



September 2015

TAFE Newsletter

Texas Association of Future Educators

Donita Garza, TAFE State Program Director

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

Phone (512)443-2100 ext. 230 | Fax (512)442-3343 | E-Mail: donita@tassp.org

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Maria Chosa, Marcus High School, Flower Mound



Welcome back TAFE Members! I hope you are all having a great school year so far. Region conferences are not far away, so make sure you are getting ready and prepared. If you are unsure of any details or need more information you can always go to the TAFE website and find your [Region President School](#). They will be able to give you any information you need. I'm so excited to visit some of your conferences to see what everyone is doing this year! If you have any questions, comments, or just something you would like to share with me, feel free to send me an email at chose.tafe@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you!



This past summer, I had the privilege of speaking to over 2000 principals at the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) Summer Workshop. It was a great opportunity to share with the principals some of the awesome things we are doing in TAFE and to encourage them to start their own TAFE chapter if they do not currently have one.

COLLEGE CONNECTIONS

Sarah Reece, Vice President, Porter High School



Hey there fellow future teachers!! I've compiled a list of colleges for ya'll with their contacts to the education department. Two are out of state and three are in-state. I hope you find this helpful! Please contact me if you have other university contacts that you would like to share with fellow TAFE members or if you would like to get information on a particular university. My email address is sreece6@live.com.

College	Email	Contact
Houston Community College	pamela.norwood@hccs.edu	Pamela Norwood
Sam Houston State University	Jle007@shsu.edu	Jenny Estrada
Texas A&M - College of Edu. and Human Development	cricketts@tamu.edu	Casey Ricketts
Oklahoma State University	sara.c.bradley@okstate.edu	Sara Bradley
University of Alabama	cindy.wright@ua.edu	Cindy Wright

They need you now!



Educators have the ability to positively impact others and truly change the future. Many students feel that their lives were touched by teachers and want to give back to the next generation. The College of Education at Sam Houston State University can help you achieve your career goals. Convenient class arrangements accommodate your individual needs - online, nights, weekends, and at various locations. Scholarships and financial aid are available.

You'll need them later!

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TRAFLES CONNECTIONS

Ashley Prax, Secretary, Copperas Cove High School



TAFE members had an amazing time this summer at our different activities. Our summer activities would not have been possible without the help of several fantastic people!



TAFE would like to give a big TAFE thank you to the following people:

From Texas A&M University, Mr. Casey Ricketts, for planning and carrying out an awesome Summer Leadership Workshop! We would also like to thank the camp counselors who gave their time to help us have a successful leadership workshop.

From the University of Houston College of Education, Dr. Andrea Burrige, Mrs. Brandie Cleaver, Ms. Jennifer Hay, and Dr. Sarah Mire. Thank you for coming and speaking at our TAFE Advisors' Workshop as well as providing a lunch for the advisors!

The TAFE Advisors Workshop would not have been possible without our speakers! We would like to thank our TAFE Advisor speakers, Mrs. Karen Kallas, Ms. Kim Watson, and Ms. Jennifer Lee. We would also like to thank our other speakers, Ms. Gay Nell McGinnis, AAFCS, Mr. Dan Brown, National Co-Director, Educators Rising, Mrs. Sandra Godwin, TAFE Competitive Events Coordinator, and Mr. Justin Taylor from the Thirst Project. Thank you for coming to speak to the TAFE Advisors! Thank you as well to all of the advisors that took time out of their summer break to come and attend the TAFE Advisor Workshop. We truly appreciate what you do for your chapters success!

TRAFLES CONNECTIONS: Does your chapter want to be featured in this section? Send pictures and descriptions of your events/activities that include the TRAFLES. Your chapter could be featured in the next Newsletter. Send your events/activities along with a picture to apnicole@icloud.com.

SERVICE PROJECT: In August, the **Copperas Cove High School TAFE chapter** helped the Copperas Cove Independent School District with their first ever Stuff the Bus event for their back to school service project. The goal of the event was to fill a bus with school supplies for students in need throughout the school district. After the school bus was loaded from top to bottom, TAFE members helped unload and sort all of the donated supplies to be delivered to the different schools in Copperas Cove. \$20,000 worth of school supplies were given to children in need at the beginning of the year and are still available for those students throughout the year.

SERVICE PROJECT: TAFE members constructed mums and garters to share with 34 Special Needs students at **Marcus High School**. Mums and garters were presented by TAFE members at a special Homecoming event hosted by MHS TAFE, ROTC and Volleyball. The special needs students Homecoming Court was presented by TAFE members. Bailey Budemer, TAFE Senior, sang the national anthem at the Homecoming volleyball game.





PICTURE THIS: VIRTUAL TAFE SCRAPBOOK

Kearra Ieans, Historian, Ozen High School, Beaumont

I am putting together the TAFE virtual scrapbook. As soon as it is done, you will be able to view it under the "About" tab titled "TAFE in Pictures." I would love it if you all could send me pictures so that all chapters can be represented in the scrapbook. Thank you and we hope to see your pictures. Please send pictures to my email: k.ieans.tafe@gmail.com.

Check out the pictures below to see some of the things TAFE members have done since the National Conference in April.



In May, region and state officers went to Lake Travis for Officer Training. We had so much fun improving our leadership skills together.



In June, we attended the TAFE Board of Directors Meeting!



TAFE Summer Leadership Workshop was held in Texas A&M University. Everyone there was awesome. Students from the College of Education and University Professors provided the training and fun activities. It was fantastic and we learned a lot about becoming great teachers and leaders.



The officer team had the opportunity to attend the FCSTAT (Family and Consumer Science Teacher Association of Texas) Conference where they talked to teachers about starting a TAFE chapter.

TAFE Officers, in conjunction with the FCCLA state officers, participated in the presentation of colors and patriotic presentation. Afterwards, they had the opportunity to hang out with the FCCLA State officers. They all had a blast together!



Our State Program Director, Mrs. Donita Garza, and our Competitive Events Coordinator, Mrs. Sandra Godwin, both received tenure awards this summer at the FCSTAT Conference. The tenure awards were for years of service in Family and Consumer Science. Mrs. Garza received her award for 30 years of service and Mrs. Godwin received her award for 35 years of service.



Presidents of the two Family and Consumer Science CTSO's Maria Chosa, TAFE State President, and Kendall Stone, FCCLA State President.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Donita Garza | donita@tassp.org or 512-443-2100 ext 230

WOW! As you can see from the pictures in this newsletter, this summer was amazing and packed full of opportunities to grow and develop as student leaders and teacher leaders. We have had a great start to a new year, and we are looking forward to all of the opportunities we are planning for you. Region conferences are around the corner. You can look at the Region Map under "About" tab on the www.tafeonline.org website to find information about your region conference.

- As of June 15, 2015, we received enough votes to approve the new TAFE Constitution. It is now posted online.
- A special "THANK YOU" goes to Texas A&M College of Education for sponsoring our Summer Leadership Workshop. It was educational and fun at the same time.
- Having the Advisors' workshop in conjunction with the FCSTAT Conference was a huge success! We had many positive comments from advisors who liked having the two meetings together. Thank you to all who helped make this possible and thanks to FCSTAT for allowing us to partner with them.
- The TAFE website navigation tabs have changed slightly and some tabs added. Please browse around on the website to familiarize yourself with the tabs and pages. I added a "Scholarship" tab. I am currently working on trying to get more scholarships for our students. As scholarships become available, I will post them. Please check back periodically to see what is new. I also added a "Sponsors" page under the "About" tab. You can check it out periodically to see what companies or universities are partnering with us to sponsor events or scholarships. If you know any people I could contact at companies who could possibly sponsor events or scholarships for future educators, please send me their information.
- **NEW ADVISORS & MENTORS:** If you are a new advisor and you 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.
- Join us at the 32nd annual TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit January 29 – February 1, 2016 to "Find Your Treasure in Teaching!" We have 30 competitive events for students to show off their skills. The competitive events and breakout session will be held at the University of Houston, 4800 Calhoun Rd., Houston, TX 77004. The General Sessions and special event will be held at the Hyatt Regency, 1200 Louisiana St, Houston, TX, 77002. [Hotel information.](#)

Since the Competitive Events are starting earlier on Saturday morning, registration and packet pick-up will start on Friday, January 29, 2016 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. If you live in or around Houston and you have pre-registered, you can pick up your registration packet January 25-28, 2016 at the University of Houston.

The TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit provides opportunities to:

- Compete in 31 competitive events
- Earn scholarships
- Meet other students who want to be teachers
- Speak to University representatives from the top schools in Texas
- Teach, share, compete, celebrate and have fun
- Explore the University of Houston

For more information on the Summit, [click here](#). I hope to see you all there.

A Message in a Bottle

from our State Competitive Events Coordinator

Sandra Godwin

Why compete? It's career building! Competing shows you are ambitious, passionate, and motivated! Competitions are fun and are a key way employers recruit their team. Theories learned in school are put into practice. When we challenge ourselves we gain new skills, polish existing talents, broaden knowledge, and we extend learning into the real world. Differentiating yourself from the competition is rewarding! Scholarships and internships are just a few of the perks. "A ship in the harbor is safe; but, that's not what ships were built for!" Whether you are new or a seasoned TAFE member and/or advisor; being active is a means for learning and growing!

"A calm sea does not make a skilled sailor!"

Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm. The difficulty comes when the waves increase, rise, and compound! To be effective we have to be knowledgeable, skilled and ready! We have several changes and updates this year! Exciting new initiatives and expanded opportunities are on the horizon for our taking. Preparation makes all the difference. The following information is intended to assist you for awareness and understanding. The blue underlined items are direct links.

Please read everything carefully! No one wants the wind taken out of their sails on competition day; therefore, please become extremely familiar with all guidelines and standards for competing. The [Competitive Events Guidelines](#) link is an excellent start and is our reference tool. It is filled with all of the links and details!

If you have not paid your [State TAFE chapter dues](#), please do so by the deadline of Oct. 15. Please be reminded every TAFE member must also become affiliated with [Educators Rising](#) (nationals) in order to compete. It's free and it's easy! Advisors begin the process by setting up their chapter's registration online. Then, register each and every TAFE member in your chapter.

The [At-A-Glance](#) link provides a one page look at all competitive events. The [Overview & Planner](#) link outlines numerous details in one chart including type of event, # of competitors, # of entries per chapter allowed, etc. The [Statement of Originality](#) and the [Dress Code Compliance](#) documents are required from each competitor and alternate prior to competing.

[Alternates](#) are a new addition to our competitive events. Alternates are optional and must be registered online by the region set deadline. The alternate can be utilized for any reason the competitor(s) is/are unable to compete at the time of the event.

The [Register to Compete](#) link takes you to the process for registration for all competitions at each region level. Be reminded qualification for all national and state events begins at the region level. Locate your region number for the open/close dates and online registration links for ELF and remaining competitive events. Your chapter number is required on all registration documents this year and it can be found on the [TAFE](#) website. To locate your chapter number, advisors will need to sign in, locate Manage Profile, and click on the membership card. Your chapter ID is on the card that opens. Competitive Events registration and Region Conference Registration are two different things. You will need to register for both.

One of the best ways to learn how to compete successfully is to witness a competition. Being a facilitator, judge, door monitor, runner, and time keeper is good for everyone! Members and advisors can witness first-hand the competitions when they assist on competition day. Regional and state competitive events are team initiatives. As a member and advisor of TAFE, we must have the entire crew on board. All hands on deck on competition day! Navigating the seas becomes easier as we all work, play, and celebrate together! Awards ceremonies are so awesome! The feeling of achievement propels us further! Sometimes it gets really crazy and you may feel alone; yet, be reminded we are only an email or call away. Please contact me at 325.245.7909 or TAFECOMPETITIVEEVENTS@gmail.com. Together we can engineer the best TAFE year ever! TAFE members and advisors ARE the treasure in education! Keep rowing! And, rowing!!! And, rowing!!! Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share this voyage with you!

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- Special Education



DEADLINE FOR JOINING IN TIME TO COMPETE IS OCTOBER 15, 2015

JOINING TAFE OR RENEWING TAFE MEMBERSHIP:

A. New TAFE Chapter:

1. Click on Join/Renew
2. Click on New Chapter
3. Follow step-by-step process

NOTE: Your registration is not complete until we receive payment for your membership.

B. Renewing Chapter:

1. Scroll over Join/Renew
 2. Click on Renew
 3. You will be asked to sign in
 4. If you cannot sign in, click to reset password or contact Alice Moody to fix it for you.
- Do not create a new chapter. This causes errors in the system.**
5. Once you sign in, it will tell you "Your membership has expired."
 6. Update profile
 7. Click Save Changes
 8. Enter number of students and advisors in your chapter
 9. Click "Submit Securely"
 10. The system will generate an invoice. The link to view/print invoice will be under the title of the page. Print your invoice and send it in with your \$80.00 dues payment.

NOTE: Your registration is not complete until we receive payment for your membership.

C. Adding Students:

1. Click on the TAFE logo again taking you back to the main page.
2. Once again, click on Manage Profile in the blue My Profile box.
3. Click on Sub Accounts.
4. Enter your students' email addresses in the "Invite New Members" box.
5. Your students will receive an email inviting them to join TAFE.
6. Tell them to click on the link in their email and complete the online registration.

D. Joining Nationals:

You need to register with the national organization, Educators Rising. It is FREE to join!

1. Go to <https://www.educatorsrising.org/virtualcampus/>
2. Click "Sign Up"
3. Select "Teacher Leader" and fill out all of your information accurately
4. When prompted enter your school zip code
5. Once you have registered, you will need to get all your TAFE members to register. They will go through the same process except click on Student for #3 instead of Teacher/Administrator.



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EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM



The Educator Preparation Program at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor is a recognized leader in the field of education and in the preparation of high-quality educators. Our program has a 95% passing rate on the state certification exams, and we were the only state program commended by the Texas Education Agency for our outstanding field experiences in 2014. Pre-service teachers in our program can expect small classes, hands-on public school field experiences, personal attention from faculty, and opportunities to build connections with a community of learners. All professors in the teacher education program have previous public school experience as teachers, principals, and superintendents.

Programs offered lead to certification for elementary school (EC-6 Generalist), middle level (4-8 Generalist), high school (in math, science, history, and English) and in special areas such as art, P.E., music, or Spanish. In addition, it is possible to supplement several of these degree paths with a special certificates or endorsements, such as working with English as a Second Language (ESL). Students interested in Special Education are served through a degree path (Interdisciplinary) that encompasses the EC-6 curriculum as well as ESL and Special Education.

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For more information: Dr. Joan Berry • jberry@umhb.edu

Chair of the Educator Preparation Program
or visit undergrad.umhb.edu/education/edu



Mark Your Calendars!

October 15, 2015	DEADLINE FOR STATE CHAPTER DUES TO BE PAID to compete at Region and State conferences
December 1, 2015	- PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR STATE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT - COMPETITIVE EVENTS REGISTRATION DEADLINE - STATE OFFICE APPLICATION DEADLINE
January 30 - February 1, 2016	2016 TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT University of Houston/Hyatt Regency, Houston, TX
Early February	CAPITOL LEADERSHIP Austin, TX
May 13-15, 2016	STATE AND REGION OFFICER TRAINING Highland Lakes Camp, Spicewood, TX
June 24-27, 2016	27TH ANNUAL EDUCATOR'S RISING NATIONAL CONFERENCE University of Boston, Boston, Massachusetts
June – July	SUMMER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS TBD
August 1-2, 2016	2016 TAFE ADVISORS' WORKSHOP Sheraton Downtown Dallas
August 1-5, 2016	FCSTAT CONFERENCE Sheraton Downtown Dallas



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