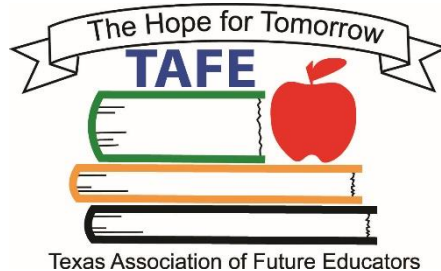

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS HANDBOOK



- I. ORGANIZATION
- II. CONSTITUTION
- III. BYLAWS
- IV. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
- V. RESOURCES
 - A. Region Organization
 - B. Local Chapter Organization
 - C. Local Officer Training
 - D. State Professional Organizations & State Agencies

I. ORGANIZATION

HISTORY

The Texas Association of Future Educators was organized in the Spring of 1984, and is a state-wide organization sponsored by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals. TAFE is composed of local chapters from high schools and middle schools throughout the state. The State Organization exists to provide services to the local chapter, thus promoting teaching as a profession.

Our goals are:

1. To recruit qualified youth to become teachers, to help eliminate the shortages within the profession, and to strengthen requirements for teacher candidates.
2. To provide students with experiences in high school that will keep them committed to becoming teachers throughout their college career(s).
3. To strengthen the image of the teaching profession through providing information and counseling to students.
4. To encourage personal growth of future educators through participation in region and state meetings, organizations, and workshops.
5. To increase student involvement and foster pride in their school and contributing to the educational experience.

On March 24, 2010 our national affiliate the Future Educator Association was granted Career and Technical Student Organization Status by the US Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). TAFE was formally recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as a Career and Technical Student Organization on June 10, 2010 at a ceremony during the TASSP Summer Workshop in the presence of more than 2,100 principals from all across Texas. This change will allow school districts to use Federal Carl D. Perkins funding to support student participation in TAFE professional development activities.

PURPOSES

1. To learn about the teaching profession, its opportunities, responsibilities, and its important role in our democracy.
2. To explore personal interests and abilities in relation to the various fields of teaching.
3. To cultivate the qualities of personality, character, and leadership which are essential in good teachers.
4. To learn how and where teachers receive their training, the cost, scholarships available, number of years required, certification requirements, and standards.
5. To study the lives and influence of great teachers.

PLEDGE

As a TAFE member, I hereby pledge to promote positive attitudes regarding all noble aspects of education, to acknowledge the challenging role of the teaching profession, and to provide service and leadership within my school and community.

MISSION STATEMENT

TAFE encourages students to learn about careers in education and assists them in exploring the teaching profession while promoting character, service and leadership skills necessary for becoming effective educators.

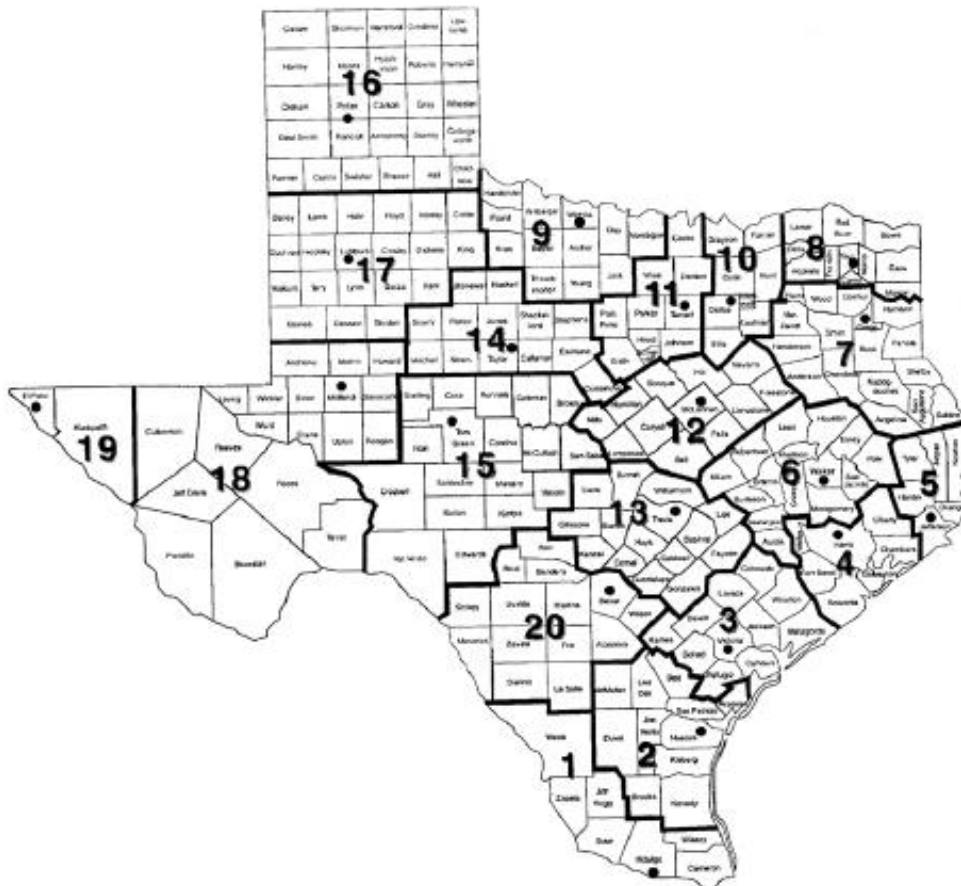
MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any Middle School, High School, or College student who is interested in exploring teaching as a career, and who has the high qualities of character, service, scholarship, and leadership that are essential to becoming a good teacher.

REGIONS

TAFE has 20 regions that follow the TEA Education Service Centers (ESC) boundaries.

TAFE REGION MAP:



LEADERSHIP

A. Officers

The student officers of the organization are:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Historian
4. Secretary

Schools, rather than individuals, are elected by the official student delegates attending the Teach Tomorrow Summit. The elected schools select the student to serve as the student officer.

B. State Board of Directors

State Board of Directors of the organization consists of the following:

1. The Executive Director (Executive Officer of TAFE/TASSP).
2. One student and the head teacher leader of each of four officer schools currently serving TAFE
3. Three elected high school teacher leaders.
4. Three members of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.
5. The teacher leader of the immediate past president school.
6. One elected Middle Level/Jr High faculty teacher leader
7. One Higher Education teacher leader
8. TAFE State Program Director (Board Advisor)

TAFE EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

TEACHER LEADER WORKSHOP

Teacher Leader should plan to attend the Teacher Leader's Workshop. This is a great opportunity to get inspiration of new ideas for your TAFE chapter and to share your ideas with others. This is usually held in late September.

REGION CONFERENCES & COMPETITIONS

The Region Conferences are held during the Fall term each school year. Students competing in competitive events must first compete at the region conference and qualify to advance to the State Teach Tomorrow Summit.

TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT

The Teach Tomorrow Summit of TAFE is held during the Spring term of each school year. A member school is allowed to send one student voting delegate, and as many non-voting delegates as it wishes. At least one teacher leader or administrator for every ten students must also attend.



TAFE STATE AND REGION OFFICERS' TRAINING WORKSHOP

This weekend training conducted in May is designed to teach state and region officers about their new responsibilities, and to develop leadership skills that they will need in their new positions. This workshop also teaches region presidents how to conduct a successful region conference. The overarching goal for this retreat is to create a team of officers that can work together to plan and conduct the region and state conferences.

SUMMER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP(S)

TAFE conducts summer leadership workshop(s) for leadership training and educational development. The workshops are designed to provide basic skill development for student leadership and give insight into the teaching profession. A standard curriculum outline is used in all workshops, but each has unique features dictated by facilities, consultants and participants. A complete schedule of workshop(s) and cost can be found online in the Spring semester. A limited number of student and adult staff positions are available at each workshop.

Register for all events on the website: www.TAFEonline.org

RECOGNITION

GRADUATION CORDS and HONOR STOLES

TAFE Graduation Cords and Honor Stoles are available via the TAFE website and can only be purchased by teacher leaders. TAFE Honor Society Guidelines and Application are published in Section V. B. of this handbook.



PATCHES

Patches can be purchased by teacher leader for recognition or by students wanting a memory of their event. There are 3 patches available for purchase from the state office.

1. Oval patch (great patch for those attending the region conference or for TAFE membership)
2. Teach Tomorrow Summit patch (great patch for those attending the state conference)
3. Competitive Events patch (great for those competing in competitive events)
4. State Qualifier patches (good to use for those competing multiple years)



PINS

We also have 8 pins that can be purchased from the state office.

1. Oval TAFE pin
2. Seven individual TRAFLES pins – one is available for each area of TRAFLES. (These are good to reward students who participate in each of the areas.)
 - a. Teaching – Apple & Ruler pin
 - b. Recreation – People in a park
 - c. Appreciation – Gift
 - d. Fundraising – Dollar sign
 - e. Leadership – Gavel
 - f. Education – School House
 - g. Service – Two hands



CERTIFICATES

Certificates are given to all competitors for participating in competitive events. Extra certificates are available for purchase from the state office.

PLAQUES

Plaques are given to the top 5 for all competitions. Extra plaques can be purchased from Longhorn Trophy. Order form is available on the TAFE website.

ROSETTES

Blue, Red, and White rosettes are given for most contests. Extra Rosettes can be purchased from the TAFE office.

Check out all Recognition Items on the website: www.TAFEonline.org

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The TAFE website (www.tafeonline.org) is an excellent source of information for teacher leaders. It contains the most up-to-date list of regional and state TAFE activities. Each newsletter is posted online for members to download, and many commonly used forms can be found on the site. This website shall continue to evolve as the year progresses; so visit it from time to time to see what's new.

TAFE also maintains a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/403503266457256/) that is used to share TAFE information to help get connected.

TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM are another way for Advisors and students to get connected. Follow our "TAFE tweets" and TAFE Instagram and tag @TAFESate.