

#4 Winter 2024

TAFE Newsletter

Texas Association of Future Educators

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SAY ALOHA
TO TEACHING!



From the President:

KAMERON KELLER, ALIEF TAYLOR HS

ALOHA to all my fellow TAFE members. I hope everyone enjoyed their Area's conference as much as I enjoyed mine. Congrats to those who advanced in their competition, and for those of you that didn't I hope you can take something from the conference and apply it to your everyday life even outside of TAFE. I would also like to wish good luck upon those who are competing at the state level. You all got this!

In my first newsletter as a state officer, I didn't know what this journey would entail. I didn't think about how fast it would all end. This journey as a State Officer has been more than I could ask for, I've made connections, laughed, and enjoyed traveling, but most importantly, I've made memories with a special group of people. Honestly, because of how much time we spent together as an Officer team, there isn't one moment that topped the others. I've enjoyed every day, hour, and minute that I've spent with my team. My reason for pursuing an officer position is the same reason I would like to teach, and that is to show blacks and browns that going into education can be a promising career pathway. TAFE has given me the platform to not only advocate for the future, but also teach myself as a leader and a student of the education world. As I sit back and reflect on this year, there's so much I've learned as president, and about myself. I would like to say thank you TAFE members for giving me the opportunity and trusting me to be your President, it means the world to me. I'm not sure what the future will hold, but I hope to stay involved in TAFE and be a helping hand to those coming in behind me.

As you all know my time as a state officer is coming to an end soon, and normally for a newsletter I would tell you guys a meaningful quote. In this newsletter I would like to do something different. Instead of a quote I want to give you advice that comes directly from me and that is "Although it takes a village to raise one person, it takes one person to convince them to stay in that village." You all as future teachers are those people, keep being you, it all will pay off.

Continue to reach out to me via: Kameronkeller2006@gmail.com or [Ali3fKam3ron__](#) on X or Instagram!

www.tafeonline.org



KUDOS

PEYTON CRABILL, LOCKHART HS, TAFE SECRETARY

I can't believe that we have come to the end of our year together. I have loved every moment of being a State Officer and I want to give some kudos to the people that helped me through this year. First, I want to thank my local Lockhart Chapter. I love all y'all so much and I am so proud of the amazing things that we have accomplished this year, and I can't wait to see what else y'all do next year. Next, I want to thank my teacher leader Ms. Crabill, without her I wouldn't be the person or officer that I am today. She has been by my side since I started my TAFE journey in junior high and has been with me through thick and thin. She has shown me my potential and I know that with her support I can do anything. And finally, I want to give a big shout out and I love you to my other State Officers and Ms. Oliver. This year has been a rollercoaster from late nights bouncing off the walls in hotel rooms, laughing until we cried, and even getting stuck in an elevator. I wouldn't trade this year for the world I love all of y'all and I will cherish the memories that we have made for the rest of my life. I wish everyone the best of luck in their competitions and with your goals and dreams for the next year. Remember you'll always have a family with TAFE, this is your 2023 - 2024 State Secretary Peyton Crabill signing out.

We would like to give a tremendous shout out and thank you to the universities and colleges that allowed us to host our Area conferences at their campuses!

TAFE CONNECTIONS



Alief Taylor High School (Appreciation)
How sweet it is to be taught by you!

Alief Taylor TAFE members brought some brightness to a dreary, rainy day by hosting a dessert bar for their staff to show their appreciation for how hard they work.



Lockhart High School (Service) - Cuddles for a Cause

The Lockhart High School TAFE chapter traveled to Build-A-Bear to make stuffed bears to put into cuddle baskets that are donated to children in need. These baskets bring love and show support for children that need it through difficult times.

TAFE CONNECTIONS

The State Officer Team (**Education Awareness**) - Capital Leadership



The State Officer Team outside of the Capitol in Austin with other officers from CTSOs on day one of Capital Leadership as they prepare to create content and spread awareness for CTSOs and CTE programs all over Texas.





PICTURE THIS: Virtual TAFE Scrapbook

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

Aloha, amazing TAFE members!

It's with mixed emotions that I'm writing to you today, as this will be my last newsletter to you. But don't worry, there are still many wonderful accomplishments to come from our current officers, competitors, and teacher leaders, who will continue to touch the lives of students and teachers in meaningful ways. I have to say, being a part of TAFE has been one of the most amazing experiences of my high school career. I'm beyond grateful for the growth and knowledge that I've gained from this incredible organization.

As I move on to my senior year with many changes ahead, I will always hold TAFE close to my heart and cherish the memories that we've made together. I would've never thought that I would be in the position I am in, the opportunities I've gotten, the different friendships I've made, and certainly the many food trips with Ms. Oliver and the TAFE officers. All in all, I'm incredibly blessed to have experienced these moments.

Thank you all for being a part of this incredible journey! And do not forget that you are way more capable of doing things you wouldn't imagine yourself doing. See you at the Teach Tomorrow Summit!





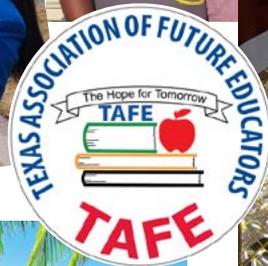
College Connections:

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

As a closing to our final newsletter this college section will be a reminder to all seniors about finishing filling out your FAFSA! Your FAFSA application is due by March 1st, 2024 at 11:59pm. Though this date seems so far away it will come fast so don't wait until last minute to get it done!

TAFE, it has been such an honor to be a part of your family but sadly this is my final goodbye. I am so grateful for the things TAFE has taught me to help me grow as an individual and will never forget the people I've had an honor to meet along the way. Though this is such a bittersweet goodbye I will never forget the smiles, the laughs, and the various broken heels. But as Dr. Seuss once said "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." I will forever smile knowing that TAFE has opened my heart to a new career field and opened my eyes to a new chapter of my life. For all the graduating seniors take this moment to look back on all the hard work and dedication you've put into TAFE these past few years, and don't worry because once a TAFE member you'll forever be a part of the TAFE family. We are so proud of each and every one of you and I wish you the best of luck in your next chapter.

Forever a TAFE member, Anastasia Camden





From the Director

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

We over 3400 registered attendees at this year's conference - what an amazing year of growth!! It is all due to your great work and contributions to our organization. We could not do what we do without you guiding, mentoring, and fostering future educators at your local campuses. **Thank you for all your hard work and dedication!**

Special Shoutout to the 2023-2024 State Officer team!

They have done a wonderful job and are working hard getting ready to make history with the largest Teach Tomorrow Summit we have ever had! They have all grown tremendously in their leadership abilities this year.



TAFE Voice at TASSP Region Meeting Archie McAfee, Executive Director of TASSP and TAFE, has requested to have TAFE representatives at the TASSP Region meetings, in hopes of recruiting more chapters, and to spread the mission of TAFE to principals across the state. This is a genuine opportunity for student voice, especially TAFE student voice, where we have not had one regularly before. Please send me an email if your school would like to represent TAFE by giving a 10-minute presentation. The following are the region meetings we need coverage at the following meetings, if you can make one, please email me and let me know! monica@tassp.org

- 2/13/24 Region 6 Conroe High School, Conroe
- 2/21/24 Region 2 Miller High School School-Corpus Christi
- 2/22/24 Region 1 United High School, Laredo
- 3/4/24 Region 19 El Paso Area
- 3/6/24 Region 3 El Campo Area
- 3/6/24 Region 13 Vista Ridge High School, Leander
- 4/3/24 Region 9 Region 9 ESC, Wichita Falls
- 4/3/24 Region 17 Frenship High School, Wolfforth
- 4/10/24 Region 16 ESC, Amarillo
- 4/17/24 Region 10 Spring Creek BBQ, Richardson
- 4/24/24 Region 7 Tyler Area
- 5/1/24 Region 14 Hawley High School, Hawley
- 5/14/24 Region 8 Region 8 ESC, Pittsburg



40th Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit – Happy Birthday TAFE! It's amazing to see TAFE turn 40 years old this year, and we are excited to see so many students and teachers attending! Just a few reminders:

Students, guests and teacher leaders must be in [dress code](#) at all times. *Regardless of if students are student helpers or competitors, they must be in dress code. Dress code is required even during the closing session.* **Closing Ceremony Change** - No unpaid attendees will be allowed into the awards session. No awards will be given out on stage; all awards will be distributed in packets at the conclusion of the awards ceremony. If your school is not staying, awards will be mailed, after postage has been paid. We will have photo stations set up with award titles on them to allow for more photos on site.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

The TASSP Academic Excellence Recognition Program was established to honor and recognize high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in areas of academic achievement, test scores and writing skills. The program will recognize twenty graduating Texas seniors with an unrestricted scholarship of \$500. In addition, these twenty winners will be introduced at the general session of the TASSP Summer Workshop held in Austin in June and also honored there with a luncheon featuring the students, parents and their principals. Thirty finalists will be recognized locally with plaques donated by Jostens.

Who is Eligible? Each Texas high school whose principal is a member of TASSP may nominate ONE graduating senior for this recognition.

What is the Selection Process?

The TASSP Academic Excellence Committee will review and score the applications according to these values:

- 65% of total score on their G.P.A. and SAT or ACT score.
- 35% of total score on the essays portion of the application
- Scoring of the essays is done without knowledge of authorship.
- The top twenty will be selected as the All-State Academic Team and will be given a \$500 unrestricted scholarship. The next thirty will be selected as Finalists and will be sent a plaque.
- Deadline: Submit to TASSP.org website link by March 8, 2024

[View 2023-24 Academic Excellence Information and Application >>](#)

TEENS SERVING TEXAS AWARDS

The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals and its members recognize that students' achievements often go beyond academic accomplishments. The TASSP Teens Serving Texas Recognition Program was established to honor and recognize high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in areas of community service, leadership, and personal accomplishment through unique endeavors, obstacles overcome, or special talents. The program will recognize five graduating Texas seniors with an unrestricted scholarship of \$500. In addition, these five winners will be introduced at the general session of the TASSP Summer Workshop held in Austin in June and also honored there with a luncheon featuring the students, parents, and their principals. Twenty-five finalists will be recognized locally with plaques provided by TASSP.

Who is Eligible?

- Each Texas high school whose principal is a member of TASSP may nominate ONE graduating senior for this recognition. Each student nominated should meet the following qualifications:
- Has a minimum cumulative grade point average equivalent to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the previous three years (freshman, sophomore, and junior years).
- Is required to be pursuing the Distinguished Graduation Plan.
- Submits the application packet according to the guidelines and by the specified deadline of March 8.

[View 2023-24 Teens Serving Texas Information and Application >>](#)



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TAFE Upcoming Dates and Deadlines:

- 2/12/24 Signing Event Sign-Up Deadline
- 3/8/24 TASSP Academic Excellence and Teens Serving Texas Scholarship Deadline
- 3/4/24 Officer Training Workshop Registration Opens

Educators Rising Upcoming Dates and Deadlines:

- 2/1/24 Early bird registration for EdRising Conference opens
- 2/1/24 National competition applications opens
- 2/1/24 Spring Membership deadline
- 2/5-2/9/24 Educators Rising week
- 2/12/24 Honor Society Opens
- 2/26/24 Student officer applications close

SAY Aloha TO TEACHING

TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT
February 28 - March 1, 2024

Kalahari Resort, Round Rock TX
Visit: www.tafeonline.org