educators Rising National Conference, students must apply by April 30, 2024.

Mark Your Calendar!

2024-2025 TAFE CHAPTER AFFILIATION

Opens May 1, 2024: TAFE State Chapter dues \$80.00 • Educators Rising Student Dues \$15.00

• EDUCATOR'S RISING NATIONAL CONFERENCES 2024/2025

June 28-July 1, 2024, Marriott Marquis, Washington D.C. | June 26-29, 2025, Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando FL

• TEACHER LEADER WORKSHOP - July 15 - 16, 2024, Hilton Anatole, Dallas, TX

Registration \$175.00 Registration information online, [Teacher Leader's Workshop](https://www.tafeonline.org) (tafeonline.org)

• FCSTAT ANNUAL CONFERENCE - July 15-19, 2024 (Monday - Friday) Hilton Anatole, Dallas, TX

Registration on the FCSTAT website [Click Here](#)

• AREA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - September 30 – October 14, 2024 AREA DATES COMING IN MAY!

• DEADLINE FOR STATE AND NATIONAL AFFILIATION TO COMPETE AT AREA CONFERENCES

November 1, 2024 - Chapters must pay their \$80.00 state affiliation and \$15.00 individual dues for all TAFE Members prior to competing at Area Conferences.

DEADLINE TO PAY NATIONAL AFFILIATION DUES December 1, 2024 - \$15 per student

APPLICATION FOR STATE OFFICER DUE..... Uploaded by January 10, 2025

DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING FOR TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMITJanuary 17, 2025

DEADLINE TO UPLOAD PRESCORED MATERIALS LINKS FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTSJanuary 17, 2025

APPLICATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS DUE Uploaded by January 10, 2025

CAPITOL LEADERSHIP IN AUSTIN, TX Late January/Early February 2025

TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT..... February 17 - 19, 2025 - Moody Gardens, Galveston, TX



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