

TAFE

Texas Association of Future Educators

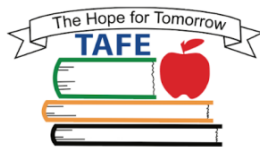
Collegiate Competitive Events Planner

CHAPTER EVENTS

COMPETITIVE EVENT	# OF ENTRIES	COMPETITORS NAMES
Breakout Session Team (2-6)	1	
Chapter Yearbook Team (2-6)	1	
Children's Literature Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Creative Lecture Individual	2	
Differentiated Lesson Individual	2	
ELF Test Individual	No Limit	
Educators Rising Moment Individual	2	
Educators Rising Moment Spanish Individual	2	
Ethical Dilemma Team (2-4)	1	

Impromptu Lesson Individual	2	
Impromptu Speaking Individual	2	
Interactive Bulletin Board (ELEM) Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Interactive Bulletin Board (MS/HS) Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Outstanding Chapter Team (2-4)	1	
Portfolio Individual	10	
Project Visualize-T Individual or Dual (1-2)	2	
Project Visualize-R Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Project Visualize-A Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Project Visualize-F Individual or Dual (2)	2	

Project Visualize-L Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Project Visualize-E Individual or Dual (2)	2	
Project Visualize Service Individual or Dual (2)	2	
PSA-Teacher Recruitment Team (2-4)	1	
Public Speaking Individual	2	
Researching Learning Challenges Team (2-4)	1	
Teacher Created Materials (ELEM, MS/HS) Individual or Dual (2)	2	



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL EVENTS

(Event specific information begins on page 4)

Failure to follow stated guidelines may result in disqualification of students competing.

For a complete list you can view the [TAFE Policies and Procedures](#).

To be eligible to compete in TAFE or Educators Rising events, students must complete all of the following requirements:

- Maintain an active Educators Rising membership for the current school year. **TAFE State dues must be paid in full by November 1.** Visit the [Educators Rising Membership Page](#) for membership information and requirements.
- Register to attend either their TAFE Area Conference or the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit. Please note that conference registration does **not** automatically register students for competitive events.
- Register for competitive events and submit all required materials by the deadlines outlined on the TAFE Guidelines & Rubrics page available on the [TAFE website](#).

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

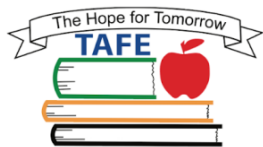
NOTE: General rules and regulations apply to all competitive events and are in addition to each event's specific guidelines.

Eligibility

- Competitors must be paid, active Educators Rising student members prior to competing at an Area or State Conference.
- Competitors may participate in up to three (3) events, with no more than two (2) national qualifying events.
 - The ELF Test, Student of the Year, and Breakout Session do not count toward the three-event limit.
- Competitive event entries will not be accepted after the Area Conference registration deadline.
- Area Conference Advancement to State
 - Competitions: Students must first earn at least 70% of the available points. From those meeting the minimum score requirement, the top five (5) competitors will advance to the Teach Tomorrow Summit.
 - Contests: Students must earn at least 90% of the total possible points to advance to the Teach Tomorrow Summit.
- State Conference Advancement to Nationals
 - Competitions: Students must first earn at least 80% of the available points. From those meeting the minimum score requirement, the top ten (10) competitors will advance to the Educators Rising National Conference.
 - Contests: Students must earn at least 97% of the total possible points to advance to the Educators Rising National Conference.
 - **Students who qualify for the Educators Rising National Conference may compete in only one (1) event at the national level.**

Competitive Event Entries

- All submitted materials must be original work created during the **2026–2027 school year**. Materials created, submitted, or used in previous years are not eligible. To verify originality, competitors must complete and submit a [Statement of Originality](#) for each event in which they participate.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- Each competitive event guideline will specify the materials required for submission prior to the conference. Failure to submit all required materials by the published deadline may result in point deductions. All files must be uploaded using the competitor's **FORM ID** as listed in the **Teach Tomorrow Summit (TTS) Database**.
- Any video files required for advance submission must be uploaded to **YouTube**, and the appropriate video link must be submitted according to event guidelines.

Levels of Competition

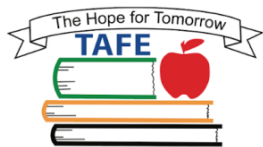
- The grade-level classifications below are used to determine eligibility and placement for competitive events. Not all events are open to every division; competitors should refer to the specific event guidelines to confirm eligible divisions.
- For team events, teams with members from multiple grade levels must register in the division of the **highest-grade (most senior) team member**. **Competitors who register or compete in an incorrect division will be subject to disqualification.**
- Divisions
 - **Middle School** - Grades 7 & 8
 - **Junior Varsity** - Grades 9 & 10
 - **Varsity** - Grades 11 & 12
 - **Collegiate** - Undergraduate college students (dual-credit high school students are not eligible for this division)
 - **Special Edition** - Designed for students with an IEP who require accommodation(s) to participate in competitive events. This division provides opportunities for students to compete in an environment that supports their individual needs.

Substitutions

- Substitutions are not permitted for individual events after conference registration has closed.
- Substitutions are permitted for team and dual events after registration has closed, subject to the following requirements:
 - A team or dual-event entry may be modified only if at least one of the original competitors remains on the roster.
 - Any replacement competitor must complete and submit a [Competitive Event Change Form](#).
 - Substitutions must not change the division in which the team or dual event is registered. If a substitution results in the team competing in a different division, the entry will be disqualified.
- The number of competitors that compete in each level of competition is what is allowed to advance to the next level of competition.
- Failure to notify the Competitive Events Team of any approved substitution may result in the **disqualification** of the team or dual-event entry.

Technology and Equipment Requirements

- Competitors are responsible for bringing their own device to Area and State Conferences for competitive events. Prior to arriving at the conference, students should verify that their device is fully functional and capable of connecting to Wi-Fi networks outside their school district.
- All devices should be fully charged before reporting to the competition room. Competitors are encouraged to bring charging cords and any necessary accessories.
- Cell phones are not permitted in planning rooms unless specifically authorized as an accommodation or required by event guidelines.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- Wi-Fi access is not guaranteed at all conference venues. Competitors must ensure that all presentations, videos, and supporting materials are downloaded and accessible offline prior to the event.
- Presentation technology, including screens and projectors, is guaranteed only at the State Conference.
 - Competitors are responsible for providing any adapters, connectors, or dongles necessary to connect their devices to available projection equipment.
- All presentations, presentation resources, and video files should be prepared for offline use, as internet access may be limited or unavailable at some conference locations.

Conference Registration, Attendance, & Participation in Events

- Teacher Leaders must log in to the [TAFE website](#) and complete conference registration for the event they plan to attend. **Conference registration does not automatically register students for competitive events.** Teacher Leaders must follow the procedures outlined on the TAFE website to register students for their selected competitive events.
- Students whose Teacher Leader fail to complete conference registration and/or competitive event registration by the published deadline will not be eligible to attend the conference or participate in competition.
- Competitors are expected to adhere to the professional dress standards outlined in the [Dress Code](#). Students who are not in compliance with the dress code will not be permitted to compete. Participation in any TAFE-sponsored event or conference constitutes agreement to abide by the established dress code requirements.
- **Judges' decisions and scores are final.** TAFE does not offer a score inquiry, appeal, or review process. Teacher Leaders, chaperones, parents, and other attendees may not approach judges or Competitive Events Headquarters to discuss scores, rankings, or feedback. Any questions or concerns should be directed to TAFE staff and/or conference officers. Schools or districts found in violation of this policy may lose their **Good Standing** status with the TAFE association.
- Competition schedules will be followed as closely as possible; however, events may run ahead of or behind schedule throughout the day. Competitors are responsible for monitoring all official TAFE communications and announcements to ensure they are aware of any schedule updates and do not miss their assigned competition times.

Designation of Awards

- Students will receive awards based on the number of points scored on the event rubric. All State Qualifiers will be recognized on screen during the Closing General Session at Area Conferences. National Qualifiers, State Only Contests receiving Gold Certificates, and State Only Competitions Top 5 are recognized on screen at the Teach Tomorrow Summit Closing General Session. The following awards will be given at Area & State Conferences:
 - **National Qualifier** (Varying criteria - State Conference Only)
 - **State Qualifier** (Area conference Only)
 - **Gold Certificate** (90% to 100% of total points awarded only at State)
 - **Silver Certificate** (80% to 89% of total points awarded only at State)
 - **Bronze Certificate** (70% to 79% of total points awarded only at State)
 - **Did Not Place** (0% to 69% of total points awarded only at State)

Area TAFE Conference To-Do List

- Register for your area conference (October 1- 16, 2026)
- Register for competitive events (October 1 - 16, 2026)

State TAFE Conference To-Do List

- Register to attend the TAFE State Conference (December 9, 2026 – February 19, 2027)
- Submit Prescored materials by February 5, 2027
- Register for a time to compete at the TAFE State Conference (January 26-28, 2027)

NATIONAL GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

NOTE: General rules and regulations apply to all national competitive events and are in addition to each event's specific guidelines. Guidelines are subject to change. Please refer to the EdRising Membership Portal for the latest version.

Failure to follow the stated guidelines will result in disqualification of the student competing.

Students intending to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference must complete 3 required steps:

1. **Be an Active-level paid national member** of Educators Rising for the current school year. State-level membership must be paid, if applicable. [Click here to join.](#)
2. **Complete the online application** and upload all required materials in their final form by the stated deadline on the [National Competition page](#) located in the Student Resources section in the EdRising Membership Portal. **This is NOT done automatically if you competed at a state or regional conference.**
3. [Register to attend](#) the Educators Rising National Conference.

Eligibility

- Students must be paid Active-level student members of Educators Rising by **February 1st** of the year in which they are competing. **Check or credit card payment must be received in the National Office by February 15th to be considered an Active-level member.**
- **Students may only compete in one competitive event.**
- **For contests:** Teacher leaders may enter up to two entries (individual or dual) per school in each event per division.
 - Dual means two students participating.
 - For dual entries consisting of students of varying grade levels, the entry will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.
- **For competitions:** Teacher leaders may enter up to two entries per school in each individual event per division and one team for team events per division. Competitions/contests that are marked as individual or dual will be considered individual events for this purpose.
 - All team events must have at least two students (and no more than four) per school to qualify.
 - For teams consisting of students of varying grade levels, the team will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.
- If a competitor is from a state that holds state competitions/contests, they must first qualify in that given event at their state conference before competing in that event at the Educators Rising National Conference. Contact your state/regional coordinator to see if your state offers competitive events. Visit our [state program page](#) on the Educators Rising national website to contact your state/regional coordinator.
- For states that offer state-level competitive events, the top ten places in each competition for each division offered by the state will be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference.
- For contests, you must compete in a state-level event in order to be eligible to compete at the Educators Rising National Conference. Only entries scoring 97-100 will be eligible to advance to nationals. No other entrants from states that offer the competitive events at the state level will be eligible for those state-level-offered competitive events.
- For national team competitions, schools are permitted to replace up to fifty percent of the original team members who qualified at the state-level. Substitutions are not permitted in Individual or Dual competitions or contests. **Replacements can be made up to 7 days prior to the conference. No replacements can be made after this time or onsite.**
- For states that do not offer state-level competitive events, students may register to compete in those events at the Educators Rising National Conference. This applies to all Educators Rising national competitions. This does not apply to contests since you must qualify at state first before moving to nationals.
 - For example, if you want to compete in Public Speaking but place eleventh or lower in your state-level Public Speaking competition or don't compete in the state-level competitions at all — you cannot compete in Public Speaking at the National Conference this year. If you live in a state that didn't hold a Public Speaking state-level competition, you may register to compete in that event at the Educators Rising National

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

Conference.

Division of Competition

- The breakdown of grades noted below indicates levels for competition entries. Not all competitions are open to all divisions.
 - Middle School — Grades 7, 8
 - High School Junior Varsity— Grades 9, 10
 - High School Varsity level — Grades 11, 12
 - Collegiate level – Undergraduates only
- Registering in the incorrect division will result in disqualification.
- Teams of students from varying grade levels will be placed in the division for the grade level of the most senior member.

Application and Submission

- All submitted materials must reflect original work from the 2026-2027 school year. Material that may have been created or submitted in previous years is ineligible.
- **To be scheduled to compete in a national competition, all competitor applications, national dues, and required materials must be submitted online by the deadline stated on the [National Competitions page](#) in the Student Resources Section of the EdRising Membership Portal. **Deadline extensions will NOT be granted.****
 - **All competitions and contests require an online application submission, even if no additional items need to be submitted.** Students who have won state-level competitive events must also submit their entries on the national website by the deadline to compete at the national conference. Your state does not do this for you.
 - **Only one application can be submitted for team competitions** which lists all team members in all places indicated on the application form.
 - Each competition guideline will identify the materials are required for submission before the competition. Failure to submit the required materials by the submission deadline will result in disqualification. All submitted materials must be in their final form.
- All video files submitted in advance must be uploaded to YouTube and be linked to the application form. Videos will not be accepted by mail. All videos and presentations must be brought to the conference on a USB drive and files must be accessible without internet access. If students plan to use their own devices for presentation, students must be able to connect their device via HDMI to an external projector without assistance.

- Laptops and projectors will be provided. Students should bring their own pointing device if needed. Except when explicitly specified, the Internet may not be used during a competition presentation at the Educators Rising National Conference.

Conference Registration, Attendance, and Participation in Events

- **All competitors must attend the Educators Rising National Conference. Plan to arrive no later than 11 am on the first day of the conference and stay through the awards ceremony on the final day.** Conference dates and locations will be posted on the Educators Rising website and Membership Portal.
- Competitors must report to their assigned areas on time. Failure to report at their scheduled time can result in disqualification. ***Competition schedules will be posted in the [Educators Rising Membership Portal](#) one month before the conference.*** Be sure to check these schedules before planning your travel.
- Competitors are expected to dress in business-casual attire. (See the section Competition Dress Code for details on what is acceptable.) Points may be deducted from the entrant's score for failing to follow the dress code.
- Spectators are only permitted in the competitions marked "Open to Spectators." This includes parents, chaperones, teacher leaders, and other attendees. Spectators may not coach or offer any verbal or nonverbal assistance to a contestant during that contestant's assigned time slot with the judges. A breach of this guideline may result in the disqualification of the contestant.
- Teacher Leaders, Chaperones, and Parents are prohibited from approaching judges to discuss scoring or feedback. All questions or concerns should be brought to the attention of a national office staff member.

Judging and Scoring

- Scoring is based on the posted individual competition rubric.
- Final scores will be based on a scaled score. Scaled scores are calculated using several methods, including judges tie breakers and room normalizations.
- Judges will break ties in all competitive events.
- To accommodate a large number of competitors, we use multiple rooms, each with its own set of judges. We employ a well-established mathematical method to normalize scores to ensure fairness across these rooms. This method helps balance judge subjectivity and ensures all competitors have a fair shot, regardless of their assigned room.
- In each competitive event, each competitor gets an average score from the judges which is averaged with the partner judge. If there is a deviation of more than one standard

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

deviation between rooms, the two rooms are normed against one another to that deviation. The final scores used for ranking are the normalized scores (also known as scaled scores).

- Perfect scores will be excluded from the normalization process when scoring is normalized. If more than one student in the same division in the same competition receives a perfect score, a second set of judges will review the recorded presentations for those students to make a final decision.

Awards

- **For Competitions:** Medals and certificates will be presented to the top three entries in each division for individual competitions. Trophies and certificates will be presented to the top three entries in each division for team competitions. All places will receive electronic certificates after the conference.
- **For Contests:** Ribbons will be awarded to students in each category in each division with scores as follows:
 - Blue-Scores 97-100
 - Red-Scores 93-96
 - White-Scores 90-92

Inquiry Process

- The student scores will be released directly to the participating student(s) after the conference. The scores will provide individual judges' scores, the average score for the two judges, and the normalized score (if necessary).
- Students will have 3 business days to file an inquiry regarding the validity of their score. They must complete the online inquiry request form and submit all required documentation for consideration. **No appeal will be accepted after the 3-day period.**
- Staff will review the scoring and respond to the inquiry within 30 days. **All decisions are final.**

Competition Dress Code

All competitors are expected to dress in business casual attire when competing. Refer to the guidelines below for a detailed explanation of what is and is not permissible as business casual.

- **Slacks, Pants, and Suit Pants**
Slacks similar to Dockers and other makers of cotton or synthetic material pants, wool pants, flannel pants, dressy capris, nice-looking dress synthetic pants and jeans without holes are acceptable. Inappropriate slacks or pants include jeans with holes, sweatpants, exercise pants, Bermuda shorts, short shorts, shorts, bib overalls, leggings, and any spandex or other form-fitting pants that people wear for biking.
- **Skirts, Dresses, and Skirted Suits**
Casual dresses, skirts, and skirts that are split at or below

the knee are acceptable. The length of the dress and skirt should be comfortable for sitting in public. Mini skirts, skorts, sundresses, and spaghetti-strap dresses are inappropriate.

- **Shirts, Tops, Blouses, and Jackets**

Casual shirts, dress shirts, sweaters, tops, and polo shirts are acceptable. Educators Rising polo shirts are encouraged. Inappropriate attire includes tank tops; midriff tops; shirts with political messaging and/or potentially offensive terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, or slogans; halter tops; tops with bare shoulders; sweatshirts; and t-shirts unless worn under another blouse, shirt, jacket, or dress.

- **Shoes and Footwear**

Conservative athletic or walking shoes, loafers, clogs, sneakers, boots, flats, dress heels, and leather deck-type shoes are acceptable. Flashy athletic shoes, thongs, flip-flops, and slippers are not acceptable.

- **Hats and Head Coverings**

Hats are not appropriate inside the building. Head covers required for religious purposes or to honor cultural traditions are allowed.

Citations, References, and Copyrighted Material

- In competition submissions, all ideas, text, images, and sound from other sources used for the competition must be cited.
- Competitors are strongly discouraged from using copyrighted material in their competition entries. If copyrighted material is used, written permission must be obtained to display and present media-related materials at the Educators Rising National Conference and post-media-related materials on the Educators Rising website. All permissions obtained to use copyrighted material must be included with the entry submission. (Note: This requirement applies to music used in videos, graphics taken from the internet, and other media-related materials. It does not apply to artifacts collected for a project.)
- Plagiarism is strictly prohibited in all documents submitted. Judges can disqualify students from competing if they determined that any part of their documents have been plagiarized.

Use of AI

- Unless specifically stated in the guideline, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) software and programs is strictly prohibited in creating and preparing all materials submitted for Educators Rising competitions. This includes but is not limited to, documents, graphics, speeches, videos, and presentations. All submitted work must be the original and independent creation of the participant. Use of spelling and grammar check is allowed.

GENERAL COMPETITION INFORMATION CONT.

- Students competing will attest that they did not use AI in the development and delivery of their competition. Students found in violation will be disqualified from the competition.

Electronic Devices

- Recording devices are not allowed in competitive events.
- All electronic devices, including but not limited to, cell phones, iPads/tablets, electronic readers, smart watches, etc.—must be turned off unless otherwise noted in specific event regulations.
- No electronic communication devices of any kind are permitted during competition.

Student Responsibilities for Competitions

- Students who participate in any Educators Rising competitive event are responsible for knowing all deadlines, updates, changes, and clarifications related to that event. Students and advisors must routinely check the EdRising Membership Portal for updated information.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any media without compensation.
- Entrants grant Educators Rising the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes on the Educators Rising website, Membership Portal, and social media sites.
- Student Privacy and Protection Requirements: Submitters are responsible for ensuring that all competition materials comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and all applicable local district policies regarding student privacy and data protection. Any submission containing identifiable student information—including, but not limited to, names, faces in the video, voice recordings, voices, or student work samples—must have appropriate documented consent from parents/guardians and/or students, as required by applicable laws and district policies. If permission has not been granted, faces should be blurred or only the back of the students should be visible. By submitting materials, the submitter certifies that all necessary permissions have been obtained and maintained.



DEADLINES AND CHECKLIST

Ready to compete at Nationals?

Here is a checklist to help you get prepared, registered,
and on the official schedule for nationals!

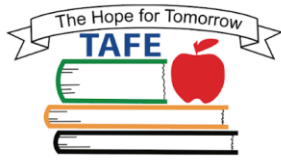
SUBMISSIONS OPEN: **FEBRUARY 1, 2027, 8:00 A.M. EASTERN TIME**

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPETITION APPLICATIONS: **APRIL 1, 2027, 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME**

DEADLINE FOR COMPETITORS TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE: **APRIL 1, 2027, 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME**

- ☐ **Review the full national competition guidelines and rubric.** Check the Resources Section in the EdRising Membership Portal. *Some processes may be different from your state/regional conference.*
- ☐ **Update your contact information in the EdRising Membership Portal for the summer.** It is recommended that students use a personal mail address where they can receive Educators Rising email communication. Confirmations and reminder emails will be sent to the email listed on the competition application. Often school emails do not allow for Educators Rising emails to be received.
- ☐ **Step one:** [Go to the National Competition page in the EdRising Membership Portal](#). **Step two:** Click on the title of the competition for which you are signing up to compete. **Step three:** Read the guidelines and rubrics. **Step four:** Click Apply, which will take you to the national competition online application platform. All competitors must submit the online competition application even if no additional documents need to be submitted. Only one application is to be submitted for Dual or Team competitions. *This only registers you for the competitions, you will still need to register for the conference separately.*
- ☐ **Complete the online application, upload any required documents/video links, and submit by the stated deadline for the Educators Rising National Conference.** Depending on your competition, some of these items are judged before the conference so make sure they are in their final form. Recommendation: Have someone proofread your documents before submitting them. Only competitors who register by the deadline will be scheduled to compete.

For competitions that have multiple students participating only one application should be submitted and all students need to be listed as team members in all places indicated on the application form.
- ☐ **Print and save your confirmation email and application number.** You will need the application number when you register for the conference.
- ☐ **Register as a competitor for the Educators Rising National Conference.** All national conference information, including how to register, can be found on the [Educators Rising National website](#).
- ☐ **Find out when you are scheduled to compete onsite.** [Competition schedules](#) will be posted in the EdRising Membership Portal one month prior to the conference. Go to the Resources section to find the posted schedules. Be sure to check these schedules prior to planning your travel. Competitors should plan to be available for competitions from 1 PM (conference time zone) on opening day through the awards celebration on the afternoon of the last day.
- ☐ **Practice, practice, practice!** The best way to prepare for your on-site competition is to practice in front of your peers. Recommendation: Reread the National Competition Guidelines and Rubric for your competition.
- ☐ **Head to Nationals!** National placers will be announced at the National Conference Awards Celebration on the final day of the conference. Don't miss your chance to be recognized! Be sure that when you plan your transportation for the conference you can attend this final celebration.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION

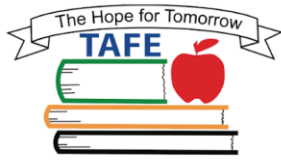
Entries Per Chapter	1
Type of Event	Contest (Team of 2-6)
State Contest	Yes
National Contest	No
Prescored Event	Yes, for Area and State

OBJECTIVE: To allow students an opportunity to demonstrate their teaching skills by planning, preparing and presenting a 40-minute breakout session that is aligned with one of the TAFE TRAFLES.

OVERVIEW: This contest is a team event where members work together to plan, prepare, and present a 40-minute breakout session. The lesson taught, presented, or facilitated must align with one of the TAFE TRAFLES. Teams that score 90-100 at their area conference will advance to present their breakout session at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit.

BREAKOUT CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- Each chapter may submit 1 entry for the area conference.
- Two to six students may present the breakout session.
- The team must score at least a 90 to qualify to advance to state to present their breakout session.
- After receiving the Judge's Rubrics, the state qualifiers can make any needed corrections before going to state.
 - Prior to the Area/State
 - Students must plan and prepare a 40-minute breakout session that aligns with one of the seven TRAFLES areas. The areas are below.
 - Teaching/Training
 - Recreational
 - Appreciation (Teacher/Staff)
 - Fundraising
 - Leadership
 - Education Awareness
 - Service
 - A description of the session must be submitted to the TAFE State office by October 30th for publishing and accurately describe the session. It entices conference participants to attend.
 - A brief outline of the session must be submitted for review. Minimum requirements include an introduction, body, and closing.
 - Prior to Start of Presentation
 - The set-up is complete, so the session can begin on time. All resources are in place (technology set; materials sorted, counted, and bagged for ease of distribution or display, etc.)
 - At least one team member greets participants as they enter the presentation room.
 - During Presentation
 - Introduction: Chapter name, team members, city, state, title of session, goals and objective stated prominently at the beginning of the presentation.
- The presentation must include accurate and up-to-date content and follow a logical sequence.

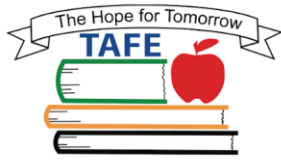


TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- All members of the presentation team should be knowledgeable about the material covered and have equally active roles, whether speaking, assisting participants, managing materials, etc.
- Session should include multiple strategies to maximize engagement between presenter(s) and participants as appropriate.
- Presenters should use professional speaking techniques.
- Management of logistics such as time, materials, transitions, etc. should be smooth. Movement of participants into groups or activities should be seamless.
- Presenters should exhibit professionalism throughout the session.
- Presentation Closing
 - Appropriate time is allowed for questions. (They may be answered throughout the presentation or at the end.) If time is allowed at the end for questions, and no one asks questions, the team needs to be prepared to fill in with appropriate material to fill the rest of the time.
 - The session must have closing remarks and not just end abruptly.
 - The session must fit the 40-minute time frame.

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

- Both Area and State:
 - ***If a school has a team competing in this event, the teacher leader and a student from their chapter must judge in this event.***
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-2 adults.
 - The contestants will be judged against a standard of excellence rather than against each other.
 - Judges will use the Breakout Session Contest Rubric to score the breakout session team, and they will follow the guidelines set up by their event managers.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION

Proposal Form-must be submitted online by October 30th

Breakout Session Helpful Information

Conference Objectives

TAFE's goal is to offer a variety of exciting and interactive workshops for students and teacher leaders. In addition to professional development in areas related to teaching (such as brain-based instruction, tips for classroom management, etc.), TAFE would like to encourage students to think about how to use technology to teach all learners.

Conference Audience

Jr. High school students through college seniors and their TAFE chapter Teacher Leaders

Workshop Formats

Sessions will be 40 minutes long. Please consider a variety of formats for your presentation before you decide what would work best. Interactive sessions engage the audience. Students' workshop evaluations have clearly indicated that they are most engaged in sessions that involve them in hands-on activities or discussions. Lecturing with a PowerPoint slideshow won't hold their attention, so we will select proposals that will engage the audience. Please consider these formats for your workshop:

- Debate: Two or three debaters hold clearly differing points of view. A chairperson with a prepared set of questions moderates the session. This could work well with students

as debaters and a Teacher Leader as moderator. Topics could include different aspects of No Child Left Behind, pros and cons of high stakes testing, etc.

- Demonstration: This is a demonstration of a useful teaching tool or concept. The audience will come away with an understanding of how it is used but will not have any hands-on opportunities to try the tool or apply the concept.
- Panel: This format focuses on an issue facing the field of education. Groups of two or three students or Teacher Leaders will offer short presentations on the panel's topic, allowing sufficient time for a question-and-answer session with the audience.
- Collaborative learning: This includes a presentation and discussion, with most of the session devoted to discussion and feedback. Presenters bring targeted questions on their topic to pose to the participants. This is ideal for networking and in-depth discussion on one topic.
- Skill building workshop: The presenter(s) teaches the participants a specific skill needed by teachers (or TAFE Teacher Leaders) and includes at least one exercise to let the participants practice the skill, perhaps in small groups.
- Make and Take: This is a hands-on how-to session. The audience will have opportunities to make and/or apply useful teaching tools.

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

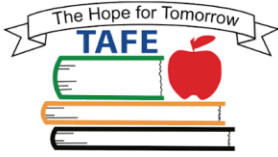
Prior to Area or State		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
The session is aligned to TRAFLES, which is identified in the session description.	5	0
A description of session was submitted to area/state office by the deadline for publishing and accurately describes the session. It entices conference participants to attend.	5	0
A brief outline of the session was submitted to the area/state office by the deadline for review. Minimum requirements include an introduction, body and closing.	5	0

Before the Presentation		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Set-up is complete so the session can begin on time. All resources are in place (technology set, materials sorted, counted, bagged, etc.)	5	0
At least one team member greets participants as they enter the presentation room.	5	0
The session has obvious closure and does not end abruptly.	10	0
The session fits the 40 minute time frame.	10	0

During the Presentation			
	Accomplished 5 - 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2 - 1
Introduction of Chapter Name, Team Members, City, State and Title of session.	Team clearly states chapter name, team members' names , city, state and title of session toward the beginning and are given without prompting from the judges.	Team states only 3 of: chapter name, team members, city, state or title of session or given only after prompted by the judges.	Team members either failed to state 3 or more of: chapter name, team members, city, state and title of session and did so only after prompted by the judges.
Stated Goals	Goals clearly stated and aligned with session activities and/or informations.	Goals only implied or not clearly aligned with session activitiesand/or informations	Goals either not stated or activities not aligned with session activities and/or information
Stated Objectives	Objectives are measurable and clearly stated and are aligned with session activities and/or information.	Objectives not measurable or only implied or or not clearly aligned with session activities and/or information	Objectives fail to meet two or more standards: not measurable, clearly stated, not aligned with activities and/or information

The presentation follows a logical sequence.	Session begins with a motivating introduction followed by appropriate activities/information in the body of the session and logically concludes with highlights of important points (note: this may be interactive with participants) Transitions between segments of session smooth.	Session lacks either a motivating introduction or appropriate activities/information in the body of the session or has an abrupt conclusion that does not fully highlight important points (note: this may be interactive with participants) Or the transitions between session segments not completely smooth	Session lacks two or more of the following elements: a motivating introduction; appropriate activities/information in the body of the session or conclusion that highlights important points (note: this may be interactive with participants); and/or the transitions between session segments not smooth
The presentation includes accurate and up-to-date content. Presenters are knowledgeable about material covered.	Information and activities expertly reflect T.R.A.F.L.E.S stated with current content.	Information and activities either dated or does not expertly reflect T.R.A.F.L.E.S.	Information and activities are dated and does not expertly reflect T.R.A.F.L.E.S
All support materials are accurate and error free.	Slides and handouts (if used) have no intrusive errors.	Slides and handouts(if used) have few noticeable errors.	Slides and handouts (if used) have noticeable intrusive errors.
Session includes multiple strategies to maximize engagement between presenter(s) and participants as appropriate.	Strategies appropriate for visual, auditory, and kinesthetic/tactile learners	Strategies not appropriate for one of the types of learners: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic/tactile	Strategies appropriate for only one of learner types: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic/tactile

Presentation Closing			
	Accomplished 10 - 8	Proficient 7 - 4	Developing 3 - 1
Appropriate time is allowed for questions. (Questions may be answered throughout the presentation rather than the end.)	Adequate time allowed for questioning.	Time for questioning is not sufficient to allow for complete answers.	There is time allowed for questions.
Materials (handouts, slide decks, patterns, digital files and more) are shared with participants when appropriate.	There are adequate materials for each participant to have materials to take back to campus to share	There are adequate materials to share with each school, but not enough materials for each participant.	There are inadequate materials to share with either each school or each participant.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

CHAPTER YEARBOOK CONTEST

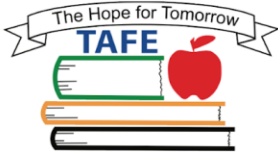
Entries Per Chapter	1
Type of Event	Team (2-4 members may present)
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: To develop chapter creativity, teamwork, time management, public speaking, and organization. To create a historical record of the projects and activities of the chapter that can be used to promote TAFE.

OVERVIEW: This contest is a team event where members work together to create a historical record of their chapter's projects and activities throughout the year. The yearbook events that can be included are the chapter's participation in the previous year's Teach Tomorrow Summit and all the events up to the current year's Teach Tomorrow Summit. Participants must prepare a **Chapter Yearbook** and an **oral presentation** describing the activities of the chapter and summarizing the projects.

YEARBOOK CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- Each chapter may submit 1 entry for the area competition.
- Two to four students may present the book, but all students who present must have an equal part in the presentation.
- Chapters must indicate on their conference registration form the number entering this event.
- Registration will be handled according to each area's guidelines.
- It is understood that all Chapter Yearbooks may not be completed by the area conference. The Chapter Yearbook must be bound and have a labeled placeholder for every missing artifact and a date as to when it will be added. The Chapter Yearbook must be at least 75% complete to qualify for state.
- After receiving the Judge's Rubrics, the state qualifiers can make any needed corrections before going to state.
- The Chapter Yearbook should relate to and meet the needs of the member's school and chapter. The book should have a timeless quality that could be appreciated by future members.
- The number of photographs is not limited. It should represent only chapter projects and activities verified by newspaper articles, chapter minutes, photographs, etc.
- At least one page representing area activities and at least one page representing state activities with date, description and two or more photos with captions included.
- The Chapter Yearbook should follow the same order as the judging form and can be used to create the table of contents.
- At least one project or activity page must be included in each of the TRAFLES categories. Each activity must show the TRAFLES category, name, date, and description of project, and two or more photos with captions.
 - Teaching / Classroom Participation Activities
 - Recreational or Social Activities



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- Appreciation Activities (Teacher/Staff)
- Fund Raising Activities
- Leadership Activities
- Education Awareness Activities
- Service Activities
- Chapter Yearbook will not exceed a standard maximum size of 22" x 28" x 4" (thick). The measurement of 4" will be taken at the binding and will include the binding. Measurements will be taken at the event registration. If the Chapter Yearbook is larger than the dimensions, it will not be judged. Chapter Yearbooks may be handmade or purchased.
- The artwork should frame the activities and not make up for the lack of projects or activities.
- Items in the Chapter Yearbook may be purchased, hand designed, stenciled, die cut or computer generated.
- Yearbooks may be hard copy or electronic.
- Presentation
 - Students presenting an electronic yearbook must provide their own laptop to present the portfolio.
 - Contestants will be given up to 10 minutes to present their Chapter Yearbook. At the end of 10 minutes, contestants will be stopped.
 - The presentation must include a description of the chapter activities and a summary of the projects.
 - Following the presentation, the judges will have 5 minutes for questioning. This is an opportunity for the judges to ask questions to correct any judging errors before final scores are awarded.

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

- **Both Area and State:**
 - When students arrive to register their Chapter Yearbook, the contest facilitator should measure the book before registering the contestants. If the yearbook is larger than the standard maximum size of 22" x 28" x 4" (thick), the yearbook will be disqualified. The measurement of 4" will be taken at the binding and will include the binding.
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-2 adults and 1 student. (It is suggested that there be a panel of judges for every 10 yearbooks.)
 - Before the presentation portion, the judges will be given five (5) minutes to score the yearbooks.
 - The contestants will have ten (10) minutes to give their presentations and will be stopped at the end of the ten (10) minutes. The timekeeper will give a one (1) minute warning after nine (9) minutes have passed, and a thirty (30) second warning when thirty (30) seconds are remaining. At the end of ten (10) minutes, a STOP sign will be held up, and contestants will be asked to stop.
 - After the presentation, judges will have five (5) minutes to ask questions and finish their rubrics. If something was missing during the presentation, this is time to ask questions and get clarification.
 - The contestants will be judged against a standard of excellence rather than against each other.
 - The same set of judges must judge the yearbook and the presentation.
- **Area:**
 - Chapter Yearbooks that are 75% complete qualify for state.
 - Facilitators will follow the guidelines set up by their area.
- **Both Area and State:**
 - Facilitators will follow the General Instructions for Facilitators.
 - Judges will follow the General Instructions for Judges.

CHAPTER YEARBOOK

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Cover, Title, and Table of Contents		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Cover Color Scheme, artwork and theme	3	0
Title Page with school name, address, chapter size and school size	3	0
Table of Contents including page numbers	3	0

Chapter Operations		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Opening Sections with letter from the Teacher Leader with signature	3	0
Description of Cover Theme	3	0
Chapter and Operations- including agendas, minutes, reports, officers and representatives	3	0

Projects, Activities, and Participation		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Area Activities	3	0
State Activities (previous year)	3	0
Teaching/Classroom Participation	3	0
Recreation/Social Activities	3	0
Appreciation Activities (Teacher/Faculty)	3	0
Fundraising Projects	3	0
Leadership Activities	3	0
Education Awareness Activities	3	0
Service Projects	3	0

Mechanics			
	Accomplished 5 - 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2 - 1
Grammar and Spelling	Void of intrusive grammar and spelling errors.	Few noticeable grammar and spelling errors.	Noticeable intrusive grammar and spelling errors.
Same Order as judging form	Chapter Yearbook is in the order of the feedback and tally sheet/detailed scoring rubric.	Chapter Yearbook is mostly in the order of the feedback and tally sheet/detailed scoring rubric.	Chapter Yearbook has many pages out of order of the feedback and tally sheet/detailed scoring rubric.

Creativity			
	Accomplished 5 - 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2 - 1
Embellishment	Decorations and/or Ornamentations contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some Decorations and/or Ornamentations do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or Ornamentations either do not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
Neatness	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) not visible; cut edges of paper straight and smooth; meticulousness/care in assembling book apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) somewhat visible; some cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Care in assembling book not apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) obviously visible; many cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Little or no care in assembling book
Overall Creativity	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect students' own ideas

Student Presentation			
	Accomplished 5 - 4	Proficient 3	Developing 2 - 1
Introduction of presenters and chapter	Names of presenters; school; district and city are clearly articulated	Two or three of the following are omitted: Names of presenters; school; district and city, or are given only after judges prompting	Four or all of the following are omitted: Title of project; Names of presenters; school; district and city, or are given only after judges prompting
Theme and Content Description	Theme and content clearly explained	Theme or content not completely explained	Theme and content not clearly explained
Construction Description	Team members explains the construction process in a knowledgeable way that demonstrates familiarity with chapter projects	Team members explanation of the construction processor limited or lacks knowledge of chapter projects	Team members explanation of the construction processor limited and lacks knowledge of chapter projects
Knowledgeable response to questions	Team members fully respond with complete sentences	Some responses incomplete or not answered in complete sentences	Responses incomplete and not answered in complete sentences
Enthusiastic	Energetic interest in book is apparent	Little energy or interest in book is apparent	No energy or interest in book is apparent; lackluster presentation
Posture upright and professional & Eye Contact	All members stand upright with shoulders back. Members maintain appropriate eye contact with judges	Most but not all members stand upright with shoulders back. Some members do not maintain appropriate eye contact with judges	Most members do not stand upright with shoulders back. Most members members do not maintain appropriate eye contact with judges



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COMPETITION – HIGHER ED

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual (one author/illustrator) or Dual (two co-authors or one author/one illustrator) — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard IV: Engaging in Responsive Planning
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

This is your opportunity to showcase your storytelling powers and create original piece of children's literature. Your story should engage readers while entertaining, teaching, inspiring, or helping them understand meaningful ideas.

Although your story may be fictional, it should convey relevant real-life lessons or morals and align with either one or more pre-kindergarten or Kindergarten through 3rd grade standards. Be sure to connect your work to your state's K-3, pre-K academic and/or social-emotional standards or domains. The selected standard or domain must be clearly documented on the Statement of Originality.

All illustrations must be original. This means every image must be created by you, either by hand or using digital tools such as drawing applications. The use of clip art is not permitted. Clip art includes any pre-made images, graphics, or pictures found online or within software that you did not create yourself. Additionally, applying filters, stickers, or modifying existing images does not qualify as original work and is not allowed.

Resource for Pre-K Standards:

https://www.mothersgoosetime.com/skillsresearch/?_hstc=241256285.9024567132e35a280437bbeae92db5b4.1774451239180.1774465765498.1774985761434.3&_hssc=241256285.1.1774985761434&_hsfp=2848c7472c09db06ee312471ab8266c6#alignment

General Information

The book may be written and illustrated by one individual (the author/illustrator) or two individuals (an author and an illustrator). The one or two Educators Rising Collegiate student members participating in this competition must write all words and create all images themselves for their submission. No artist assistance or use of images from the web or any other third party, like Canva, is permissible including clipart or AI generated images. All text and images need to be original work done by the author and/or illustrator.

The participant's original book will target an audience that could be as young as pre-K (age 4) up to as old as third grade (age 9).

Competition Guidelines

BOOK GUIDELINES

- A. Write a short story in a “book” format in English. The story can be about anything but should reinforce either academic or social/emotional values appropriate for public school. See your state pre-K , K-3 guidelines standards.
- B. A signed “Statement of Originality” must be completed and submitted as the final page of the book.
- C. The book should be written for a target audience that could be as young as pre-K (age 4) up to as old as third grade (age 9).
 - a. Pre-K word count: 250-750 (The current sweet spot is 500 words or less).
 - b. K-3 word count: 800-1,000 words for ages 5-6, 1,000-2,000 words for ages 6-7, and 2,000-3,000 words for ages 7-9.
- D. The book includes a front and back cover, a title/credit page, statement of originality and no more than 32 pages. (32 pages front only or 16 pages front/back excluding title/credit page/statement of originality page). Pages need to be numbered on the bottom outside corner, where Page 1 shows the first page of the written story.
- E. The title page should include the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from the author), advisor’s name, school, student’s email and school address.
- F. Maximum book size is 14” X 22” and should be bound using a durable user-friendly method of binding. (Commercially produced bound books are allowed for binding purposes only. Use of stock/clipart/AI images or templates is prohibited.)
- G. Text or graphics may be either illustrated by hand or computer generated, using drawing software such as (Canva, ibis Paint, Kleki, Pixilart, Procreate, Sketchpad) but the student participants are responsible for composing or creating all text and graphics themselves. No artist assistance or use of images, such as clip art, from the web or any other third party, like Canva, is permissible. Illustrations should be colorful, and art should amplify the impact of the

reader’s experience with the story. Neatness counts.

- H. A pdf copy of the book and statement of originality will be required to be uploaded during the application process for the Educators Rising National Conference.

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

- A. The author and illustrator will bring a copy of their book and Statement of Originality, last page of the book, (not part of the page count) to the competition to present and read to the judges.
- B. Acceptable presentation length, including the story introduction, will be between five and ten minutes. Presenters exceeding ten minutes or under five minutes will be deducted one point for going over ten minutes or under five minutes and one additional point for every additional 1 minute over or under the time limit.
- C. The author and illustrator will introduce and read the book to the judges. Presentation may be done by either the author or illustrator if only one can attend the conference. It is not required that both be present.
- D. A timekeeper will hold up timecards as a warning at four minutes and again at nine minutes. The presentation will be stopped at 12 minutes.
- E. After the presentation, judges will have up to five minutes to ask questions and finish scoring sheets. Judges will review the book and score. Once judges have completed scoring, they will return the book to the participant.
- F. Presenters should wear appropriate conference clothing or dress in character costumes relevant to the book. No masks/facial covering can be part of the costume. **No additional props can be used during the presentation. Bringing props into the competition room will result in disqualification.**
 - Costume - the clothing and style worn by an actor or character to show time period, job, or personality.
 - Prop - any movable object that an actor picks up, holds, or uses during a performance.



CHILDREN’S LITERATURE COMPETITION - HIGHER ED

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I/we attest that my/our submission for the Educators Rising National Competition for Children’s Literature – Higher Ed reflects solely my/our original, creative efforts (and those of the other entrant if applicable). No aspect of this submission is plagiarized or infringes on the intellectual property or copyright held by anyone other than the entrant(s). I/we have not used any web images, AI, or third-party artist assistance to create the illustrations or text for this book.

Entrant(s) signature(s)

Entrant(s) printed name(s)

Printed book title

Date

School name

School city/state

Word Count

National Pre-K or K-3 Standard



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COMPETITION – HIGHER ED

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Literary Content

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Story	An imaginative narrative for children told clearly and engagingly. Meaningful and original treatment of a theme. Contains a well-earned and satisfying ending. Reflects professional caliber children's literature.	An appealing narrative for children told fairly well but could have increased clarity and impact with minor tweaks in the storytelling. Generally successful treatment of a theme. Contains a generally successful ending. Reflects commendable student-level work.	The plot may lack focus or development at times. Theme may be unclear or not fully developed. Ending may not fully engage or satisfy the audience. Reflects developing student-level work.	Plot may be confusing or lack clarity. Story may reflect stereotypes or biases not appropriate for mainstream children's literature.
Illustrations/ Visuals	Vivid images contribute significantly to the meaning of the text. Illustrations reflect professional caliber children's literature through precision, imagination, and overall quality.	Vivid images contribute commendably to the meaning of the text. Illustrations reflect commendable student-level precision, imagination, and overall quality.	Images contribute inconsistently to the meaning of the text. The illustrations' connection to the story may be confusing at times or reflect inconsistent quality.	Images offer minimal connection or contribution to the meaning of the story. Images may be distracting, or reflect minimal precision, imagination, or overall quality.

Text Mechanics

Points Available	5	3	1
Text Mechanics	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — are flawlessly appropriate for this work of children's literature. (Well-used colloquialisms are permitted and encouraged where appropriate.)	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — contain one or two errors.	Mechanics — including grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. — contain more than two errors.



Guideline Adherence

Points Available	2	0
Statement of Originality	Submitted	Not Submitted or incomplete
Title Page	The title page includes the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from author), teacher leader's name, school, contact information: email and high school address.	The title page does not include the title of the story, appropriate age audience, author, illustrator (if different from author), teacher leader's name, school, contact information: email and high school address.
Book's Physical Size	Book is bound, and size is less than or equal to 14" x 22"	Book is not bound and/or size is greater than 14" x 22"
Page Limit	Book is no more than 32 pages front only or 16 pages front/back excluding title/credit page/statement of originality.	Book exceeds 32 pages front only or 16 pages front/back excluding title/credit page/statement of originality.
Word Count	Story is between 250-750 words if audience is Pre-K or is between 800-3,000 words if K-3 audience and is documented on the statement of originality	Story does not adhere to word count and is less than 250 or more than 750 words if Pre-K audience or is less than 800 or more than 3,000 words if K-3 audience.
Aligned to Pre-K or K-3 Standard	Story is aligned to Pre-K or K-3 Standards and documented on the Statement of Originality.	Story is not aligned to Pre-K or K-3 and Standards.

Points Available	10-9 Accomplished	8-6 Commendable	5-3 Developing	2-1 Needs Improvement
Age Appropriate	Story is appropriate for ages 4–9.	Story is mostly appropriate for ages 4–9.	Story is somewhat appropriate for ages 4–9.	Story is not appropriate for ages 4–9.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Live Reading Presentation

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact, given the content of the story.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the reader is conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the story's impact would be increased with a more dynamic vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent or needing improvement throughout the reading of the story. At times, the vocal delivery distracts from the content of the story and diminishes its potential impact.



Live Reading Presentation Cont.

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Presence	The Competitors' sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the content of the literature to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. All team members, whether speaking or not, reinforce the intended impact of the presentation at all times.	The Competitors' mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. One or both of the presenters may distractingly appear to slip in and out of professional character at moments during the session.	The Competitors' inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker(s) could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The Competitors display effort but eye contact, posture, and demeanor from multiple team members could benefit from more practice and coaching so that the speakers' presence consistently complements the content.
Q&A	The competitors' responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the book.	The competitors' responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her.	The competitors' responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.	The competitors' responses may reflect evident effort and passion but are inconsistent in the depth, accuracy, understanding, or insight offered in responses.

Time of Presentation

Points Available	5	4	3	1
Length of live reading presentation	Presentation is between 5 and 10 minutes.	Presentation is between 4 and 5 minutes or 10 and 11 minutes.	Presentation is between 3 and 4 minutes or 11 and 12 minutes.	Presentation is shorter than 3 minutes or had to be stopped at 12 minutes.

Overall Impact

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The book captivates and inspires the reader, and is an excellent, professional-caliber representation of children's literature. The concept, execution, and presentation are professional-caliber.	The book is a commendable, student-level representation of children's literature. The concept, execution, and presentation represent commendable, student-level quality though not quite professional-caliber.	The book reflects a developing representation of children's literature. Aspects of the concept, execution, and presentation are acceptable, if basic. The guidelines are followed, though multiple aspects of the book's concept, execution, and presentation may distract the audience from intended impact.	The book reflects emerging skills in crafting and presenting original children's literature. The book may reflect a partial or incomplete understanding of the full task assigned.



EDUCATORS RISING

CREATIVE LECTURE COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual — Open to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

It's time for you to give your TED Talk. Not sure what that is? Check out some of the most viewed TED Talks here: www.ted.com.

Storytelling and effective oral communication skills are vital qualities for professional success. Captivating an audience and sustaining their attention and wonder with a compelling topic remains one of the most valuable abilities in an increasingly networked society. Because great stories about meaningful topics are so fascinating and valuable, TED Talks have become one of the most influential contributions to the Internet, garnering over a billion views. These creative lectures present bold ideas often through personal lenses and have elevated a public speaking format that has been replicated across the world. Watch some TED Talks on education here:

www.ted.com/topics/education.

The Creative Lecture Competition will offer ambitious, fearless, bold-thinking students a platform for sharing their ideas in a format that has been embraced by intellectual society. Students participating in this competition will prepare and deliver a speech of four to ten minutes when spoken aloud, on the assigned topic. Competitors will present their speeches before on-site judges and spectators. Because spectators may enter or exit the presentation space at any time, competitors should be prepared to maintain focus and continue their presentation despite potential distractions.

Assigned Topic

The topic for the 2027 Creative Lecture Competition is: The Hidden Report Card: What School Budgets Say About America's Values

PROMPT:

"Don't tell me what you value. Show me your budget, and I'll tell you what you value."

— Traditional Civic Adage

Every school district in America has a mission statement celebrating its commitment to student success, creativity, and well-being. Yet, systemic funding deficits across the nation frequently force public schools into severe budgetary triage. When districts face these financial shortfalls, operational cuts often tell a conflicting story: arts programs are eliminated, elective courses disappear, and mental health resources are stripped away, all while alternative voucher systems and homeschool options shift enrollment and public dollars away from traditional infrastructure.

As a future educator and current leader in your community, you have a vital role to play in analyzing this financial landscape. If a budget is the true reflection of a society's educational values, what story does the current public school funding model tell? How can the public education system restructure its financial priorities to protect the student experience, and how must it redefine its value to remain viable in an era of unprecedented educational competition? Advocate for your solution—and challenge us to change the system.

Competition Guidelines

- A. The speech must be about the assigned topic.
- B. The presenter is required to use a visual aid, (e.g. slide deck or physical props) but no internet or audio will be available.
- C. The speech should incorporate the research or ideas of others but should ultimately reflect the presenter's original conclusions based on his/her synthesis of ideas and personal experience. Speech should be original, creative, and capture the audience's attention.
- D. The speech must be uploaded at the time of application.
- E. Each presentation is to be a minimum of four minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes. Competitors will respond to judges' follow-up questions. The entire presentation and question session will last a total of no more than 15 minutes.
- F. One judge will also serve as timekeeper. Speakers will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the nine-minute mark of their speeches. Speakers will be stopped at ten minutes.
- G. Speakers may use up to five 4x6-inch index cards while delivering his or her speech. Only one side of each index card may be used for notes.
- H. A microphone will be available for the presentation.



CREATIVE LECTURE COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Uploaded Speech	A copy of the speech was uploaded at the time of application.	The speech was not uploaded at the time of application.
Use of notecards	Used five or fewer 4x6-inch index cards during the presentation, with notes written on one side only.	Used more than five 4x6-inch index cards, wrote notes on both sides of the cards, or used notes that did not meet the required size specifications.

Presentation Content

Points Available	25-21 Accomplished	20-16 Commendable	15-11 Developing	10-1 Needs Improvement
Understanding of the Topic	The presenter demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the topic and its complexities. Ideas are accurate, well-developed, and supported by thoughtful analysis. The presentation explores implications, multiple perspectives, or deeper considerations that strengthen audience understanding.	The presenter demonstrates a clear understanding of the topic and develops ideas with relevant explanations and examples. Most points contribute meaningfully to audience understanding.	The presenter demonstrates a basic understanding of the topic but relies on surface-level explanations or limited analysis.	The presenter demonstrates a limited, inaccurate, or incomplete understanding of the topic. Key ideas lack development or support.
Original Ideas & Insight	The presenter offers innovative, thoughtful, and original ideas that contribute meaningfully to the topic. Insights demonstrate critical thinking and encourage the audience to consider new possibilities, perspectives, or solutions	The presenter offers meaningful ideas and perspectives that support discussion of the topic and demonstrate independent thinking.	The presenter shares ideas related to the topic but they may be predictable, underdeveloped, or lacking originality.	The presentation relies primarily on common observations or the ideas of others without contributing a meaningful personal perspective.



Presentation Content (continued)

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Research & Evidence	The presenter skillfully incorporates relevant and credible evidence, research, examples, data, quotations, interviews, or experiences. Evidence is thoughtfully integrated and strengthens both understanding and credibility.	The presenter incorporates supporting evidence that generally strengthens the message and demonstrates understanding of the topic.	The presenter attempts to include supporting evidence, but evidence may be weak, limited, inconsistently applied, or only loosely connected to the message.	Minimal, irrelevant, inaccurate, or no supporting evidence is included.
Visual Communication	Visual aids are purposeful, professional, visually engaging, and effectively support audience understanding. Visuals strengthen the message and are seamlessly integrated into the presentation.	Visual aids support the presentation and contribute positively to audience understanding.	Visual aids are present but may be overly simplistic, distracting, difficult to read, or only loosely connected to the presentation.	Visual aids are missing, ineffective, distracting, or unrelated to the presentation.

Presentation Delivery

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Message Development & Structure	The presentation is strategically organized with a compelling introduction, purposeful development of ideas, and a memorable conclusion. Ideas build upon one another to create a cohesive and impactful message.	The presentation is organized and easy to follow. Ideas contribute to a clear and meaningful message.	The presentation contains a recognizable structure but may include lapses in organization, transitions, or message development.	The presentation lacks a clear organizational structure and is difficult for the audience to follow.



Presentation Delivery (continued)

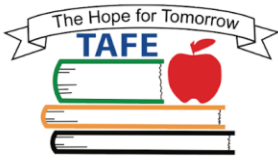
Points Available	10–9 Accomplished	8–6 Commendable	5–3 Developing	2–1 Needs Improvement
Presence	The presenter demonstrates confidence, professionalism, audience awareness, and strong engagement throughout the presentation. Eye contact, posture, and demeanor enhance the effectiveness of the message.	The presenter demonstrates confidence and audience awareness. Delivery generally supports the presentation.	The presenter demonstrates some confidence but inconsistently engages the audience.	Presentation habits distract from audience engagement or reduce presentation effectiveness.
Vocal Delivery	The presenter effectively uses articulation, pacing, volume, tone, and vocal expression to maximize audience understanding and engagement.	The presenter speaks clearly and is easily understood. Vocal delivery generally supports the message.	The presenter is understandable but pacing, volume, or vocal expression may be inconsistent.	Vocal delivery limits audience understanding or distracts from the message.

Overall Impact

Points Available	15–13 Accomplished	12–9 Commendable	8–5 Developing	4–1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The presentation is memorable, engaging, and thought-provoking. Content, evidence, visuals, and delivery work together to create a compelling TED-style experience that leaves a lasting impression on the audience.	The presentation communicates a meaningful message and leaves a positive impression on the audience.	The presentation is understandable and on-topic but may not leave a lasting impression.	The presentation lacks impact or would benefit from significant revision and practice.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Speech is between 7 and 10 minutes.	Speech is between 4 and less than 7 minutes.	Speech is shorter than 4 minutes or had to be stopped at 10 minutes.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

DIFFERENTIATED LESSON PLAN COMPETITION

\$100 Scholarship to Highest Scorer

Entries Per Chapter	2 per division
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: To challenge future educators to plan, prepare, and deliver effective lessons for diverse learners. To promote teaching skills among TAFE students.

OVERVIEW: No matter what age, grade or subject a teacher teaches, the class is certain to have a variety of learners. The class may have some ESL/ELL students, some learning support, some emotional support, some gifted, and some very “average students.” Within all the mentioned needs there are diverse learning styles. It is up to the teacher to differentiate the lesson to meet the needs of all the students.

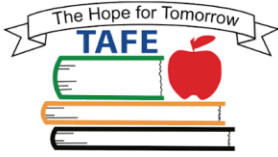
This competition is an individual event where future educators will be given a lesson plan and class demographics.

DIFFERENTIATED LESSON PLAN COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

- Each chapter may submit up to 2 entries per division.
- Preparation and presentation must be done solely by the competitor.
- Competitors must bring a pen or pencil which they will use to write ideas for differentiating the lesson.
- The competitor will be given:
 - A lesson plan to differentiate.
 - The class demographics.
- The competitor will first report to the planning room where he/she will be given the lesson plan and class demographics. The competitor will have twenty (20) minutes to plan ways to differentiate the lesson for the learners in the given class. Cell phones cannot be used in this competition.
- After twenty (20) minutes, the competitor will be escorted back to the competition room where he/she will present his/her ideas for differentiating the lesson to the judges.
- The competitor will then have:
 - Ten (10) minutes to present differentiation ideas to the judges
 - Five (5) minutes to answer judges’ questions.

CONTEST JUDGES’ INFORMATION

- **Both Area and State:**
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-3 adults.
 - The competitor will first report to the planning room where he/she will be given the lesson plan and class demographics. He/she will have twenty (20) minutes to plan differentiations for the lesson.



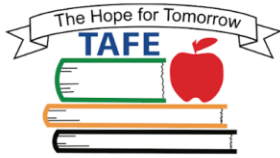
TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS **COMPETITIVE EVENTS**

- After twenty (20) minutes, the competitor will be escorted back to the competition room where he/she will present his/her ideas for differentiating the lesson to the judges. Competitors will be stopped after ten (10) minutes.
- The timekeeper will give a one (1) minute warning after nine (9) minutes have passed, and a thirty (30) second warning when thirty (30) seconds are remaining. At the end of ten (10) minutes, a STOP sign will be held up and competitors will be asked to stop.
- After the presentation, judges will have five (5) minutes to ask questions and finish their rubric. Each judge will prepare a Judge's Rubric for each competitor.
- Before verifying scores for the competitor, facilitator should give the next competitor the lesson plan and have the runner escort the competitor to the planning room, so he/she can begin planning.

DIFFERENTIATED LESSON PLAN

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Lesson Plan				
	20 - 16 Accomplished	15 - 11 Strong	10 - 6 Developing	5 - 0 Emerging
Differentiated Instruction/Activities	Lesson clearly offers appropriate, creative, and wellintegrated challenges for students of all levels, including gifted students and students with special needs.	Lesson includes some differentiated instruction for gifted students and students with special needs.	Lesson includes minimal differentiated instruction, limited to either gifted students OR students with special needs.	An attempt was made in the lesson to differentiate but no activities are included.
Class Demographics & Grade level Appropriateness	All activities are appropriate for the intended grade level and class demographics.	Most activities are appropriate for the intended grade level and class demographics.	Some but not all activities are appropriate for the intended grade level and class demographics.	Activities are inappropriate for the intended grade level and class demographics.
Vocal Delivery	Contestant's clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding.	Contestant's clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the speaker is conveying.	Contestant's clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are straightforward, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic vocal delivery.	Contestant's clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent and at times, the vocal delivery distracts from the content of the speech diminishing impact.
Responses to Judges Questions	The contestant's responses in the Q&A session demonstrates a professional-level depth and breadth of insight and knowledge of teaching through thoughtful, comprehensive responses to judges' questions. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding given his/her experience and preparation.	The contestant's responses in the Q&A session demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected topic based on his/her experience and preparation.	The contestant's responses in the Q & A session reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.	The contestant's responses in the Q&A session may reflect evident effort and passion, but are inconsistent in the depth, accuracy, understanding, or insight offered.
Overall Impact	The contestant clearly and consistently demonstrates professional-caliber skills in differentiated lesson planning. The contestant shows clear and consistent evidence of his/her identity as an educator.	The contestant demonstrates strong skills in differentiated lesson planning. The contestant shows evidence of cultivating an identity as an educator.	The contestant demonstrates developing skills in differentiated lesson planning. More preparation and expert guidance regarding the basics of differentiating lesson plans are recommended.	The contestant demonstrates emerging skills in differentiated lesson planning. Significantly more preparation and expert guidance is recommended.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUNDAMENTALS (ELF)

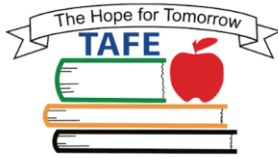
Entries Per Chapter	No limit
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: Prepare students for content knowledge related to teacher certification. Develop students' content knowledge in the areas of leadership theory and best practices. Recognize students that have demonstrated excellent acquisition of content knowledge related to teaching.

OVERVIEW: This is an individual event. Students will be tested over Educational Leadership Fundamentals (ELF). Participants will prepare for the **test** by studying the online study guide posted on the TAFE website. Test questions for the state assessment may be tied to information found in books on leadership. The suggested reading list will also be posted on the website.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUNDAMENTALS (ELF) COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

- **Area**
 - One student per test.
 - **All ELF test participants take the ELF test PRIOR to their AREA Conference on their home campus.**
 - Tests will be in a multiple-choice format.
 - Questions on the test will come from the study guide posted online.
 - The contestants will have thirty (30) minutes to take the test and should be stopped at the end of the thirty (30) minutes. The timekeeper will give a five (5) minute warning and a 1-minute warning to inform the testers that the time is almost over.
 - The room will be set up with computers, tables and chairs, no cell phones, bags, or purses may be taken into the testing room.
 - Students scoring a score of 70 or above at the area level will advance to the Teach Tomorrow Summit.
- **State**
 - Tests will be two parts.
 - First part is a multiple-choice test.
 - Second Part is an essay.
 - All students scoring 90-100 on the multiple-choice test will write an essay at the Teach Tomorrow Summit.
 - Questions on the test will come from the study guide that is posted online.
 - **All ELF test participants who qualified from AREA take the ELF test PRIOR to the Teach Tomorrow Summit at their home campus.**
 - **An email will be sent to teacher leaders of essay qualifiers, with the essay portion information taking place at the Teach Tomorrow Summit.**
 - **Students have one hour to write their essay.**
 - The person with the highest combined score on the essay and the ELF test will receive a plaque on at the Teach Tomorrow Summit.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

CONTEST PROCTORS' INFORMATION

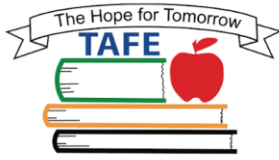
- **Area and State-Home Campus Proctors**
 - ELF testers should report to the testing area 15 minutes prior to their testing time.
 - Testers who arrive after testing has started will not be allowed to test.
 - At the time the test is to start, the proctor will close the door and check the roll. Those not present should be marked NS for no show.
 - The proctor panel will consist of 1-3 adults proctoring testers.
 - One of the proctors will also need to be the timekeeper.
 - The contestants will have 30 minutes to take the test and should be stopped at the end of the 30 minutes. The timekeeper will give a 5-minute warning and a 1-minute warning to inform the testers that time is almost over. Contestants will be stopped at the end of 30 minutes. No essay in the area.
 - At area, all students receiving a score of 70-100 will be a state qualifier.

ELF TEST ESSAY

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Essay Content				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Needs Improvement
Focus & Details	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear and are well supported by detailed and accurate information.	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear but are not well supported by detailed information.	There is one topic. Main ideas are somewhat clear.	The topic and main ideas are not clear.
Organization	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, and provides an overview of the paper. Information is relevant and presented in a logical order. The conclusion is strong.	The introduction states the main topic and provides an overview of the paper. A conclusion is included.	The introduction states the main topic. A conclusion is included.	There is no clear introduction, structure, or conclusion.
	40 - 31 Accomplished	30 - 21 Commendable	20 - 11 Developing	10 - 1 Needs Improvement
Depth & Insight	The essay reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of multiple factors and points of view involved in the issue. It succeeds in uncovering root issues and proposing compelling, well-founded solutions.	The essay reflects understanding of the issue and succeeds in proposing well-founded solutions.	The essay is on-topic. Responses offer multiple good points, but would benefit from more exploration, detail, or research.	The essay reflects limited or flawed understanding of the issue. Solutions offered may not be plausible.

Essay Mechanics				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Needs Improvement
Word Choice	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words seems accurate, natural, and not forced.	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words is inaccurate at times and/or seems overdone.	The author uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety.	The writer uses a limited vocabulary. Jargon or cliches may be present and detract from the meaning.
Sentence Structure, Grammar, & Spelling	All sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes a few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling, but they do not interfere with understanding.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. The author makes several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.	Sentences sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or are difficult to understand. The author makes numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

ESSAY QUESTIONS: One of the following essay questions will appear on the State ELF exam

- A. Teen mental health is a growing concern, with studies showing that approximately 1 in 5 teenagers in the U.S. experiences a mental health condition each year, such as anxiety or depression. According to the CDC, feelings of persistent sadness or hopelessness among teens have increased by over 40% in the past decade, with nearly 1 in 3 teens reporting these feelings. Despite the rising numbers, many teens do not receive the help they need, often due to stigma or lack of access to mental health resources. **What is the role of schools in addressing students' mental health needs? Discuss how mental health awareness and support programs in schools can contribute to the overall well-being and academic performance of students.**
- B. Social media has increasingly become a part of students' educational experiences, with both positive and negative effects. According to a 2021 survey by the Pew Research Center, 84% of teens in the U.S. reported using social media, and 31% said they use these platforms to discuss school-related topics. Research indicates that when used effectively, social media can enhance learning by facilitating collaboration, providing access to educational resources, and fostering global connections. However, studies also show concerns about its negative impact on academic performance, with some reports linking excessive social media use to lower grades and decreased focus. A 2022 study found that 45% of students admitted to being distracted by social media during study time. **In what ways does social media affect students' academic performance and social interactions? Analyze both the positive and negative influences of social media in the context of education.**
- C. Standardized testing remains a central method of assessing student performance in many education systems, though its effectiveness has been widely debated. In the United States, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) reports that nearly 80% of U.S. public school students take state-mandated standardized tests each year, with most states requiring assessments in reading and math from grades 3 through 8. **Do standardized tests effectively measure a student's knowledge and abilities? Argue for or against the use of standardized testing in schools and suggest alternative methods of assessment.** Studies reveal that high school students in the United States spend an average of 6-7 hours per week on homework, with some exceeding 10 hours depending on their academic workload. **Is homework an effective tool for reinforcing learning, or does it place unnecessary stress on students?**
- D. Statistics show that approximately 57% of high school students in the United States participate in at least one extracurricular activity, ranging from sports and arts to academic clubs and volunteer work. **How do extracurricular activities contribute to a student's overall education and personal development?**
- E. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is beginning to play a larger role in education, from personalized learning platforms and automated grading to AI tutoring and student monitoring systems. While these technologies offer new possibilities, they also raise important questions about equity, privacy, teacher roles, and the nature of learning. Consider how AI might change the roles of teachers and students, how it affects learning outcomes, and what ethical or practical concerns it raises. **Do you believe the integration of AI into schools will improve or harm education in the long run?**
- F. The future of education is rapidly evolving due to technological advances, changing student needs, and societal expectations. **Based on your understanding of the foundations of education, evaluate which core educational principles should remain constant and which should adapt to prepare students for success in the 21st century.**



CONCURSO EDUCATORS RISING MOMENT

TIPO DE CONCURSO: Individual: abierto a los espectadores

NIVELES DE ELEGIBILIDAD: Escuela secundaria junior, escuela secundaria senior, universidad

ESTÁNDARES DE EDUCATORS RISING:

- Estándar I: comprender la profesión
- Estándar VII: participar en prácticas reflexivas

Finalidad del concurso

El propósito del concurso Educators Rising Moment es proporcionar a los estudiantes de la Conferencia Nacional de Educators Rising oportunidades para explicar por qué tienen como objetivo seguir una carrera en educación. Los estudiantes que participen en esta competencia prepararán y darán un discurso que dure entre tres y cuatro minutos al decirlo en voz alta. Los competidores presentarán sus discursos ante jueces y espectadores in situ. Debido a que los espectadores pueden entrar o salir del espacio de presentación en cualquier momento, los competidores deben estar preparados para mantener la concentración y continuar su presentación a pesar de las posibles distracciones.

Directrices del concurso

- A. El discurso debe referirse a la experiencia personal del orador que ilustra el poder de ser educador. Es muy importante ser específico, en lugar de depender de clichés o afirmaciones generales, al compartir su historia.
- B. El discurso debe ser original, creativa y captar la atención del público.
- C. El discurso debe cargarse en el momento de presentarse como candidato.
- D. Cada presentación debe tener un mínimo de tres minutos y un máximo de cuatro minutos. Los competidores responderán a las preguntas de seguimiento de los jueces. Toda la presentación y la sesión de preguntas durarán un total de no más de 10 minutos.
- E. Un juez también actuará como cronometrador. Los oradores recibirán una indicación visual no verbal de que queda un minuto cuando alcanzan la marca de tres minutos de sus discursos. Los oradores se detendrán a los cuatro minutos.
- F. Los oradores pueden usar hasta cinco tarjetas de índice de 4 x 6 pulgadas durante la presentación. Solo se puede utilizar un lado de cada tarjeta.
- G. Habrá un micrófono disponible para la presentación.

CONCURSO EDUCATORS RISING MOMENT

NIVEL (ESCUELA SECUNDARIA JÚNIOR, ESCUELA SECUNDARIA SÉNIOR, UNIVERSIDAD)

RÚBRICA DE PUNTUACIÓN DETALLADA

Los jueces deben utilizar esta lista como guía para asignar puntos en la Hoja de comentarios y recuentos.

COMPONENTES PUNTUADOS IN SITU

Cumplimiento de las directrices

Puntos disponibles	5	0
Discurso cargado	Se cargó una copia del discurso en el momento de presentar la solicitud.	No se cargó el discurso en el momento de presentar la solicitud.
Uso de tarjetas	Durante la presentación, usó cinco o menos tarjetas de 4 x 6 pulgadas, con notas escritas solo en un lado.	Usó más de cinco tarjetas de 4 x 6 pulgadas, escribió notas en ambos lados de las tarjetas o usó notas que no cumplieran con las especificaciones de tamaño obligatorias.

Contenido de la presentación

Puntos disponibles	25-21 Logrado	20-15 Admirable	15-11 En desarrollo	10-1 Necesita mejorar
Historia personal y reflexión	El orador presenta una experiencia personal convincente y demuestra una reflexión profunda sobre su importancia. La reflexión demuestra madurez, autoconciencia y crecimiento personal significativo. El público comprende con claridad cómo la experiencia moldeó el pensamiento y las aspiraciones del orador.	El orador comparte una experiencia significativa y proporciona una reflexión atenta sobre su impacto. La reflexión respalda el mensaje general y demuestra un claro crecimiento personal.	El orador comparte una experiencia personal, pero la reflexión carece de profundidad, detalle o desarrollo. Brindar un análisis adicional de la experiencia reforzaría el mensaje.	La experiencia personal carece de suficiente detalle, reflexión o conexión con el mensaje general. El público tiene dificultades para comprender la importancia de la experiencia.
Comprensión de los educadores y su impacto	El orador demuestra una comprensión sofisticada de la influencia que tienen los educadores en las personas, las escuelas, las comunidades y la sociedad. Los ejemplos y conocimientos específicos ilustran de manera eficaz el poder y la importancia de la profesión docente.	El orador demuestra una comprensión clara del impacto que los educadores tienen en los estudiantes y el aprendizaje. Los ejemplos respaldan el mensaje y refuerzan la importancia de la educación.	El orador reconoce el rol y la importancia de los educadores, pero proporciona información, análisis o ejemplos de apoyo limitados.	La conexión entre la experiencia y el impacto de los educadores no es clara, está poco desarrollada o carece de fundamentos.

Contenido de la presentación (continuación)

Puntos disponibles	20-16 Logrado	15-11 Admirable	10-6 En desarrollo	5-1 Necesita mejorar
Identidad del futuro educador	El orador explica con claridad cómo la experiencia formó su comprensión de la enseñanza e influyó en su deseo de seguir una carrera en la educación. La conexión entre la experiencia y los objetivos profesionales futuros es auténtica, convincente y tiene un propósito.	El orador explica cómo la experiencia contribuyó a su interés en la educación y la conecta con objetivos futuros.	El orador hace referencia a un interés en la educación, pero proporciona una explicación limitada de cómo la experiencia influyó en sus aspiraciones futuras.	Se establece poca o ninguna conexión entre la experiencia y una carrera futura en la educación.

Impartición de la presentación

Puntos disponibles	15-11 Logrado	11-6 Admirable	5-3 En desarrollo	2-1 Necesita mejorar
Desarrollo y organización del mensaje	El discurso se organiza de manera estratégica con una introducción clara, un desarrollo de ideas intencionado y una conclusión memorable. Las ideas se basan unas en otras para fortalecer el mensaje general y el impacto en el público.	El discurso está organizado y es fácil de seguir. La mayoría de las ideas contribuyen a transmitir un mensaje claro, aunque se podrían mejorar las transiciones o la secuencia.	El discurso presenta una estructura identificable, pero puede contener errores en la organización, las transiciones o el desarrollo del mensaje.	El discurso carece de una estructura organizacional clara y es difícil de seguir para el público.
Puntos disponibles	10-9 Logrado	8-6 Admirable	5-3 En desarrollo	2-1 Necesita mejorar
Presencia	El orador mantiene un fuerte contacto visual, una postura segura y una actitud profesional. Estas cualidades mejoran el mensaje e involucran al público durante toda la presentación.	El orador demuestra confianza y es consciente del público. Por lo general, el contacto visual, la postura y la conducta apoyan la presentación.	El orador demuestra cierta confianza, pero involucra al público de manera inconsistente. Los hábitos de presentación ocasionalmente distraen del mensaje.	El contacto visual, la postura o la participación del público limitados afectan la eficacia de la presentación.
Transmisión vocal	El orador utiliza una articulación clara, un ritmo, volumen y expresión adecuados para mejorar la comprensión y la participación del público.	La voz del orador es clara y fácil de entender. Por lo general, el ritmo y la expresión respaldan el mensaje.	El orador es fácil de entender, pero puede mostrar un ritmo, volumen o expresión vocal inconsistentes.	La expresión vocal hace que algunas partes de la presentación sean difíciles de entender o seguir.

Impacto general

Puntos disponibles	20-16 Logrado	15-11 Admirable	10-6 En desarrollo	5-1 Necesita mejorar
Impacto general	El discurso es memorable, auténtico e inspirador. El contenido y la presentación se complementan para generar una impresión significativa y duradera en el público.	El discurso comunica un mensaje significativo y deja una impresión positiva en el público.	El discurso es comprensible y se mantiene dentro del tema, pero puede no dejar una impresión duradera.	El discurso carece de impacto o requiere una revisión y práctica considerables.

Duración

Puntos disponibles	5	3	1
Duración	La presentación dura entre 3.5 y 4 minutos	El discurso dura entre 2.5 y menos de 3.5 minutos.	La presentación dura menos de 2.5 minutos o tuvo que detenerse a los cuatro minutos



EDUCATORS RISING MOMENT COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual — Open to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

The purpose of the Educators Rising Moment Competition is to provide students at the Educators Rising National Conference opportunities to articulate why they aim to pursue a career in education. Students participating in this competition will prepare and deliver a speech of three to four minutes when spoken aloud. Competitors will present their speeches before on-site judges and spectators. Because spectators may enter or exit the presentation space at any time, competitors should be prepared to maintain focus and continue their presentation despite potential distractions.

Competition Guidelines

- A. The speech must be about the speaker's personal experience that illustrates the power of being an educator. Being specific — as opposed to depending on clichés or broad statements — in sharing your story is very important.
- B. Speech should be original, creative and capture the audience's attention.
- C. The speech must be uploaded at the time of application.
- D. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of four minutes. Competitors will respond to judges' follow-up questions. The entire presentation and question session will last a total of no more than 10 minutes.
- E. One judge will also serve as a timekeeper. Speakers will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one-minute remaining when they reach the three-minute mark of their speeches. Speakers will be stopped at four minutes.
- F. Speakers may use up to five 4x6-inch index cards while presenting. Only one side of each card may be used.
- G. A microphone will be available for the presentation.



EDUCATORS RISING MOMENT COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Uploaded Speech	A copy of the speech was uploaded at the time of application.	The speech was not uploaded at the time of application.
Use of notecards	Used five or fewer 4x6-inch index cards during the presentation, with notes written on one side only.	Used more than five 4x6-inch index cards, wrote notes on both sides of the cards, or used notes that did not meet the required size specifications.

Presentation Content

Points Available	25-21 Accomplished	20-15 Commendable	15-11 Developing	10-1 Needs Improvement
Personal Story & Reflection	The speaker presents a compelling personal experience and demonstrates deep reflection on its significance. Reflection reveals maturity, self-awareness, and meaningful personal growth. The audience gains a strong understanding of how the experience shaped the speaker's thinking and aspirations.	The speaker shares a meaningful experience and provides thoughtful reflection on its impact. Reflection supports the overall message and demonstrates clear personal growth.	The speaker shares a personal experience but reflection lacks depth, detail, or development. Additional analysis of the experience would strengthen the message.	The personal experience lacks sufficient detail, reflection, or connection to the overall message. The audience has difficulty understanding the significance of the experience.
Understanding of Educators & Impact	The speaker demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the influence educators have on individuals, schools, communities, and society. Specific examples and insights effectively illustrate the power and importance of the teaching profession.	The speaker demonstrates a clear understanding of the impact educators have on students and learning. Examples support the message and reinforce the importance of education.	The speaker acknowledges the role and importance of educators but provides limited insight, analysis, or supporting examples.	The connection between the experience and the impact of educators is unclear, underdeveloped, or unsupported.



Presentation Content (continued)

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Future Educator Identity	The speaker clearly articulates how the experience shaped their understanding of teaching and influenced their desire to pursue a career in education. The connection between the experience and future professional goals is authentic, compelling, and purposeful.	The speaker explains how the experience contributed to their interest in education and connects it to future goals.	The speaker references an interest in education but provides limited explanation of how the experience influenced future aspirations.	Little or no connection is made between the experience and a future career in education.

Presentation Delivery

Points Available	15-11 Accomplished	11-6 Commendable	5-3 Developing	2-1 Needs Improvement
Message Development & Organization	The speech is strategically organized with a clear introduction, purposeful development of ideas, and a memorable conclusion. Ideas build upon one another to strengthen the overall message and audience impact.	The speech is organized and easy to follow. Most ideas contribute to a clear message, though transitions or sequencing could be strengthened.	The speech includes an identifiable structure but may contain lapses in organization, transitions, or message development.	The speech lacks a clear organizational structure and is difficult for the audience to follow.
Points Available	10-9 Accomplished	8-6 Commendable	5-3 Developing	2-1 Needs Improvement
Presence	The speaker maintains strong eye contact, confident posture, and a professional demeanor. These qualities enhance the message and engage the audience throughout the presentation.	The speaker demonstrates confidence and audience awareness. Eye contact, posture, and demeanor generally support the presentation.	The speaker demonstrates some confidence but inconsistently engages the audience. Presentation habits occasionally distract from the message.	Limited eye contact, posture, or audience engagement distracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.
Vocal Delivery	The speaker uses clear articulation, appropriate pacing, volume, and expression to enhance audience understanding and engagement.	The speaker's voice is clear and understandable. Pacing and expression generally support the message.	The speaker is understandable but may demonstrate inconsistent pacing, volume, or vocal expression.	Vocal delivery makes portions of the presentation difficult to understand or follow.



Overall Impact

Points Available	20–16 Accomplished	15–11 Commendable	10–6 Developing	5–1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The speech is memorable, authentic, and inspiring. The content and delivery work together to create a meaningful and lasting impression on the audience.	The speech communicates a meaningful message and leaves a positive impression on the audience.	The speech is understandable and on-topic but may not leave a lasting impression.	The speech lacks impact or would benefit from significant revision and practice.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation is between 3.5 and four minutes	Speech is between 2.5 and less than 3.5 minutes.	Presentation is shorter than 2.5 minutes or had to be stopped at four minutes



ETHICAL DILEMMA COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Team — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

In this competition, the Educators Rising school program must debate an ethical education-related dilemma. This competition requires students to think deeply about an ethical issue, employ critical-thinking skills, and use persuasive communication techniques to collaboratively debate an ethical dilemma.

To participate, each member of the school program must first thoroughly consider the ethical issue and begin to form an individual position on the topic. Then the students must debate the topic together, listening carefully to each other's opinions. Through the discussion, the students must come to a consensus on the topic. The students then must work together to develop a written analysis of the dilemma and a 10-minute presentation to present the group's opinion, recommendations, and how it was reached to a panel of judges at the National Conference.

Competition Guidelines

There are two components to this competition:

- A 200–400-word written analysis, submitted and scored by judges prior to the national conference, and
- An interactive session (including a presentation) with judges on-site at the national conference.

WRITTEN ANALYSIS

- A. Team members will create a 200–400-word written analysis that includes:
- a. The names of all competitors, their school's name, and city/state
 - b. A clear statement of the ethical dilemma
 - c. Identification of key stakeholders and their perspectives
 - d. Exploration of potential courses of action and their consequences
 - e. A well-supported recommendation or solution

- f. Citations for any external sources used. If you cited any research within your analysis, be certain to include a works cited section. Follow APA citation style when writing your works cited section.

PRESENTATION

- A. At the Educators Rising National Conference, qualifying representatives (two to four students) must present to a panel of expert judges for up to 10 minutes the team's opinion, research, and recommendations. The presentation should

include how the decision was reached and what factors were considered in forming the team's opinions and recommendations. Use of AV materials (ex. an original PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, short video, etc.) is permitted but entirely optional for the 10-minute presentation.

- B. One judge will serve as a timekeeper during the presentations. Team members will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the nine-minute mark of their

presentations. Student presentations will be stopped at 10 minutes.

- C. Students will respond to judges' follow-up questions. The entire presentation and question session will last a total of no more than 15 minutes.





ETHICAL DILEMMA SCENARIO FOR 2027

Rebecca, a 10th-grade student and member of the track team, arrived in Ms. Wilkes' math class with shaking hands, looking pale and visibly upset. Ms. Wilkes, who also served as the track coach, noticed Rebecca's appearance and asked if everything was okay. Rebecca did not respond but appeared on the verge of tears as she quietly took her assigned seat. Knowing that Rebecca's parents had recently divorced, Ms. Wilkes remained concerned and called her that evening using the contact information she kept for all her track athletes.

Rebecca explained that she was tired of being picked on by other students. Earlier that day, in her Social Studies class, Mr. Jefferson had led a discussion centered on an upcoming election while sharing his own strong political views. Most students were already aware of his political opinions because he frequently posted related articles online. During the discussion, Mr. Jefferson asked students to share their own political views and even asked whom their parents might support in the election. He specifically called on several students who followed him on social media. When Rebecca expressed viewpoints that differed from Mr. Jefferson's, many classmates booed her and called her opinions stupid.

During the group activity that followed, Mr. Jefferson instructed students to work in small groups while he entered grades on his computer. Rebecca's group began verbally attacking her, criticizing her athletic ability and making jokes about her appearance. The teasing escalated into loud laughter. Although Mr. Jefferson briefly looked up from his work, he failed to intervene. This incident was only the latest example of Rebecca being targeted and bullied by her peers.

During her phone conversation with Ms. Wilkes, Rebecca pleaded with her not to tell Mr. Jefferson because she feared it would only make the situation worse. Although Ms. Wilkes agreed to keep the conversation confidential, she wanted to help Rebecca, whom she believed was struggling with her parents' recent divorce. Over the course of several phone calls and text messages, Rebecca disclosed that she had been experiencing depression for some time and did not know how to cope. She begged Ms. Wilkes not to tell anyone, especially because her mother was already overwhelmed. Wanting to support her student, Ms. Wilkes began meeting with Rebecca after school each week. After using AI to research counseling strategies related to Rebecca's situation, she offered advice about responding to bullying and shared AI-sourced resources addressing depression.

RECOMMENDED READING

- National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. (n.d.). *Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE). * <https://www.nasdtrec.net/page/MCEE>
- Regional Educational Service Agency. (n.d.). *Guidelines and considerations for AI in education.* <https://www.resa.net/teaching-learning/instructional-technology/ai>
- UNESCO. (2023). *Guidance for generative AI in education and research.* <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/guidance-generative-ai-education-and-research>
- Carter, H. L., Foulger, T. S., & Ewbank, A. D. (2008). Have you Googled your teacher lately? Teachers' use of social networking sites. *Phi Delta Kappan, 89*(9). https://www.pdkmembers.org/members_online/publications/archive/pdf/k0805car.pdf



EDUCATORS RISING

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER DURING YOUR DEBATE OF THE DILEMMA

- Describe the potential risks and consequences of Ms. Wilkes' actions.
- Describe the potential risks and consequences of Mr. Jefferson's actions.
- What risks should a teacher consider when interacting with a student in multiple capacities, such as serving as both teacher and mentor?
- What are the professional risks involved in expanding one's role to an area in which an educator might not have preparation, experience or licensure?
- What might be appropriate courses of action for Ms. Wilkes? Mr. Jefferson? The student?



ETHICAL DILEMMA COMPETITION

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Written Analysis

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Competitor details/word count	The summary sheet is 351-400 words and contains all 5 required competitor detail components including names of presenters, school, city, and state.	The summary sheet is 251-350 words and/or contains 4 required competitor detail components (names of presenters, school, city, and state.)	The summary sheet is 200-250 words and/or contains 3 required competitor detail components (names of presenters, school, city, and state)	The summary sheet is less than 200 words and/or contains less than 3 required competitor detail components (names of presenters, school, city, and state) or was not submitted.
Statement of Dilemma	Clearly and concisely identifies the central ethical issue.	Identifies the core ethical issue but lacks clarity or specificity.	Partially identifies the ethical issue, but it is unclear or incomplete.	Fails to identify a clear ethical dilemma.
Identification of Stakeholders	Accurately identifies all relevant stakeholders and provides a comprehensive analysis of their perspectives.	Identifies most key stakeholders and provides a solid analysis of their perspectives.	Identifies some key stakeholders but lacks depth in analyzing perspectives.	Fails to identify key stakeholders or provides limited analysis of perspectives.
Course of Action and Recommendations	Thoroughly explores multiple courses of action, considering potential positive and negative consequences for all stakeholders. Provides a clear, well-supported recommendation or solution based on ethical analysis and consideration of stakeholders.	Explores several potential courses of action and considers some consequences for stakeholders. Provides a reasonable recommendation or solution with some supporting evidence.	Identifies some potential courses of action but lacks depth in exploring consequences. Offers a recommendation or solution but lacks sufficient support.	Fails to identify or explore potential courses of action and consequences. Fails to provide a clear recommendation or solution.

Written Analysis (continued)

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
References (Works Cited Section)	Accurate, comprehensive, and error-free APA reference list and in-text citations. All sources are correctly formatted according to current APA guidelines. Professional-caliber work.	One APA formatting error or one missing element in the reference list or in-text citations.	Two or three APA formatting errors and/or missing elements in the reference list or in-text citations.	Four or more APA formatting errors and/or missing elements in the reference list or in-text citations.
Grammar & Mechanics	Error-free grammar, spelling, punctuation, mechanics, and usage. Professional-caliber work.	One error in grammar, spelling, punctuation, mechanics, and usage.	Two or three errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, mechanics, and usage.	Four or more errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, mechanics, and usage.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Presentation and Q&A

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Depth	The speech reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of multiple factors and points of view involved in the issue. It succeeds in uncovering root issues and proposing compelling, well-founded paths forward.	The speech reflects an understanding of the issue and succeeds in proposing well-founded solutions for some but not all of the issues in play in the scenario.	The speech is on-topic. Responses offer multiple good points but would benefit from more exploration, detail, or research. Solutions may only partially address the scenario.	The speech reflects a limited or flawed understanding of the issue in the scenario. The solutions offered are not plausible, appropriate, or justified.
Insight	The content of the highly focused speech reflects a keen understanding and striking insight into all sides of the issue at play in the scenario.	The speech offers useful, well-detailed ideas that warrant further exploration beyond this session. The presentation may explore most but not all sides of all issues at play in the scenario.	The speech offers basic, intuitive ideas that would have benefited from further unpacking in this session. This presentation may not explore many of the issues or perspectives at play in the scenario.	The presentation may offer ideas that are flawed, illogical, or only partially developed and feel incomplete. Few perspectives or issues at play in the scenario are explored.

Presentation and Q&A (continued)

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Creativity	The presentation conveys its message in creative, inventive ways that expertly maximize the engagement and impact for the audience. Creative risks taken pay off impressively.	The presentation employs creative ideas to convey its message, though the stylistic or thematic choices do not entirely maximize impact for the audience. Creative choices at 1 or 2 points in the presentation may distract from or limit the impact for the audience.	The presentation would benefit from more inventive or distinctive choices. Clichés may be present.	The presentation needs significant improvement in order to engage the audience or deliver meaningful impact related to its intended message.
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are professional-caliber and expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the competitors are conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are basic and straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic or consistent vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent during the presentation. At times, the vocal delivery from multiple team members distracts from the content of the presentation and diminishes its potential impact.
Presence	The competitors' sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver the maximum possible impact to the listener. All team members, whether speaking or not, reinforce the intended impact of the presentation at all times.	The competitors' mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. One or more of the presenters may appear to slip in and out of professional character at moments during the session.	The competitors' inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speakers could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The competitors display effort but eye contact, posture, and demeanor from multiple team members could benefit from more practice and coaching so that the speakers' presence consistently complements the content.

Presentation and Q&A (continued)

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Teamwork & Professionalism	All aspects of the presentation reflect an equitable effort among all of the competitors on the team. All aspects of the competitors' performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a consistently high level of professionalism.	The presentation appears to reflect a mostly equitable effort among all of the competitors on the team. Most aspects of the competitors' performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a commendable level of professionalism.	The work or responsibility load may appear imbalanced among team members. Aspects of the competitors' performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect mixed levels of professionalism.	The work or responsibility load appears highly imbalanced among team members. Multiple aspects of the competitors' performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — need significant improvement to be considered professional caliber.
Q&A Responses	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session demonstrate consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in the deep experience of the material. The competitors display impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding given his/her experience and research	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The competitor displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected topic based on his/her experience and research.	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session reflect a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session may reflect evident effort and passion but are inconsistent in the depth, accuracy, understanding, or insight offered in their responses

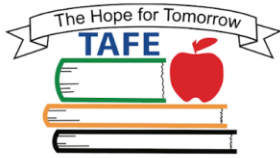


Overall Impact

Points Available	20–16 Accomplished	15–11 Commendable	10–6 Developing	5–1 Needs Improvement
Persuasiveness	The presenters are entirely persuasive with clear and well-founded rationales for their position.	The presenters make a commendable case but by leaving some areas not fully explored or explained, the presentation is not entirely persuasive.	The presenters should look for deeper or more clear and well-founded rationales for considering all aspects of the scenario and responding persuasively.	The presenters do not make a persuasive case for how to handle the situation professionally.
Overall Impact	The presentation's professional-caliber and highly persuasive exploration of the issues and explanation of decision points deliver maximum impact and understanding to the audience. The presentation content & delivery effectively complement each other to craft a highly impactful, professional-caliber experience.	The content and delivery work together to offer a commendable and persuasive presentation. With minor revisions and delivery tweaks, the project could be considered professional-caliber.	The minimally persuasive presentation demonstrates effort. At multiple moments, the content and delivery may not effectively complement one another or may reflect a partial lack of understanding or professional judgment. This may limit the impact of the presentation.	The unpersuasive presentation demonstrates inconsistent, unprofessional, or superficial aspects in content or delivery. The audience is frequently distracted from the intended impact by aspects of the content or delivery

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation is between seven and 10 minutes.	Presentation is between three and six minutes.	Presentation is shorter than three minutes or had to be stopped at 10 minutes.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

IMPROMPTU LESSON COMPETITION

\$100 Scholarship to Highest Scorer

Entries Per Chapter	2 per division
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: To challenge future educators to plan, prepare, and deliver effective lessons even when unexpected events create time restraints prohibiting advance planning. To promote teaching skills among T.A.F.E. students.

OVERVIEW: Highly skilled educators never stop building their mental toolbox of strategies to support learning. Sometimes in teaching life, plans change suddenly, and teachers must improvise. For highly skilled teachers though, this doesn't mean making things up out of thin air; it means drawing upon the strategies and experiences in that mental toolbox to quickly create a quality learning opportunity.

This competition is an individual event in which a rising educator assembles a high-quality learning experience despite limited time to plan and finite resources to use. The contestant will be given a box of classroom materials as well as a written scenario detailing a specific class, including grade level, subject, and other relevant context. The student will then have 20 minutes to plan and prepare a lesson in which he/she will effectively engage the class. Immediately following the planning, the contestant will enter the main competition room and teach a 15-minute lesson to the judges, with judges acting as cooperative students in the class.

IMPROMPTU LESSON COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

- Scenario and materials will be provided to the contestant in the planning room at the start of the 20-minute planning window.
- The planning room will contain a table, chairs, and a box of supplies. All contestants will have access to identical resources in the planning room and competition room.
- At the end of the 20-minute planning window, the contestant will report immediately to the judges in the main competition room.
- The contestant will teach his/her 15-minute lesson to a panel of judges, who will participate acting as cooperative students in the class.
- After the lesson, judges will have five minutes to ask questions. The contestants should respond comprehensively to all questions, as these answers will be scored when judges complete their scoring rubrics.

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

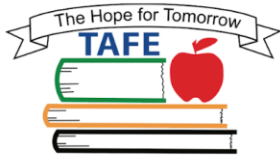
- **Both Area and State:**
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-3 adults.
 - The judges' decisions are final.
 - Scoring is based on the Impromptu Lesson Competition rubric.

IMPROMPTU LESSON

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Teaching and Q&A				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Needs Improvement
Engagement	The lesson is highly engaging in ways that directly support meeting a clearly stated, educationally relevant goal. Students (or judges role-playing as students) are directly and substantively involved in their learning.	The lesson is engaging in ways that connect to a goal, although the level of engagement or the connection to the goal may not be professional-caliber at all moments of the lesson. Students (or judges role-playing as students) are involved in their learning.	The lesson is somewhat engaging at some moments. Connection to a goal may be limited or inconsistent. Students (or judges role-playing as students) are somewhat involved in their learning.	The lesson is either primarily not engaging or reflects minimal connection to a goal. The goal may not be clear or relevant. Students (or judges role-playing as students) are involved in their learning only in a limited way.
Creativity	The lesson reflects a very high level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects a good level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects an inconsistent level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.	The lesson reflects a limited level of creativity that advances student engagement and learning.
Professionalism	All aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a consistently high level of professionalism.	Most aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect a commendable level of professionalism.	Aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — reflect mixed levels of professionalism.	Multiple aspects of the contestant's performance — including demeanor, dress, speech, attention to detail, and quality of materials — need significant improvement to be considered professional caliber.
Q&A Reflection	The contestant demonstrates professional-level insight and understanding of quality teaching when reflecting upon his/ her lesson delivery. Responses to judges' questions are entirely direct, comprehensive, and indicative of professional-caliber reflection.	The contestant demonstrates thoughtful reflection on his/her lesson delivery, but may not achieve consistent, professional-level insight and understanding of quality teaching. Responses to judges' questions are direct and mostly comprehensive, but not every answer reflects professional-caliber reflection.	The contestant, when reflecting upon his/her lesson delivery, demonstrates inconsistent thoughtfulness and understanding of quality teaching. Responses to judges' questions may be only partially substantive, and may not reflect thorough reflection.	The contestant's reflection is incomplete or reflects limited understanding of quality teaching. Responses to judges' questions are not direct or comprehensive.
Overall Impact	The entire presentation reflects excellent, professional-caliber teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects good teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects inconsistent teaching for student learning.	The entire presentation reflects limited teaching for student learning.

Lesson Length			
	5 - 4 Accomplished	3 Proficient	2 - 1 Developing
Lesson Length	Presentation was between ten and fifteen minutes.	Presentation was between eight and ten minutes or fifteen and sixteen minutes.	Presentation was less than eight minutes or longer than sixteen minutes.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING COMPETITION

\$100 Scholarship to Highest Scorer

Entries Per Chapter	2 per division
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: Poise, self-confidence, and the ability to use effective oral communication skills while under pressure are valuable qualities of all educators. This competition is designed to recognize students who demonstrate these qualities by combining clear thinking and conversational speaking into a coherent presentation on a current education-related topic.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING COMPETITION GUIDELINES

- One 4x6-inch index card will be given to each contestant during the preparation time and may be used during the presentation. Contestants may write notes on both sides of the index card.
- Preparation must be done solely by the contestant. Teacher leaders or others may not assist during preparation or presentation.
 - **Contestants who discuss or share the topic with anyone during the conference will be disqualified.**
- Each presentation is to be a minimum of two minutes and a maximum of four minutes. A timekeeper will record the time used by each contestant, noting deductions of three points for each full half-minute (30 seconds) over the four-minute maximum or under the two-minute minimum. To adhere to the competition schedule, the judges will stop any speech at five Judging and scoring minutes. Contestants will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one-minute remaining when they reach the three-minute mark of their speeches.
- All contestants will receive and speak on the same topic. The topic will be related to a current, education-related issue.
- The contestant will have 10 minutes to prepare his or her speech. Electronic devices are not permitted to be used to prepare or deliver speeches.
- A lectern may/may not be available for the presentation. No microphone will be available.
- Students may not share the topic with anyone after completing the speech.

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

- **Both Area and State:**
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-3 adults.
 - The judges' decisions are final.
 - Scoring is based on the Impromptu Speaking Competition rubric.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Presentation Content				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Emerging
Depth	The speech reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of multiple factors and points of view involved in the issue. It succeeds in uncovering root issues and proposing compelling, well-founded solutions.	The speech reflects understanding of the issue and succeeds in proposing well-founded solutions.	The speech is on- topic. Responses offer multiple good points, but would benefit from more exploration, detail, or research.	The speech reflects limited or flawed understanding of the issue. Solutions offered may not be plausible.
Insight	The content of the speech reflects keen understanding and striking insight into a major public issue.	The speech offers useful, well-detailed ideas that warrant further exploration beyond this session.	The speech offers intuitive ideas that would have benefited from further unpacking in this session.	The speech may offer ideas that are only partially developed and feel incomplete.

Presentation Delivery				
	10 - 9 Accomplished	8 - 6 Commendable	5 - 3 Developing	2 - 1 Emerging
Structure	The presentation reflects truly impressive, nuanced command of how to build and deliver a powerful message. The speech is successfully and strategically sequenced to move the listener.	The speech reflects a largely successful effort to develop a compelling message to the listener.	The speech follows traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.	The speech is inconsistent or reflects a limited response to the prompt. The structure may be lacking, meandering, or weak in one or more areas.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor, expertly complement the substance of the speech to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the speech quite well. The presenter may appear to slip in and out of character when beginning and concluding the speech. With further practice, the speaker could develop into an accomplished public presenter.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The speaker displays effort, but his/her eye contact, posture, and demeanor may distract from the intended impact of the speech.
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the speaker is conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent or inappropriate. At times, the vocal delivery distracts from the content of the speech and diminishes its potential impact.

Overall Impact				
	20 - 16 Accomplished	15 - 11 Commendable	10 - 6 Developing	5 - 1 Emerging
Overall Impact	The content and delivery blend seamlessly to craft an exceptional, professional caliber experience. The speech is ready right now to be delivered to policy-makers and education stakeholders because it could influence the debate on this issue.	The speech is commendable for its effort and on-topic substance. With some extensive revisions and coaching for delivery, the speech would be ready to deliver to policy-makers and education stakeholders.	The speech reflects a developing effort to engage in oratory on public issues. The speech's delivery and content have room for improvement.	The speech requires significantly more work. Delivery and content development would benefit from guided practice.

Length			
	5	2	0
Length	Speech is between two and four minutes.	Speech is between 1.5 and two minutes or four and 4.5 minutes.	Speech is shorter than 1.5 minutes or over 4.5 minutes.



INTERACTIVE BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST-ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual/Dual — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard III: Building Content Knowledge
- Standard V: Implementing Instruction

Contest Purpose

When you reflect upon every teacher you've had in school so far, you'll probably notice they use one thing in common: Bulletin boards. A bulletin board is a vertical surface to display visuals that provide information about something. This handy display method is popular with teachers because it can be harnessed to make lessons more engaging, highlight classroom rules and reminders, or even share an occasional inspirational quote.

In this contest, participants must prepare an interactive display board and an oral presentation introducing the display and summarizing how it could be used in an elementary classroom setting to teach a lesson.

Contest Guidelines

DISPLAY BOARD

- A. The bulletin board must not exceed the dimensions of 36" x 48".
- B. All attachments for the bulletin board must be incorporated on the front side in an original, coherent, and creative manner.
- C. The attached information and decorations must not extend more than 6 inches beyond the display's edges.
- D. All items used to create the bulletin board may be purchased, handmade, or computer-generated. Even though items can be purchased, this does not include purchasing bulletin board sets and using the set as your bulletin board. All computer-generated content must abide by the Educators Rising copyright policy.
- E. The bulletin board must show evidence of creativity and originality.
- F. Students are responsible for the transportation of their board to and from the conference site.

SUMMARY SHEET

- A. Participants will create a Summary Sheet (250-300-word) which will include:
 - a. The names of all contestants.
 - b. Their school, city, and state
 - c. Their instructional objectives
 - d. Their target audience and size of the audience
 - e. Details about how students will interact with the display. A photograph of the board may be included in this section as a reference but is not required.
 - f. Word count
- B. The Summary Sheet will be uploaded during the application process and will be pre-scored prior to the conference.

PRESENTATION: An interactive session with judges

- A. At the start of the presentation, participants will provide two copies of a Summary Sheet for the judges for reference only. The summary sheet will have been pre-scored.
- B. Presentations are to use the board only. No AV is permitted.
- C. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.
- D. Presenters will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the four-minute mark. Presenters will be stopped at five minutes.
- E. A five-minute Q&A section will follow the presentation to allow judges to ask questions.
- F. Contestants will take their materials with them after the presentation.



INTERACTIVE BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST-ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Summary Sheet Guideline Adherence

Points Available	15-11 Accomplished	10-6 Commendable	5-1 Developing
Contestant details/word count	The summary sheet is 250-300 words and contains all six required contestant detail components including the title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.	The summary sheet is 150-249 words and/or contains 4-5 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.)	The summary sheet is less than 150 words and/or contains less than 3 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count) or was not submitted.
Target Audience & Size of Audience	The target audience and size of the audience are clearly identified and are appropriate.	The target audience and size of the audience are implied but not clearly identified or are only somewhat appropriate.	The target audience and/or size of the audience are not identified or are inappropriate.
Instructional Objectives	Clearly defines display board components and their functions. Explains the purpose of a display board in various contexts.	Identifies most display board components and their basic functions. Describes the general purpose of a display board.	Has limited knowledge of display board components. Shows a basic understanding of the display board's purpose.
Interactive Instructions	Instructions are clear, concise, and easy to follow, with no ambiguity. Effectively incorporates interactive elements to enhance engagement. Instructions are accessible to learners with diverse needs (e.g., font size, color contrast).	Instructions are clear and easy to follow, with minor ambiguities. Includes some interactive elements to enhance understanding. Instructions are generally accessible, with minor accessibility issues.	Instructions are unclear or difficult to follow, with significant ambiguities. Lacks interactive elements or those included are ineffective. Instructions have significant accessibility barriers.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Board Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Title of Activity	Title of activity is clearly displayed	Title of activity is not clearly displayed
Board Size	Board does not exceed 36" x 48"	Board exceeds 36" x 48"
Attachments	Attached information and decorations do not extend more than 6 inches beyond the display's edges.	Attached information and decorations extend more than 6 inches beyond the display's edges.

Creativity

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Embellishment	Most decorations and/or ornamentation contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some decorations and/or ornamentation do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or ornamentation either does not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
Neatness	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) not visible; cut edges of paper straight and smooth; meticulousness and care in assembling/constructing board apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) somewhat visible; some cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Care in assembling/constructing board not apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) obviously visible; many cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Little or no care is apparent.
Originality of Ideas	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect the student's own ideas
Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination

Design of the Project

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Color	Color choices are purposefully utilized to enhance learning	Color choices represent thoughtfulness	Little to no consideration of color choice
Texture	Skillfully incorporates texture	Unskilled incorporation of texture	Little to no consideration of use of texture
Lettering	Neat and easily read	Lack of neatness distracts from learning task.	Difficult to read or illegible

Design of the Project (continued)

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Attention to Detail	A professional-caliber display, with almost no mechanical errors. Materials are original, creative, and neatly placed. There is organization in the arrangement of those materials on the display.	A nearly professional-caliber display, with one or two mechanical errors. Materials are creative and neatly placed but lack organization in arrangement.	A display that would benefit from more attention to detail. More than two mechanical errors. Materials may be lacking organization in their assembly. The board is too crowded or busy to focus on the task.
Interactive	Student engagement opportunities are obvious for material to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities require an explanation for the display to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities are obscure or missing for material to be used effectively

Presentation

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the functionality of the bulletin board. The contestant expertly leverages the display to facilitate in-depth and thoughtful student interaction.	The presentation is on-topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from a greater exploration and detail into the functionality of the bulletin board. Student interaction is possible through the display design but lacks depth.	The presentation is surface level only. Basic information is provided, but not explored. Student interaction is minimal or impossible due to the display's design.
Structure	The presentation and display reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the functionality of the bulletin board. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and display reflect a largely successful effort to convey the functionality of the bulletin board.	The presentation and display follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.



Presentation (continued)

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Presence	The contestant's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. The display of materials enhances the presentation.	The contestant's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The display of materials complements the presentation.	The contestant's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The display of materials is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the materials. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected functionality of the bulletin board.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation was between four and five minutes.	Presentation was at least three minutes and less than four minutes.	Presentation was less than three minutes or had to be stopped at five minutes.

Summary Sheet Copies

Points Available	2	0
Summary Sheet Copies	Contestant provided two copies of a Summary Sheet to the judges at the start of the presentation.	Contestant did not provide two copies of a Summary Sheet to the judges at the start of the presentation.



INTERACTIVE BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST-MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual/Dual — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard III: Building Content Knowledge
- Standard V: Implementing Instruction

Contest Purpose

When you reflect upon every teacher you've had in school so far, you'll probably notice they use one thing in common: Bulletin boards. A bulletin board is a vertical surface to display visuals that provide information about something. This handy display method is popular with teachers because it can be harnessed to make lessons more engaging, highlight classroom rules and reminders, or even share an occasional inspirational quote.

In this contest, participants must prepare an interactive display board and an oral presentation introducing the display and summarizing how it could be used in a middle/high school classroom setting to teach a lesson.

Contest Guidelines

DISPLAY BOARD

- A. The bulletin board must not exceed the dimensions of 36" x 48".
- B. All attachments for the bulletin board must be incorporated on the front side in an original, coherent, and creative manner.
- C. The attached information and decorations must not extend more than 6 inches beyond the display's edges.
- D. All items used to create the bulletin board may be purchased, handmade, or computer-generated. Even though items can be purchased, this does not include purchasing bulletin board sets and using the set as your bulletin board. All computer-generated content must abide by the Educators Rising copyright policy.
- E. The bulletin board must show evidence of creativity and originality.
- F. Students are responsible for the transportation of their board to and from the conference site.

SUMMARY SHEET

- A. Participants will create a Summary Sheet (250-300-word) which will include:
 - a. The names of all contestants.
 - b. Their school, city, and state
 - c. Their instructional objectives
 - d. Their target audience and size of the audience
 - e. Details about how students will interact with the display. A photograph of the board may be included in this section as a reference but is not required.
 - f. Word count
- B. The Summary Sheet will be uploaded during the application process and will be pre-scored prior to the conference.

PRESENTATION: An interactive session with judges

- A. At the start of the presentation, participants will provide two copies of a Summary Sheet for the judges for reference only. The summary sheet will have been pre-scored.
- B. Presentations are to use the board only. No AV is permitted.
- C. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.
- D. Presenters will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the four-minute mark. Presenters will be stopped at five minutes.
- E. A five-minute Q&A section will follow the presentation to allow judges to ask questions.
- F. Contestants will take their materials with them after the presentation.



INTERACTIVE BULLETIN BOARD CONTEST-MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Summary Sheet Guideline Adherence

Points Available	15-11 Accomplished	10-6 Commendable	5-1 Developing
Contestant details/word count	The summary sheet is 250-300 words and contains all six required contestant detail components including the title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.	The summary sheet is 150-249 words and/or contains 4-5 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.)	The summary sheet is less than 150 words and/or contains less than 3 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count) or was not submitted.
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Instructional Objectives	Clearly defines display board components and their functions. Explains the purpose of a display board in various contexts.	Identifies most display board components and their basic functions. Describes the general purpose of a display board.	Has limited knowledge of display board components. Shows a basic understanding of the display board's purpose.
Interactive Instructions	Instructions are clear, concise, and easy to follow, with no ambiguity. Effectively incorporates interactive elements to enhance engagement. Instructions are accessible to learners with diverse needs (e.g., font size, color contrast).	Instructions are clear and easy to follow, with minor ambiguities. Includes some interactive elements to enhance understanding. Instructions are generally accessible, with minor accessibility issues.	Instructions are unclear or difficult to follow, with significant ambiguities. Lacks interactive elements or those included are ineffective. Instructions have significant accessibility barriers.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Board Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Title of Activity	Title of activity is clearly displayed	Title of activity is not clearly displayed
Board Size	Board does not exceed 36" x 48"	Board exceeds 36" x 48"
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Creativity

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Embellishment	Most decorations and/or ornamentation contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some decorations and/or ornamentation do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or ornamentation either does not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
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Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination



Design of the Project

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Color	Color choices are purposefully utilized to enhance learning	Color choices represent thoughtfulness	Little to no consideration of color choice
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Attention to Detail	A professional-caliber display, with almost no mechanical errors. Materials are original, creative, and neatly placed. There is organization in the arrangement of those materials on the display.	A nearly professional-caliber display, with one or two mechanical errors. Materials are creative and neatly placed but lack organization in arrangement.	A display that would benefit from more attention to detail. More than two mechanical errors. Materials may be lacking organization in their assembly. The board is too crowded or busy to focus on the task.
Interactive	Student engagement opportunities are obvious for material to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities require an explanation for the display to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities are obscure or missing for material to be used effectively

Presentation

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the functionality of the bulletin board. The contestant expertly leverages the display to facilitate in-depth and thoughtful student interaction.	The presentation is on-topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from a greater exploration and detail into the functionality of the bulletin board. Student interaction is possible through the display design but lacks depth.	The presentation is surface level only. Basic information is provided, but not explored. Student interaction is minimal or impossible due to the display's design.
Structure	The presentation and display reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the functionality of the bulletin board. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and display reflect a largely successful effort to convey the functionality of the bulletin board.	The presentation and display follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.



Presentation (continued)

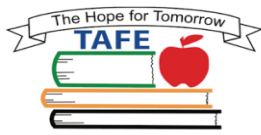
Points Available	10-7	6-4	3-1
	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing
Presence	The contestant's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. The display of materials enhances the presentation.	The contestant's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The display of materials complements the presentation.	The contestant's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The display of materials is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the materials. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected functionality of the bulletin board.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation was between four and five minutes.	Presentation was at least three minutes and less than four minutes.	Presentation was less than three minutes or had to be stopped at five minutes.

Summary Sheet Copies

Points Available	2	0
Summary Sheet Copies	Contestant provided two copies of a Summary Sheet to the judges at the start of the presentation.	Contestant did not provide two copies of a Summary Sheet to the judges at the start of the presentation.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER CONTEST

Entries Per School	1
Type of Event	Chapter
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	Yes, visit Educators Rising Outstanding Chapter Rubric
Prescored Event	Yes, Prescored for State

OBJECTIVE: To recognize an outstanding TAFE chapter for their contributions to future educators.

OVERVIEW: Texas Association of Future Educators will recognize outstanding TAFE chapters for their contributions to future educators. The completed forms and all required documents must be sent to the TAFE state office to be considered for this award. Educators Rising has a rule which states for any competition/contest not offered at your state-level, "students may register to compete in those events at the Educators Rising National Conference." Chapters who receive 500 or more points should consider competing in the national competition.

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER COMPETITION GUIDELINES:

- All complete applications received will be scored by a selection committee.
- Chapters must attend one of the following: Teach Tomorrow Summit, or Area Conference.
- All schools that achieve at least 500 points will be recognized as Outstanding TAFE Chapters and will be recognized as the Outstanding TAFE Chapter and will receive special recognition on stage at the Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit.
- Schools receiving 450 - 499 points will be recognized with an Honorable Mention certificate.
- The state office will appoint a committee of judges to score each of the applications.



OUTSTANDING CHAPTER CRITERIA

I. TAFE Objectives (100 points maximum)

A. General Objectives	20
B. Specific Objectives.....	40
C. Projects Meet Specific Objectives	40

II. Projects (225 points maximum)

A. Teaching	25
B. Recreational or Social.....	25
C. Faculty Appreciation.	25
D. Fundraising.	25
E. Leadership.....	25
F. Education Awareness	25
G. Service	25
H. Bonus.....	5-50

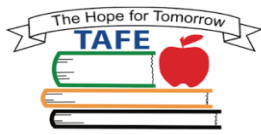
III. TAFE Operations (include chapter samples) (90 points maximum)

A. Agenda for each meeting.....	10
B. Minutes for each meeting.....	10
C. Budget and Financial Reports.....	10
D. Project Evaluation.....	10
E. Committee Structure	10
F. Website	45

IV. State Participation (590 points maximum)

A. Membership.....	15
B. Teach Tomorrow Summit	
1. Attendance	25
2. Led a Breakout Session	15
3. Contest Judge Provided.	15
C. Completion of State Project/Contests (10 points each)	10-370
<i>BONUS – assisted in starting a new TAFE Chapter.....</i>	<i>20</i>
D. State Officer Candidate	15
E. State Officer School	20
F. Teacher Leaders' Workshop	
1. Attendance	25
2. Led a Breakout Session	15

V. Area Participation (95 points maximum)



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

A. Area Officer School.....	30
B. Attendance at Area Conference.....	15
C. Host an Area Event	20
D. Attendance at other Area Meetings (10 points each)	10-30
VI. Evaluation (10 points maximum)	
Evaluation by Principal or three teachers (required).....	10
Total possible points.....	1110

500 points must be earned to be recognized as an Outstanding Future Educators Chapter.

450 - 499 points will be recognized with an Honorable Mention certificate.

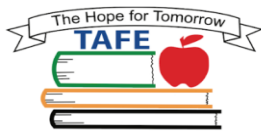
***Must attend one of the following: Teach Tomorrow Summit, or Area Conference.**

IN COMPLETING THE ATTACHED FORMS, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- No one project can receive dual points.**
- No pictures are to be included in the entry.**

Important

To compete for the Outstanding Chapter Award, this **Entry Form** and attached **Nomination Form** must be completed and returned to the TAFE state office **SUBMITTED ONLINE by February 5, 2027.**

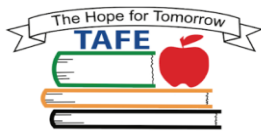


TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER APPLICATION

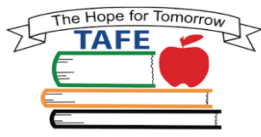
NOMINATION FORM-Please use this form and attach extra pages if necessary.

1. Objectives: (100 points maximum)	Possible Points
A. State the general objectives for the TAFE chapter	20
B. State specific objectives for the current year.	40
C. For each specific objective listed in B., list one project that the chapter does to meet that objective	40
2. Projects (225 points maximum) <i>List only one project for each category.</i>	Possible Points
A. Was there a Teaching Project? Briefly describe.	25
B. Was there a Recreational or Social Project? Briefly describe.	25
C. Was there a Teacher/Staff Appreciation Project? Briefly describe.	25
D. Was there a Fundraising Project? Briefly describe.	25
E. Was there a Leadership Project? Briefly describe.	25
F. Was there an Educational Awareness Project? Briefly describe.	25
G. Was there a Service Project? Briefly describe.	25
H. Were there any additional projects? Add additional documents and list and briefly describe each. (5pts. Each/maximum 10)	5-50



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

3. TAFE Operations (90 points maximum)		Possible Points
A. Attach a sample agenda. <i>Explain who prepares it and how well it's followed in a meeting.</i>		10
B. Attach a sample of the minutes from one of the chapter meeting.		10
C. Attach copy of the chapter budget.		5
D. Attach a copy of the chapter treasurer's reports. <i>Do not enclose copies of school ledger.</i>		5
E. Explain the process for evaluating projects. Sample Evaluation		5
F. Attach a copy of one of the evaluation forms.		5
G. Committee Structure: List chapter committees, describe how they are formed and how well they run.		5
Bonus:		
a. Does your chapter have a website/web page on the school website?		25
b. Does it have an active link to the state website?		10
c. Has the website been updated in the past three months?		10
Website URL:		
4. State Participation: (590 points)		Possible Points
A. Membership: Were the TAFE chapter dues received at the State Office by October 1.		15
B. Chapter attended Officer Training Workshop?		25
Teach Tomorrow Summit		
C. Chapter attended the Teach Tomorrow Summit the previous year?		25
D. Chapter lead a breakout session (non-competing) at the Teach Tomorrow Summit last year.		15
E. Chapter provided a judge for the previous year's conference.		15
F. Check the state projects chapter members are participating in this year. You receive 10pts. Max for each event. Does not count double for multiple entries.		380
Breakout Session		Inside Our Schools
Chapter Yearbook		Inside Our Schools Spanish
Children's Literature Pre-K		Job Interview
Children's Literature Pre-K Spanish		Lesson Planning and Delivery ARTS
Children's Literature K-3		Lesson Planning and Delivery CDA
Children's Literature K-3 Spanish		Lesson Planning and delivery CTE
Creative Lecture		Lesson Planning and Delivery Humanities
Differentiated Lesson		Lesson Planning and Delivery Professional Development
E.L.F Testing		Lesson Planning and Delivery Spanish
Educators Rising Leadership Award		Lesson Planning and Delivery STEM
Educators Rising Moment		Outstanding Chapter
Educators Rising Moment Spanish		Portfolio
Ethical Dilemma		Project Visualize
Exploring Education Administration Careers		Public Speaking
Exploring Non-Core Teaching Careers		Public Service Announcement
Exploring Support Services Careers		Researching Learning Challenges
Interactive Bulletin Board		TAFE Student of the Year
Impromptu Lesson		TAFE Teacher of the Year
Impromptu Speaking		Teacher Created Materials



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

Bonus	Possible Points
a. Assisted in starting a new chapter. Name of School:	20
b. Mentored a new TAFE Teacher Leader. Name of Teacher Leader:	20
G. State Officer Candidate: The Chapter has submitted paperwork to be a state officer candidate?	15
H. Does the chapter presently hold a state office?	20
Teacher Leaders' Workshop	
a. Did the chapter Teacher Leader attend the Teacher Leaders' Workshop this year?	25
b. Did chapter Teacher Leader lead a breakout session at the Teacher Leaders' Workshop?	15
5. Area Participation (95 points maximum)	Possible Points
A. Does the chapter hold an Area Office Position? Office:	30
B. Did the chapter attend an Area Conference?	15
C. Did the chapter host an Area Event? (Fall workshop, etc.)	20
D. Attendance at other Area Meetings: (Fall workshop, etc.) 10 pts. each	10-30
List Meetings:	
6. Principal/Teacher Evaluation (10 points maximum)	Possible Points
A. Please use the attached evaluation form to get the principal or three teachers to complete an evaluation.	10
7. Chapter Information	
All Schools that achieve 500 points or more will be recognized on stage as Outstanding Future Educator Chapters. All schools that achieve between 400-499 points will receive an honorable mention certificate in your awards packet.	
We Certify to the best of our knowledge the information on this form is true.	

Teacher Leader Name	Teacher Leader Email
Teacher Leader Signature	Principal Signature
Student President Name	Student President Signature
Name of School	School Address



Principal/Teacher Evaluation

TAFE Mission: 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.

Evaluation	Points Earned 1-5
Service (Fulfills the needs of the campus, district, and community)	
Character (Demonstrates positive and respectful attitude)	
Leadership (Models dependability, creativity, good communication, motivation, and inspiration)	
Scholarship (Excels in learning, knowledge, education, and academic standards)	
Collaboration (Works well with other organizations, teachers, and administration)	
Ethics (Exhibits confidentiality, honesty, and trustworthiness)	

Signature _____ Date _____



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

PORTFOLIO CONTEST

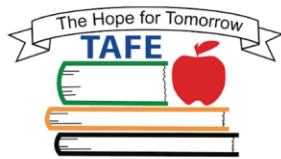
Entries Per Chapter	10 entries
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	No

OBJECTIVE: To assist TAFE members in compiling a dynamic record of their qualifications, experiences, and professional growth.

OVERVIEW: Members will prepare a portfolio in hard copy **OR** electronic format. Following the contest guidelines, students will bring a hard copy to the area (state) contest or make a digital copy of the portfolio accessible to the judges on a laptop via a web-based format or flash drive. Members will give an oral presentation that provides an overview of the sections, summarizing the students' skills and experiences. Students may prepare and/or present individually or with an assistant.

PORTFOLIO CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- One student per portfolio. Preparation and presentation must be done solely by the contestant.
- Portfolios submitted at the area competition must be 75% complete and should have placeholders (labeled pages or designated spaces) with a description of the information or artifact to be added, and when it will be added.
- Students can choose to use either the Hard Copy Portfolio or the Electronic Portfolio format.
- The portfolio contents are to be prepared following the criteria established on the Judges' Scoring Sheet. (See Judges' Scoring Sheet)
- **Presentation**
 - Students presenting an electronic portfolio must provide their own laptop to present the portfolio.
 - The contestant will be given up to 5 minutes to present his/her portfolio. At the end of 5 minutes, the contestant will be stopped.
 - The presentation must open with the name of the presenter, name of the chapter and school, and the city.
 - The presentation must include an overview of the sections, summarizing the students' skills and experiences. (See judges' sheets.)
 - Following the presentation, the judges will have 5 minutes for questioning. This is an opportunity for the judges to ask questions to correct any judging errors before final awards are made.
 - The contestant will take portfolio with him/her at the conclusion of his/her presentation.



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

- **Both Area and State:**
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-2 adults. (It is suggested that there be a panel of judges for every 10 portfolios.) It is recommended that student judges be competitors in this competition because they are familiar with the requirements of the competition.
 - The contestant will have 5 minutes to give his/her presentation and will be stopped at the end of 5 minutes. The timekeeper will give a 1-minute warning after 4 minutes have passed, and when 30 seconds are remaining. At the end of 5 minutes, the timekeeper will say, "STOP," and the contestant will stop the presentation.
 - After the presentation, judges will have 5 minutes to ask questions and finish their scoring sheet. If something was missing during the presentation, this is the time to get clarification. Each judge will prepare a Judge's Rubric for each competitor.
 - Each contestant will be judged against a standard of excellence rather than against each other.

PORTFOLIO

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Portfolio		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Hard Copy - Provided in a loose-leaf binder. The contents will be word-processed except for artifacts such as certificates, samples of student work from lessons presented, etc.	3	0
Electronic - Must be provided on a flash drive or accessed from a web-based application and presented on a laptop provided by the competitor. Artifacts must be viewable and in a non-editable format such as a pdf.		
Hard Copy - Cover page in binder	3	0
Electronic - Opening/Welcome page		
Hard Copy - Table of Contents (Includes bolded headings below)	3	0
Electronic - Navigation Page (Includes bolded headings below)		
Introduction	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Title Page with Name, Chapter Name, City, and State	5	0
Hard Copy - Letter of introduction which includes explanation about why you are pursuing education as a career	5	0
Electronic - Short paragraph about you including why you are pursuing a career in education. Optional items to personalize page such as educational quote(s), professional photo, personal video, etc.		
Professional Information	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Resume (Required)	4	0
Letter of Reference #1 (Required)	4	0
Letter of Reference #2 (Required)	4	0
Philosophy of Education (Required)	4	0
Optional items #1 (Optional) (academic highlights, interests, hobbies, professional pictures, etc.)	1	0
Optional items #2 (Optional) (academic highlights, interests, hobbies, professional pictures, etc.)	1	0
Practical Teaching Experiences	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Lesson Plan (Required)	5	0
Experience Reflection (Required)	5	0
Captioned Photo (Required)	5	0
Optional Materials #1 (Optional) (lesson support materials, evaluations, captioned photos, video of teaching experiences, etc.)	1	0
Optional Materials #2 (Optional) (lesson support materials, evaluations, captioned photos, video of teaching experiences, etc.)	1	0

Optional Materials #3 (Optional) (lesson support materials, evaluations, captioned photos, video of teaching experiences, etc.)	1	0
Optional Materials #4 (Optional) (lesson support materials, evaluations, captioned photos, video of teaching experiences, etc.)	1	0
Optional Materials #5 (Optional) (lesson support materials, evaluations, captioned photos, video of teaching experiences, etc.)	1	0

Classroom Management Plan	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Stated Rules	3	0
Stated Consequences	3	0
Stated Rewards	3	0
Optional Materials #1 (Optional) (handling attendance, tardy slips, excuses, distributing/returning supplies, collecting assignments, forming groups/coop learning, transitions/dissmissals, other management practices)	1	0
Optional Materials #2 (Optional) (handling attendance, tardy slips, excuses, distributing/returning supplies, collecting assignments, forming groups/coop learning, transitions/dissmissals, other management practices)	1	0
Optional Materials #3 (Optional) (handling attendance, tardy slips, excuses, distributing/returning supplies, collecting assignments, forming groups/coop learning, transitions/dissmissals, other management practices)	1	0
Optional Materials #4 (Optional) (handling attendance, tardy slips, excuses, distributing/returning supplies, collecting assignments, forming groups/coop learning, transitions/dissmissals, other management practices)	1	0
Optional Materials #5 (Optional) (handling attendance, tardy slips, excuses, distributing/returning supplies, collecting assignments, forming groups/coop learning, transitions/dissmissals, other management practices)	1	0

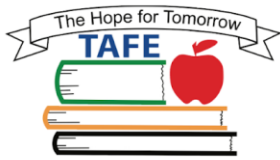
Communication Skills Must include a minimum of 2 of the following: Letters to parents/w receipt tag, Volunteer Requests, Flyer Announcing Event, Student Affirmation Letter, Enrichment or Tutoring Letter or other written communication.	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Communication Artifact #1	3	0
Communication Artifact #2	3	0

Technology Skills At least 5 applications or technology tools are featured. Must include the following: Logo/Icon of the application is included (A hyperlink is hidden in logo to direct user to product.) Evidence of educational use such as a screenshot or photo of students engaged using product from each app/tool must be included. A short caption or description explaining the use must be included with each app/tool.	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Technology Artifact #1	2	0
Technology Artifact #2	2	0
Technology Artifact #3	2	0
Technology Artifact #4	2	0
Technology Artifact #5	2	0

Honors/Awards Include at least two artifacts with descriptions. These might include: Photo of plaques or trophies, certificates, medals judge's commentaries, scholarships won, college acceptance letters, honor roll, athletic awards related to your education history.	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Honor/Award Artifact #1	3	0
Honor/Award Artifact #2	3	0

Leadership Activities Include Name of Leadership Organizations in which you are active, Dates of Membership, Office(s) Held, Description of Activities, Captioned Photo, or Other Support Artifacts.	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Leadership Activity #1	3	0
Leadership Activity #2	3	0
Leadership Activity #3	3	0

Presentation		
	Adheres	Does Not Adhere
Student introduced their self	2	0
Student was familiar with contents of the Portfolio and described the content in a coherent fashion	2	0
Student made regular eye contact with all judges	2	0
Student posture was upright and professional during presentation	2	0
Student was able to respond to questions in a knowledgeable fashion	2	0



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

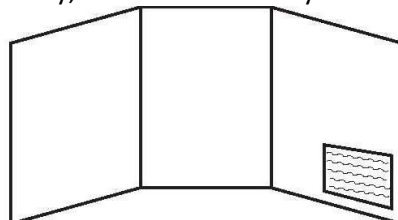
Entries Per Chapter	2 entries per division per 6 TRAFLE Area
Type of Event	Individual or Dual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No
Prescored Event	Originality Presubmission

OBJECTIVE: To develop chapter creativity, teamwork, time management, public speaking skills and organization skills by giving students an opportunity to highlight and present one of their local chapter projects. To share ideas and approaches to various TAFE project areas. To encourage chapters to participate at the state level. Allow students the opportunity to practice writing project summaries.

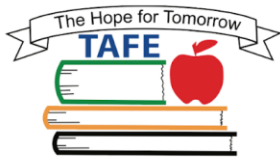
OVERVIEW: Contestants will thematically construct a cardboard tri-fold display (36" x 48"). Participants must prepare a **display** and an **oral presentation** introducing the display and summarizing the project.

PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST GUIDELINES:

- **Display**
 - The project will be depicted on a tri-fold display measuring 36" h x 48" w.
 - All information being considered must be on the front side of the trifold (attached to the trifold board).
 - Attachments or decorations may not extend more than 6 inches beyond the cardboard display edges.
 - The depth of the display cannot be more than 10".
 - The display should include:
 - Summary Sheet: (See diagram below for proper placement of following information) on the lower right side of the trifold.
 - Name of school, school district, chapter size, town/city
 - 300 - 500-word summary of the project that includes:
 - Purpose and objectives
 - Brief description of the activities
 - Description of involvement of chapter members, other students, other organizations, faculty, and the community



*A. SUMMARY
SHEET



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS COMPETITIVE EVENTS

- Name of project and selected TRAFLE area (choose only one area) printed on trifold.
- Pictures or illustrations of the project.
 - Items on the display may be purchased, hand designed, stenciled, die cut or computer generated.
- **Presentation**
 - Contestants will be given up to five (5) minutes to present their Project Visualize. At the end of five (5) minutes, contestants will be stopped.
 - The presentation must include information from the Summary Sheet.
 - Following the presentation, the judges will have five (5) minutes for questioning. This is an opportunity for the judges to ask questions to correct any judging errors.
 - Project Visualize (TRAFLE) contestants may choose to dress in costumes worn during their project. For example, if a group did a fairytale reading night and they dressed up like characters from the fairytales they were reading, those costumes could be used in the contest presentation.

CONTEST JUDGES' INFORMATION

- **Both Area and State:**
 - The judging panel will consist of 1-2 adults and 1 student. (It is suggested that there be a panel of judges for every 10 displays.)
 - The contestants will be judged against a standard of excellence rather than against each other.
 - The same set of judges must judge the display and the presentation.

PROJECT VISUALIZE

FEEDBACK & TALLY SHEET

Summary Sheet Guideline Adherence			
	Accomplished 15 - 11	Commendable 10 - 6	Developing 5 - 1
Contestant details/word count	The summary sheet is 500-300 words and contains all six required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, district, city, and state.)	The summary sheet is 200-300 words and/or contains 4-5 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, district, city, and state.)	The summary sheet is less than 200 words and/or contains less than 4 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, district, city, and state) or was not submitted.
Purpose and Objectives	Provides a clear and concise overview of the project, highlighting its goals and objectives. Demonstrates a strong understanding of the community need addressed by the project and its potential impact.	Provides a generally clear overview of the project but lacks some clarity in defining goals and objectives. Demonstrates a general understanding of the community need but lacks depth in explaining the project's significance.	Provides a vague or incomplete description of the project, making it difficult to understand its purpose. Provides limited information about the community need and the project's potential impact.
Description of Activities	Provides a detailed description of the activities for the project.	Provides a generally clear overview of the activities for the project but would benefit from the addition of more details.	Provides a vague or incomplete description of the project, making it difficult to understand its purpose.
Description of Chapter Involvement	All chapter members actively contributed to the project in meaningful ways. Demonstrates strong leadership and effective collaboration among chapter members. Established strong partnerships with peers, faculty, and community stakeholders.	Most chapter members contributed to the project, but some members had limited involvement. Shows evidence of leadership and collaboration, but could be improved. Developed some partnerships, but opportunities exist to expand collaboration.	Limited involvement from chapter members. Lacks clear evidence of leadership and collaboration among chapter members. Limited involvement of peers, faculty, and community stakeholders in the project.
Mechanics & Professionalism	Reflects a professional-quality document. Contains no errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a commendable, student-level document with one or two errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a document in need of some proofreading and/or revision. Contains three or four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).

Board Guideline Adherence		
	Adheres 5	Does Not Adhere 0
Title of Project on board	Project title is displayed on the board.	Project title is not displayed on the board.
Board Size	Board does not exceed 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.	Board exceeds 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.

Creativity			
	Accomplished 10 - 7	Commendable 6 - 4	Developing 3 - 1

Embellishments	Decorations and/or ornamentation contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some decorations and/or ornamentation do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or ornamentation either does not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
Neatness	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) not visible; cut edges of paper straight and smooth; meticulousness and care in assembling/constructing board apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) somewhat visible; some cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Care in assembling/constructing board not apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) obviously visible; many cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Little or no care in
Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination
Originality of Ideas	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect the student's own ideas

Presentation			
	Accomplished 10 - 7	Commendable 6 - 4	Developing 3 - 1
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the project and students articulate its impact with skilled nuance. The contestant expertly leverages the tri-fold to visualize the project.	The presentation reflects understanding of the project. The content of the tri-fold reflects a commendable commitment to sharing details of the project through basic information and decorations.	The presentation is on-topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from greater exploration and detail. The content of the tri-fold reflects compliance but minimal insight. The images may be basic or not particularly effective
Described group member roles	Clearly explains contribution of chapter members.	Contribution of chapter members somewhat ambiguous.	Contribution of chapter members not clear.
Structure	The presentation and visual aid reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the project's significance to an audience. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and visual aid reflect a largely successful effort to convey the significance of the project.	The presentation and visual aid follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. The visual aid enhances the presentation.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The visual aid complements the presentation.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The visual aid is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the project. The contestant displays impressive, professional level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected project.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.

Overall Impact			
	Accomplished 10 - 7	Commendable 6 - 4	Developing 3 - 1

Overall Impact	The project idea was outstanding and was successful in achieving the intended impact and will likely have future impacts as well.	The project idea was commendable and somewhat successful in achieving the intended impact.	The project idea was a good idea but needed more development to achieve the intended impact.
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Length			
	5	3	1
Length	Presentation was between four and five minutes.	Presentation was more than three minutes and less than four minutes.	Presentation was less than three minutes or had to be stopped at five minutes.



PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual/Dual — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

Participation in service projects helps students develop real-world skills such as leadership, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and time management. As rising educators, you have a chance to make a difference in your community. Have you taken part in a service project with your Educators Rising Chapter this year that has especially impacted you? Great! This is your chance to share your enthusiasm and all that you learned by visualizing your experience with that special service project, all the while envisioning your future in education and honing in on the critical thinking and communication skills necessary to make that vision a reality.

The presentation must highlight one Educators Rising chapter project in which all presenters participated that was completed during the 2026-2027 school year.

Contest Guidelines

DISPLAY BOARD

- A. The bulletin board must not exceed the dimensions of 36" x 48" tri-fold display. The depth of the display cannot be more than 10 inches.
- B. All attachments for the bulletin board must be incorporated on the front side in an original, coherent, and creative manner.
- C. Attached information and decorations must not exceed more than 6 inches beyond the display's edges.
- D. The display must prominently highlight the name of the project.
- E. The display must include photos or original illustrations of the project.
- F. All items used to create the bulletin board may be purchased, handmade, or computer-generated. All computer-generated content must abide by the Educators Rising copyright policy.

SUMMARY SHEET

- A. The display must include a summary sheet on the lower right side of the tri-fold containing:
 - a. Title of the project
 - b. Name(s) of presenters
 - c. The name of the school and city/state.
 - d. A 300-500-word summary of the project must be pasted on the tri-fold, which incorporates:
 - i. The purpose and objectives of the project.
 - ii. A description of the activities.
 - iii. A description of the involvement of chapter members, peers, faculty, and community stakeholders in the project.
 - iv. Word count
- B. The Summary Sheet will be uploaded during the application process and will be pre-scored prior to the conference.

PRESENTATION: An interactive session with judges

- A. The presentation should be original, creative, relevant, and engaging and include information in the project summary.
- B. Presentations are to use the board only. No AV is permitted.
- C. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.
- D. Presenters will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the four-minute mark. Presenters will be stopped at five minutes.
- E. A five-minute Q&A section will follow the presentation to allow judges to ask questions.
- F. Contestants will take their materials with them after the presentation.



PROJECT VISUALIZE CONTEST

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Summary Sheet Guideline Adherence

Points Available	15-11 Accomplished	10-6 Commendable	5-1 Developing
Contestant details/word count	The summary sheet is 300-500 words and contains all six required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state and word count.)	The summary sheet is 200-300 words and/or contains 4-5 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state and word count..)	The summary sheet is less than 200 words and/or contains less than 4 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state and word count) or was not submitted.
Purpose and Objectives	Provides a clear and concise overview of the project, highlighting its goals and objectives. Demonstrates a strong understanding of the community need addressed by the project and its potential impact.	Provides a generally clear overview of the project but lacks some clarity in defining goals and objectives. Demonstrates a general understanding of the community need but lacks depth in explaining the project's significance.	Provides a vague or incomplete description of the project, making it difficult to understand its purpose. Provides limited information about the community need and the project's potential impact.
Description of Activities	Provides a detailed description of the activities for the project.	Provides a generally clear overview of the activities for the project but would benefit from the addition of more details.	Provides a vague or incomplete description of the project, making it difficult to understand its purpose.
Description of Chapter Involvement	All chapter members actively contributed to the project in meaningful ways. Demonstrates strong leadership and effective collaboration among chapter members. Established strong partnerships with peers, faculty, and community stakeholders.	Most chapter members contributed to the project, but some members had limited involvement. Shows evidence of leadership and collaboration, but could be improved. Developed some partnerships, but opportunities exist to expand collaboration.	Limited involvement from chapter members. Lacks clear evidence of leadership and collaboration among chapter members. Limited involvement of peers, faculty, and community stakeholders in the project.
Mechanics & Professionalism	Reflects a professional-quality document. Contains no errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a commendable, student-level document with one or two errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a document in need of some proofreading and/or revision. Contains three or four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).



COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Board Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Title of Project on board	Project title is displayed on the board.	Project title is not displayed on the board
Board Size	Board does not exceed 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.	Board exceeds 36" x 48" and 10" in depth.

Creativity

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Embellishment	Decorations and/or ornamentation contribute in a meaningful way to theme and information	Some decorations and/or ornamentation do not contribute in a meaningful way to theme or information	Decorations and/or ornamentation either does not contribute in a meaningful way or distracts from theme and information
Neatness	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) not visible; cut edges of paper straight and smooth; meticulousness and care in assembling/constructing board apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) somewhat visible; some cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Care in assembling/constructing board not apparent	Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.) obviously visible; many cut edges of paper not straight and smooth. Little or no care in
Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination
Originality of Ideas	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect the student's own ideas



Presentation

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the project and students articulate its impact with skilled nuance. The contestant expertly leverages the tri-fold to visualize the project.	The presentation reflects understanding of the project. The content of the tri-fold reflects a commendable commitment to sharing details of the project through basic information and decorations.	The presentation is on-topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from greater exploration and detail. The content of the tri-fold reflects compliance but minimal insight. The images may be basic or not particularly effective.
Described group members roles	Clearly explains contribution of chapter members.	Contribution of chapter members somewhat ambiguous.	Contribution of chapter members not clear.
Structure	The presentation and visual aid reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the project's significance to an audience. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and visual aid reflect a largely successful effort to convey the significance of the project.	The presentation and visual aid follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver maximum possible impact to the listener. The visual aid enhances the presentation.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The visual aid complements the presentation.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The visual aid is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the project. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected project.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.



Overall Impact

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Overall Impact	The project idea was outstanding and was successful in achieving the intended impact and will likely have future impacts as well.	The project idea was commendable and somewhat successful in achieving the intended impact.	The project idea was a good idea but needed more development to achieve the intended impact.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation was between four and five minutes.	Presentation was more than three minutes and less than four minutes.	Presentation was less than three minutes or had to be stopped at five minutes.



EDUCATORS RISING

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT-TEACHER RECRUITMENT COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Team - Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

As of October 2022, 18 percent of public schools had one teaching vacancy and 27 percent had multiple teaching vacancies, according to data released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

Contest Purpose

A public service announcement (PSA) is a short informational clip that is meant to raise the audience's awareness about an important issue. The purpose of the Public Service Announcement-Teacher Recruitment Competition is to allow Educators Rising students to create a NEW public service announcement, appropriate for television and/or social media, to attract young people to consider teaching in their future career goals.

Students will collaboratively problem-solve as they produce a creative, multimedia video clip designed to elevate the image of teaching by communicating the value of the profession. The PSA should evoke strong positive emotions about the profession causing the viewer to consider the worth of the profession as an important career. This competition affords the student an opportunity to sharpen his or her skills as both a leader and a productive team member.

The students must work together to develop a one to two-minute video and a live, 10-minute presentation that would appeal to anyone looking for smart ways to recruit new teachers and to the teacher candidates themselves.

Preparation Tips

- Collaborate as a team to brainstorm an innovative marketing strategy to recruit new teachers
- Do some real legwork in learning about your selected marketing strategy by talking to local leaders and/or conducting internet research.
- Collect feedback regarding your marketing strategy from at least three different sources.
- Use creativity and original ideas when creating your video and crafting your live presentation.
- Work collaboratively as a team, with each team member filling a specific role (ex. director, lead researcher, etc.). Highlight your team's experiences as well as personal opinions in your video.
- Obtain the necessary permission from all students and teachers who appear in the video.
- Have a video credits page citing any source media or permissions acquired for the use of any copyrighted material. (Educators Rising recommends avoiding copyrighted material.)
- Have a title screen including the title of your project, competition name, school name, city, and state.
- Preview your final video to ensure that the sound quality is good, and that video playback is smooth.

Research

The following are research resources that may be helpful concerning your topic:

- Your school or local school district website
- Online articles regarding research-proven marketing strategies to support the strategy you choose
- Interviews with local education leaders (teachers, principals, superintendent, district academic officers, etc.)

- **Resources & Examples of Media Campaigns**

- [Tips for creating an effective a PSA](#)
- [Create a Public Service Announcement](#)
- [Video Production Tips](#)
- [Teach.org Radio PSA](#)
- [Louisiana PSA Campaign: Be Irreplaceable. Be a Teacher, #BeaTeacherLA](#)

Competition Guidelines

VIDEO

- A. The video must be no shorter than one minute and no longer than two minutes. Points will be deducted for videos that are shorter than the minimum length or longer than the maximum.
- B. The video must be specific to the focus of attracting teachers by identifying the rewards and opportunities within the profession. It can contain video footage, testimonials, words, pictures, and/or music that appeal to the audience.
- C. The video must include a catchy slogan (see Resources & Examples of Media Campaigns section) along with a related hashtag (#).
- D. The video must include the competition name and title of the project. It must also include the name of the school, city, and state in the opening credits (Example: This message was brought to you by Kirkwood High School's Educators Rising program in Bloomington, IN).
- E. In the video, all source media (music, images, or video clips not originally filmed by the student competitors) must be cited in video credits and may [not violate any copyright](#).
- F. By submitting a video for this Educators Rising national competition, the competitor assumes full responsibility for ensuring that all competition materials comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and all applicable local district policies regarding student privacy and data protection. Any submission containing identifiable student information—including, but not limited to, names, faces in the video, voice recordings, voices, or student work samples—must have appropriate documented consent from

parents/guardians and/or students, as required by applicable laws and district policies. If permission has not been granted, faces should be blurred or only the back of the students should be visible. By submitting materials, the submitter certifies that all necessary permissions have been obtained and maintained.

- G. Competitors must upload a YouTube link to their video to the competition site. All videos and presentations must be brought to the conference on a USB drive and files must be accessible without internet access. If students plan to use their own devices for presentation, students must be able to connect their device via HDMI to an external projector without assistance.

ORAL PRESENTATION

- A. At the Educators Rising National Conference, no less than two and no more than four representatives from each participating school program will make an oral presentation to a panel of judges. During the presentation, team members will have up to five minutes to introduce their video and provide a description and context for the slogan and message. Students will then play the video for the judges. The entire presentation to judges (oral presentation and video) will last no more than 10 minutes. The presentation will be stopped at 10 minutes.
- B. Professional presentation skills are encouraged.
- C. Following the presentation and the video, the judges will have up to five minutes to ask questions to team members.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT-TEACHER RECRUITMENT COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Video

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Clarity and Content	Throughout the running time, the video is entirely clear, specific, and compelling in its expert-level storytelling and message delivery elevating the image of teaching and communicating the value of the teaching profession. It has many elements to cause others to consider becoming an educator.	The video is mostly clear and specific in conveying its message elevating the image of teaching and communicating the value of the teaching profession. More or clearer information at one or two points in the video would increase the understanding and impact for the viewer.	The video makes an attempt to deliver a message related to the assigned task but is inconsistent in its storytelling or message delivery. There may be more than two points in the video that are confusing or do not support understanding or impact for the viewer.	The video is consistently confusing or unclear in how it delivers a message directly related to the assigned task.
Creativity	The video conveys its message in creative, inventive ways that expertly maximize the engagement and impact for the audience. Video is attention-grabbing, contains unique and original content, and is appealing to a national audience.	The video employs creative ideas to convey its message, though the stylistic or thematic choices do not entirely maximize impact for the audience. Filmmaking choices at one or two points in the video may distract from or limit the impact on the audience.	The video would benefit from more inventive or distinctive stylistic choices. Clichés may be present.	The video needs significant improvement in order to engage the audience or deliver meaningful impact related to its intended message.
Video Quality	Video, audio, lighting, graphics, and editing are professional and flawless, with no technical issues that distract from the message.	Good quality with minor technical issues that do not distract from viewing.	Adequate quality with multiple technical issues that distract from viewing.	Significant technical problems that interfere with understanding.



Video (continued)

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Video Production	Production choices such as shot selection, framing, sequencing, pacing, titles, graphics, and visual storytelling strongly enhance the message and demonstrate professional-caliber production planning.	Production choices support the message and reflect thoughtful planning and execution.	Production choices are inconsistent or only partially support the message; evidence of developing production skills.	Production choices appear unplanned or ineffective and frequently detract from the message or viewer experience.

Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Video Length	Video is between one and two minutes in running time.	Video is shorter than one minute or longer than two minutes in running time.
Video Titles & Credits	Video includes the competition name and title of the project. It also includes the name of the school, city, and state in the opening credits.	Video does not include, in the opening credits, one or more of the following: the competition name, title of the project, name of the school, city, and state.
New Marketing Strategy	Video or presentation makes clear that the marketing strategy is a new, original idea.	Video or presentation does not make clear that the marketing strategy is a new, original idea

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Presentation Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
On Screen Facilitation	Competitors were able to facilitate presentation on screen via USB or by connecting their device without assistance.	Competitors were unable to facilitate presentation on screen due to not having video on a USB or inability to connect their device without assistance.



Presentation and Q&A

Points Available	10–9 Accomplished	8–6 Commendable	5–3 Developing	2–1 Needs Improvement
Content	Presentation is comprehensive, in-depth, and expertly organized. Shares professional-caliber material that meaningfully addresses all items in guidelines.	Presentation is comprehensive, in-depth, and well-organized. Shares professional-caliber material that addresses all items in guidelines.	Presentation is on-topic but inconsistent in its comprehensiveness, depth, or organization.	Presentation struggles to stay on-topic or to address items in the guidelines in a meaningful way.
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are professional-caliber and expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the competitors are conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are basic and straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic or consistent vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent during the presentation. At times, the vocal delivery from multiple team members distracts from the content of the presentation and diminishes its potential impact.
Presence	The competitors' sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver the maximum possible impact to the listener. All team members, whether speaking or not, reinforce the intended impact of the presentation at all times.	The competitors' mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. One or more of the presenters may appear to slip in and out of professional character at moments during the session.	The competitors' inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speakers could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The competitors display effort but eye contact, posture, and demeanor from multiple team members could benefit from more practice and coaching so that the speakers' presence consistently complements the content.



Presentation and Q&A (continued)

Points Available	10–9 Accomplished	8–6 Commendable	5–3 Developing	2–1 Needs Improvement
Q&A Discussion	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in the deep experience of the material. The competitors display impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding given his/her experience and research.	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The competitors display some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected topic based on his/her experience and research.	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.	The competitors' responses in the Q&A session may reflect evident effort and passion but are inconsistent in the depth, accuracy, understanding, or insight offered in their responses.
Overall Impact	The presentation demonstrates a clear, powerful, and undeniably impactful marketing message. The visuals and the presentation content and delivery effectively complement each other to craft a highly impactful, professional-caliber experience.	The visuals, content, and delivery work together to offer a commendable presentation. With minor revisions and delivery tweaks, the project could be considered of professional caliber.	The presentation demonstrates effort. At multiple moments, the visuals, content, and delivery may not effectively complement one another, which may limit the impact of the presentation.	The presentation demonstrates inconsistent, off-topic, unprofessional, or superficial aspects of the visuals, content, or delivery. The audience is frequently distracted from the intended impact by aspects of the visuals, content, or delivery.

Time of Presentation

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation is between seven and 10 minutes.	Presentation is between three and six minutes.	Presentation is shorter than three minutes or had to be stopped at 10 minutes.



EDUCATORS RISING

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual — Open to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: High School Junior Varsity, High School Varsity, Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

Self-composure, confidence, and the ability to articulate and communicate information are valuable skills for all educators. The Public Speaking Competition is designed to highlight students who demonstrate these qualities by combining thoughtful preparation and confident delivery into an interesting presentation on a current education topic.

Students participating in this competition will prepare and deliver a speech of approximately 400 to 600 words, equivalent to three to five minutes when spoken aloud, on the assigned topic. Competitors will present their speeches before on-site judges and spectators. Because spectators may enter or exit the presentation space at any time, competitors should be prepared to maintain focus and continue their presentation despite potential distractions.

Assigned Topic

The topic for the 2027 Public Speaking Competition:

Career Connected Learning: Building Bridges Through Community Partnerships

PROMPT:

"Partnerships between industry and school districts to increase the frequency of career-connected learning could increase knowledge of local and regional opportunities and pique learner interest... Creating opportunities for learners to engage in career-connected learning during the school day in their core courses mitigates barriers presented by transportation, geography, or conflicting school schedules."

— Advance CTE & Gallup, *Research Round-up: Impact of Career-Connected Learning on Learner Engagement and Hope (2024)*

For too long, traditional high schools operated in isolation, treating education as something that only happens within the four walls of a classroom. Today, the rapid evolution of global and local economies demands a shift. True integration of Career and Technical Education (CTE) cannot happen in a vacuum; it requires deep, intentional partnerships between school districts, regional industry leaders, and community stakeholders to provide students with authentic mentorship, internships, and work-based learning.

As a Rising Educator, you have a unique perspective and valuable responsibility to analyze how schools bridge the gap between academic theory and workforce reality. How do community and industry partnerships transform a student's academic journey from textbook learning into a purposeful career pathway? How can schools strategically design these programs to ensure hands-on opportunities are distributed equitably, mitigating systemic geographic or socioeconomic barriers for all learners? Deliver your vision and show us how we can lead the way forward.

Citation:

Gallup, Inc. & New Hampshire Learning Initiative. (2023). The Power of Career-Connected Learning in New Hampshire. https://nhlearninginitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Gallup-New-Hampshire-Learning-Initiative-Report_2023.pdf

Competition Guidelines

- A. The speech must be about the assigned topic. Research and use of data are encouraged.
 - B. The length of the speech should be approximately 400 to 600 words (three to five minutes when spoken aloud) in length.
 - C. Two copies of the Public Speaking Competition speech script must be brought to the competition and given to the judges at the start of the competitor's presentation.
 - D. The speech must be uploaded at the time of application.
 - E. The competitor may use up to five 4x6-inch index cards while delivering his or her speech. Only one side of each index card may be used for notes.
 - F. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.
- Competitors will respond to judges' follow-up questions. The entire presentation and question session will last a total of no more than 10 minutes.
- G. One judge will also serve as a timekeeper. Speakers will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the four-minute mark of their speeches. Speakers will be stopped at five minutes.
 - H. A microphone will be available for the presentation.
 - I. One visual aid may be used, but this is entirely optional. AV equipment will not be available for this competition.



PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

LEVEL (HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY, HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY, COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Uploaded Speech	A copy of the speech was uploaded at the time of application.	The speech was not uploaded at the time of application.
Use of notecards	Used five or fewer 4x6-inch index cards during the presentation, with notes written on one side only.	Used more than five 4x6-inch index cards, wrote notes on both sides of the cards, or used notes that did not meet the required size specifications.

Speech Mechanics

Points Available	15–13 Accomplished	12–9 Commendable	8–5 Developing	4–1 Needs Improvement
Organization	The speech has a logical and effective structure with clear transitions.	The speech is generally well-organized with some effective transitions.	The speech structure is somewhat disorganized, or transitions are lacking	The speech is poorly organized with unclear or absent transitions
Grammar and Mechanics	Reflects a polished, professional-quality speech. Speaker uses correct grammar and pronunciation throughout, with clear articulation, fluent delivery, and no noticeable language errors.	Reflects a strong student-level speech. Speaker uses correct grammar and pronunciation with only one or two minor language or delivery errors that do not distract from the presentation.	Reflects a speech in need of additional practice and revision. Speaker makes three or four errors in grammar, pronunciation, word usage, or delivery that occasionally distract from the message.	Speech contains numerous errors in grammar, pronunciation, word usage, or delivery that interfere with audience understanding and reduce overall effectiveness.
Supporting Evidence	The speech contains strong, relevant, and credible evidence to support claims.	The speech contains adequate supporting evidence but could be stronger.	The speech has limited or weak supporting evidence.	The speech lacks supporting evidence or contains irrelevant evidence.

Presentation Content

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Depth	The speech reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of multiple factors and points of view involved in the issue. It succeeds in uncovering root issues and proposing compelling, well-founded solutions.	The speech reflects an understanding of the issue and succeeds in proposing well-founded solutions.	The speech is on-topic. Responses offer multiple good points but would benefit from more exploration, detail, or research.	The speech reflects a limited or flawed understanding of the issue. Solutions offered may not be plausible. An effort by the speaker to prepare by gathering relevant information may not be evident.
Insight	The content of the highly focused speech reflects keen understanding and striking insight into a major public issue.	The speech offers useful, well-detailed ideas that warrant further exploration beyond this session.	The speech offers intuitive ideas that would have benefited from further unpacking in this session.	The inconsistently focused speech may offer ideas that are only partially developed and feel incomplete.

Presentation Delivery

Points Available	10-9 Accomplished	8-6 Commendable	5-3 Developing	2-1 Needs Improvement
Structure	The speech reflects a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to build and deliver a powerful message. The speech is successfully and strategically sequenced to move the listener.	The speech reflects a largely successful effort to develop a compelling message to the listener.	The speech follows a traditional structure. While on-topic, the speech lacks strength at one or more moments. The structure may be lacking or weak in one or more areas.	The speech reflects an attempt to address the prompt but is missing multiple necessary components to offer a cogent, compelling message.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor, expertly complement the substance of the speech to deliver the maximum possible impact to the listener.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the speech quite well. The presenter may appear to slip in and out of character when beginning and concluding the speech. With further practice, the speaker could develop into an accomplished public presenter.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence.	The speaker's eye contact, posture, and demeanor could benefit from more practice and coaching so that the speaker's presence consistently complements the content.



Presentation Delivery (continued)

Points Available	10–9 Accomplished	8–6 Commendable	5–3 Developing	2–1 Needs Improvement
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the speaker is conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent during the speech. At times, the vocal delivery distracts from the content of the speech and diminishes its potential impact.

Overall Impact

Points Available	20–16 Accomplished	15–11 Commendable	10–6 Developing	5–1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The content and delivery blend seamlessly to craft an exceptional experience. The speech is ready right now to be delivered to policy-makers and education stakeholders because it has the potential to sway the debate on this issue.	The content and delivery work to offer a commendable speech. With some revisions and delivery tweaks, the speech would be ready to deliver to policy-makers and education stakeholders.	The speech reflects a developing effort to engage in oratory on public issues. The speech's delivery and content have room for improvement.	The speech requires significantly more work. Delivery and content would benefit from guided practice. Significant errors may distract from the content of the speech.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Speech is between four and five minutes.	Speech is between 2.5 and less than 4 minutes.	Speech is shorter than 2.5 minutes or had to be stopped at 5 minutes.

Speech Copies

Points Available	5	0
Speech Copies	Competitor provided two hard copies of the speech to the judges at the start of the presentation.	Competitor did not provide two hard copies of the speech to the judges at the start of the presentation.



RESEARCHING LEARNING CHALLENGES COMPETITION

COMPETITION TYPE: Team — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard II: Learning About Students
- Standard VI: Using Assessments and Data
- Standard VII: Engaging in Reflective Practice

Contest Purpose

Approximately 7.5 million students (15% of all public-school students) in American public schools have been diagnosed with learning disabilities and receive special education services. (Citation: <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/cgg/students-with-disabilities>) Understanding how to support students with special needs is central to success as an educator. This competition offers Educators Rising students the opportunity to explore deeply and to develop recommendations regarding effective educational supports for students with special needs.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) groups students into fourteen disability categories. They are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Autism | 8. Multiple disabilities |
| 2. Deaf-blindness | 9. Orthopedic impairment |
| 3. Deafness | 10. Other health impairments |
| 4. Developmental delay | 11. Specific learning disability (e.g., dyslexia) |
| 5. Emotional disturbance | 12. Speech or language impairment |
| 6. Hearing impairment | 13. Traumatic brain injury |
| 7. Intellectual disability | 14. Visual impairment, including blindness |

This year's competition focuses on the specific learning disability involving traumatic brain injury.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics Digest of Education Statistics, based on the U.S. Department of Education's 2022–2023 IDEA Section 618 data collection, approximately 25,000 students ages 3–21 in U.S. public schools were served under the category of traumatic brain injury (TBI), representing about 0.3% of all students receiving services under IDEA Part B (NCES, December 2023).

Students with traumatic brain injury face a wide range of educational challenges, including difficulties with cognitive functioning, memory, attention, executive functioning, communication, behavior regulation, and social-emotional development. These difficulties can significantly affect academic performance, classroom participation, and peer relationships. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes that the effects of TBI may be temporary or lifelong and can interfere with learning, behavior, and physical functioning, often necessitating individualized educational supports and accommodations to promote successful school outcomes (<https://www.cdc.gov/traumatic-brain-injury/CDC>, 2024).

The purpose of this competition is to work collaboratively to learn more about this specific learning challenge and to produce a research-supported position paper and presentation to explain and advocate for positive practices in schools to support the education of students with traumatic brain injuries. Imagine that the local school board has asked you: “What specific steps should we take to support the education of students with traumatic brain injuries? How can inclusive education be optimized for students with traumatic brain injuries? Also, why should we accept your recommendations?”

Team members should research the educational experiences, challenges, and supports for students with traumatic brain injuries in K-12 schools and recommend the best practices to support the education of students with this learning challenge. You are encouraged to embark on this research using traditional sources as well as primary sources (ex. conducting interviews with individuals impacted by this disability or professionals who support individuals with this disability, etc.). Then team members should discuss the research to determine recommendations for their paper and presentation.

Team members will collaborate on a research-supported position paper, which will be no shorter than four full pages and no longer than six full pages, to offer their recommendations. The minimum number of student collaborators is two, but there is no maximum. The position paper must include cited references in APA style and a works cited sheet, which will not count toward the four-to-six-page length requirement. (Also, the title page doesn’t count toward the length requirement. If you are unable to reach the minimum length required, resume the research process — there is a lot of quality material out there on this topic.) The position paper will be submitted with the competition application and will be scored by judges prior to the national conference.

Competition Guidelines

There are three components to this competition:

- *A position paper, submitted and scored by judges prior to the national conference, and*
- *A parent-teacher resource deliverable that translates into practical, real-world support tools for students with disabilities, submitted and scored by judges prior to the national conference, and*
- *An interactive session (including a presentation) with judges on-site at the national conference.*

- A. Team members will use the information collected in the research phase to collaborate in creating three products: a position paper, a parent-teacher resource, and a slide deck presentation.
- B. The position paper must include a title page, a references page formatted in APA style, and four to six full pages of research-supported recommendations presented within an appropriate contextual framework. The paper should draw on at least three relevant and credible sources, including at least one primary source, such as interview, survey, observation, or firsthand account. Neither the title page nor the references page will count toward the required four-to-six-page length. Completed papers must be submitted online.
- C. The slide deck presentation (ex. PowerPoint, Prezi) should engagingly complement and deliver the team’s research findings and recommendations.
- D. The deliverable should be an original practical, implementation focused resource that could be used in a school setting (such as informational brochure, family advocacy handbook, parent guide for supporting students with disabilities, classroom accommodation guide, or family-school communication toolkit). The resource must be supported by research, include information for families and educators, provide practical strategies for supporting students, include at least 3 evidence-based recommendations and cite sources used in development. Deliverable must be submitted online.
- E. At the Educators Rising National Conference, at least two to no more than four students must present to a panel of judges for up to 10 minutes about their research using the slide deck as their visual aid. Students will also respond to judges’ questions on the assigned

topic and presentation; the entire interactive session with judges may last up to 15 minutes.

- F. Slide deck must be brought to the conference on a USB drive and files must be accessible without internet access. If students plan to use

their own devices for presentation, students must be able to connect their device via HDMI to an external projector without assistance.

RESEARCHING LEARNING CHALLENGES COMPETITION

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Position Paper Structure and Impact

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Structure	The paper is expertly sequenced and structured in a way that maximizes understanding and impact.	The paper is sequenced and structured in a way that supports comprehension. A more strategic approach to structure and sequence could yield greater impact.	The paper's structure and sequence reflect a limited strategy for supporting understanding or impact. Key aspects of the paper may be missing or superficial in their inclusion	The paper's structure and sequence reflect a lack of strategy and may distract the reader from the intended understanding or impact.
Clarity	The paper's recommendations are entirely clear, contextualized, justified, and feasible. It clearly explains why each recommendation would benefit students with disability.	The paper's commendable student-level recommendations are mostly clear, contextualized, justified, and feasible.	The paper's recommendations may not be clear, contextualized, justified, or feasible. Revision is recommended.	The paper's recommendations are not clear, contextualized, justified, or feasible.
Depth of Research	The paper makes informed, evidence-based recommendations by referencing at least three well-chosen sources of relevant information which include at least one primary source (such as an interview, survey, observation, or firsthand account).	The paper makes recommendations that correlate with the research that is referenced. The paper may reference fewer than three sources or the source material may not directly correlate to the paper's central purpose or does not include a primary source.	The paper makes limited connections to relevant research.	The paper makes virtually no connections to relevant research.

Position Paper (continued)

Points Available	20-16	15-11	10-6	5-1
	Accomplished	Commendable	Developing	Needs Improvement
Mechanics & Professionalism	Reflects a professional-quality document. Contains little to no errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a commendable, student-level document with one or two errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a document in need of some proofreading and/or revision. Contains three or four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Reflects a document in need of a significant review. Contains more than four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).
Overall Impact	The paper's professional-caliber and highly persuasive exploration of the issue and explanation of recommendations deliver maximum impact and understanding to the audience.	The paper reflects a commendable student-level effort. With minor revisions and delivery tweaks, the paper could be considered professional-caliber.	The minimally persuasive paper demonstrates effort. At multiple points, the content may not effectively articulate or justify its recommendations. This may limit the impact of the presentation.	The unpersuasive paper demonstrates inconsistent, unprofessional, or superficial aspects of its content and structure. The reader is frequently distracted from the intended impact by aspects of the content, structure, or lack of professionalism.

Position Paper Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Title Page	Contains title, contestants' names, schools, contact information, date.	Does not contain title, contestants' names, schools, contact information, date.
Citations	Accurately uses APA format.	Does not accurately use APA format.
Works Cited	Accurately uses APA format.	Does not accurately use APA format.
Length	Four to six full pages of research-supported recommendations with appropriate context.	Less than four full pages or more than six full pages of research-supported recommendations with appropriate context.
Grammar & Mechanics	Contains two or fewer errors related to grammar and mechanics, including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage, and subject-verb agreement.	Contains more than two errors related to grammar and mechanics, including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage, and subject-verb agreement.



Parent-Teacher Resource

Points Available	20-16 Accomplished	15-11 Commendable	10-6 Developing	5-1 Needs Improvement
Research & Accuracy	Resource contains accurate, current, research-based information and clearly incorporates evidence-based practice and includes at least three evidence-based recommendations with sources cited	Resource contains mostly accurate information supported by research and includes some evidence-based recommendations with most sources cited	Some information is supported by research but lacks depth or clarity with few sources cited	Limited evidence of research or contains inaccuracies with no sources cited
Practical Application	Resource provides highly useful and actionable strategies that families and educators can immediately implement.	Resource provides useful strategies with clear application.	Strategies are somewhat applicable but may lack specificity.	Strategies are unclear, impractical, or incomplete.
Design & Organization	Resource is high-quality well-organized, professional, engaging, and easy to navigate.	Resource is organized and visually appealing.	Resource is understandable but organization or design could be improved.	Resource is difficult to follow or lacks professional presentation.
Mechanics & Professionalism	No errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization)	One or two errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).	Contains three or four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization)	Contains more than four errors in mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, formatting, capitalization).
Creativity & Engagement	Resource engages and promotes meaningful partnerships between families and educators and provides multiple opportunities for collaboration	Resource demonstrates creativity and encourages family-school collaboration and provides relevant examples	Resource shows some creativity but may not fully engage the audience and lacks detail or actionable guidance	Resource lacks creativity and evidence of supporting family-school partnerships

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Presentation Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
On Screen Facilitation	Competitors were able to facilitate presentation on screen via USB or by connecting their device without assistance.	Competitors were unable to facilitate presentation on screen due to not having video on a USB or inability to connect their device without assistance.

Presentation and Q&A

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Content of Slide Deck	The slides are visually appealing, well-organized, and support the presentation. Text, images, charts, and other visuals clearly communicate key research findings and recommendations. Visuals enhance understanding and help engage the audience.	The slides are organized and include relevant information and visuals. Most text and images support the team's research findings and recommendations. The slides help the audience understand the presentation.	The slides include basic information related to the topic, but some visuals or text may be unclear, overcrowded, or only loosely connected to the team's message. The slides provide limited support for the presentation	The slides lack organization or focus. Visuals and text may be distracting, difficult to read, or unrelated to the presentation. The slides do not effectively support the team's message or recommendations.
Depth & Insight	The content of the presentation reflects professional-caliber, in-depth understanding and striking insight into all key facets of the issue. The excellent depth of research and preparation is clearly apparent throughout the presentation	The content of the presentation offers useful, well-detailed ideas that warrant further exploration beyond this session. The presentation may explore many but not all key facets of the issue.	The presentation offers basic, intuitive ideas that would have benefited from further unpacking in this session. Some material may be superficial or reflect limited research. The presentation may not explore many of the issues or perspectives at play in the scenario.	The presentation may offer ideas that are flawed, illogical, only partially developed, and feel incomplete. Few perspectives or issues at play in the scenario are explored.

Presentation and Q&A (continued)

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Teamwork	Team members collaborate exceptionally, with all members making meaningful contributions and combining their ideas into a strong, unified presentation	Team members work effectively, with most members contributing to the research, development, and presentation of ideas	Team demonstrates some collaboration, but may be uneven or not fully connected in final presentation	There is little evidence of teamwork, and contributions from team members may be minimal or poorly coordinated
Vocal Delivery	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are professional-caliber and expertly crafted to deliver to the listener maximum impact and understanding	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are strong. The listener is able to understand what the contestants are conveying.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are basic and straightforward. The listener is able to understand, but the impact would be increased with a more dynamic or consistent vocal delivery.	Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone are inconsistent during the presentation. At times, the vocal delivery from multiple team members distracts from the content of the speech and diminishes its potential impact
Q&A Discussion	The team's responses in the Q&A session demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in the deep experience of the material. The contestants display impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding given his/her experience and research.	The team's responses in the Q&A session demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected topic based on his/her experience and research.	The team's responses in the Q&A session reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality, depth, or insight from answer to answer.	The team's responses in the Q&A session may reflect evident effort and passion but are inconsistent in the depth, accuracy, understanding, or insight offered in their responses.

Presentation and Q&A (continued)

Points Available	15-13 Accomplished	12-9 Commendable	8-5 Developing	4-1 Needs Improvement
Overall Impact	The presentation reflects professional-caliber and highly persuasive recommendations via a deep exploration of the issue and context. The presentation content & delivery effectively complement each other to craft a highly impactful, professional-caliber experience.	The content and delivery work together to offer a largely persuasive presentation. With deeper research, more realistic proposals, or revisions to delivery, the project could be considered professional-caliber.	The minimally persuasive presentation does demonstrate effort. At multiple moments, the depth or strategy related to content or delivery may reflect a partial lack of understanding of key facets of the issue	The unpersuasive presentation demonstrates inconsistent, unprofessional, or superficial aspects in content or delivery. The audience is frequently distracted from the intended impact by aspects of the content or delivery.

Presentation Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation is between 7 and 10 minutes.	Presentation is between 3 and 6 minutes.	Presentation is shorter than 3 minutes or had to be stopped at 10 minutes.



TEACHER CREATED MATERIALS CONTEST

COMPETITION TYPE: Individual/Dual — Closed to spectators

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS: Collegiate

EDUCATORS RISING STANDARDS:

- Standard I: Understanding the Profession
- Standard III: Building Content Knowledge
- Standard V: Implementing Instruction

Contest Purpose

Teachers know how to bring out the best in their students. They've gotten to know each student as an individual, and what they enjoy, and whether they learn best through board games, crafts, music, or something else. Therefore, creating your own materials as a teacher is one of the most rewarding challenges of the profession. You get to account for your students' unique needs while engaging them in a fun activity and achieving learning objectives.

Teacher Created Materials encompass all the materials and physical means a teacher might use to implement a lesson and facilitate the student's achievement of the objectives. This may include materials such as flip charts, board games, folder games, puppets, lap books, etc. This contest allows you to showcase how you would meet this challenge by creating your own materials for a lesson of your choosing and presenting it to judges.

Contest Guidelines

- A. The display should include:
 - a. A Summary Sheet (250-300-word) in a folder containing:
 - i. The names of all contestants.
 - ii. Their school, city and state
 - iii. Their instructional objectives
 - iv. Their target audience and size of the audience
 - v. Details about the implementation. A photograph of materials may be included in this section as a reference but is not required.
 - vi. Word count
 - b. Your teacher created materials.
- B. The Summary Sheet will be uploaded during the application process and will be pre-scored prior to the conference.
- C. All items used to create the teacher created materials may be purchased, handmade, or computer-generated. All computer-generated content must abide by the Educators Rising copyright policy.
- D. The display should not be a bulletin board, and it does not necessarily have to be a display board. The teaching materials and Summary Sheet should be presented on a table. All materials displayed on a table must fit within 36" in length.
- E. Presentations are to use the materials only. No AV is permitted.
- F. Each presentation is to be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes.
- G. Presenters will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the 4-minute mark. Presenters will be stopped at five minutes.

H. The presentation should include:

- a. An overview of the Summary Sheet
- b. The educational significance of the materials – how could they be used in a classroom to enhance learning?
- c. An assessment of the value or benefit of the materials to the target audience.

- I. A five-minute Q&A section will follow the presentation to allow judges to ask questions.
- J. Contestants will take their materials with them after the presentation.



TEACHER CREATED MATERIALS CONTEST

LEVEL (COLLEGIATE)

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Judges should use this rubric as a guide to assigning points on the Feedback & Tally Sheet.

PRE-SCORED COMPONENTS

Summary Sheet Guideline Adherence

Points Available	15-11 Accomplished	10-6 Commendable	5-1 Developing
Contestant details/word count	The summary sheet is 250-300 words and contains all six required contestant detail components including the title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.	The summary sheet is 150-249 words and/or contains 4-5 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count.)	The summary sheet is less than 150 words and/or contains less than 4 required contestant detail components (title of the activity, names of presenters, school, city, state, and word count) or was not submitted.
Target Audience & Size of Audience	The target audience and size of the audience are clearly identified and are appropriate.	The target audience and size of the audience are implied but not clearly identified or are only somewhat appropriate.	The target audience and/or size of the audience are not identified or are inappropriate.
Instructional Objectives	Clearly defines display components and their functions. Explains the purpose of a display in various contexts.	Identifies most display components and their basic functions. Describes the general purpose of a display.	Has limited knowledge of display components. Shows a basic understanding of the display's purpose.
Implementation Details	Implementation details are clear, concise, and easy to follow, with no ambiguity. Effectively incorporates interactive elements to enhance student learning.	Implementation details are clear and easy to follow, with minor ambiguities. Includes some interactive elements to enhance student learning.	Implementation details are unclear or difficult to follow, with significant ambiguities. Lacks interactive elements or those included are ineffective.

COMPONENTS SCORED ON-SITE

Display Guideline Adherence

Points Available	5	0
Title of Activity	Title of the activity is clearly displayed	Title of the activity is not clearly displayed
Display Size	Display does not exceed 36" on a table	Display exceeds 36" on a table

Creativity

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Overall Creativity	Offers an imaginative way of presenting information	Offers a limited imaginative way of presenting information	Little or no evidence of imagination
Originality of Ideas	Unique implementation of creative/imaginative ideas	Inspired from other sources and not totally unique	Obvious implementation of other sources and does not reflect the student's own ideas

Design of the Project

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Elements of Design	Skillfully incorporates form, shape, line, texture, color, and space. A professional-caliber display, with no mechanical errors.	Unskilled incorporation of form, shape, line, texture, color, and space. A nearly professional-caliber display, with almost no mechanical errors.	Little to no consideration of form, shape, line, texture, color, and space. A display that would benefit from more attention to detail.
Practicality	Can be implemented in the educational setting without substantial difficulty	Can be implemented in the educational setting with moderate difficulty	Implementation in the educational setting would involve substantial difficulty
Effectiveness of Instruction	Activity enriches and reinforces (reteaches) stated learning objectives.	Activity either enriches or reinforces stated learning objectives	Activity is very limited or neither enriches nor reinforces stated learning objectives
Interactive	Student engagement opportunities are obvious for material to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities are less obvious for material to be used effectively	Student engagement opportunities are obscure or missing for material to be used effectively



Presentation

Points Available	10-7 Accomplished	6-4 Commendable	3-1 Developing
Depth	The presentation reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of the materials and their educational significance. The contestant expertly leverages the display to creatively showcase the materials.	The presentation reflects an understanding of the materials and their educational significance, as well as a commitment to a thoughtful display of the materials.	The presentation is on-topic and offers some good points, though it would benefit from greater exploration and detail into the materials and their educational significance. The content of the display reflects compliance but minimal depth.
Structure	The presentation and display reflect a truly impressive, nuanced command of how to clearly communicate key information about the materials' significance to an audience. The presentation is successfully and strategically sequenced.	The presentation and display reflect a largely successful effort to convey the significance of the materials.	The presentation and display follow a traditional structure without evidence of further ambition or execution. It is direct and on-topic.
Presence	The speaker's sustained eye contact, effective posture, and professional demeanor expertly complement the substance of the presentation to deliver the maximum possible impact to the listener. The display of materials enhances the presentation.	The speaker's mostly sustained eye contact, positive posture, and pleasant demeanor complement the content of the presentation quite well. The display of materials complements the presentation.	The speaker's inconsistent eye contact, posture, and demeanor reflect a straightforward recital of the material. The speaker could do more to fully capitalize on the added impact possible with a focused, sustained presence. The display of materials is relevant to the presentation.
Q&A	The contestant's responses demonstrated consistent thoughtfulness and professional-caliber insight, rooted in reflexivity about the materials. The contestant displays impressive, professional-level depth of knowledge and understanding.	The contestant's responses demonstrated thoughtfulness and reflected successful attempts to address most of the material posed to him/her. The contestant displays some substantive knowledge and understanding of the selected educational significance of the materials.	The contestant's responses reflected a broad spectrum of levels of quality from answer to answer.

Length

Points Available	5	3	1
Length	Presentation was between four and five minutes.	Presentation was at least three minutes and less than four minutes.	Presentation was less than three minutes or had to be stopped at five minutes.