



TESA Summer Work Conference
Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio North Stone Oak



June 24-26, 2025

Breakout Sessions

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

8:30 AM – 9:50 AM

101 – Greeting Card With a Surprise

Annette Knaus – Retired North East ISD

This session will cover a different kind of greeting card with a surprise. There will be a \$5.00 fee for supplies collected at the beginning of the session.

102 – TESA 101 & CEOP 101

Eva Zamora, CEOP, TESA President 2024-2025, Lamar CISD; Alicia Lopez, CEOP, Garland ISD; Barbara Jennings, CEOP, TESA Past President 2006-2007, Retired San Jacinto College, TPEP Chairman; Marie Enax, CEOP, TESA Past President 2019-2020, Retired Lamar CISD, TPEP Area Coordinator

This session will answer all your questions regarding TESA. It will provide you all the information to become more involved with our organization. Presenting how to start your *journey* for CEOP and all you need to know to get your certification.

103 – Google Sheets – Spreadsheets – Intermediate

Michelle Barber, Director of Digital Learning, Cleveland ISD

You'll learn how to create and customize dropdown menus, organize and format tables for clarity, use simple formulas to automate tasks and apply conditional formatting to highlight key data. By the end of the session, you'll have the confidence to build efficient, professional spreadsheets that simplify your workflow!

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

10:00 AM – 11:20 AM

104 – Role of AI in Education

Erick Bachura, Assistant Professor, UTSA

This presentation/discussion will cover the topic of AI in education. A primary focus of this presentation/discussion will be on how AI necessitates change in how we conceptualize learning and education. There will be an emphasis on comparing/contrasting of the demands of society that existed when the existing education system was first conceptualized and implemented and how those demands have shifted.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

10:00 AM – 11:20 AM

105 – Building Self-Esteem

Barbara Jennings, CEOP, TESA Past President 2006-2007, Retired San Jacinto College, TPEP Chairman

Exploring low self-esteem and how to obtain healthy self-esteem. Tips on taking responsibility of your personal self-esteem, steps on how to feel good about yourself.

106 – Why Google Drive? Collaboration, Baby!

Michelle Barber, Director of Digital Learning, Cleveland ISD

With a shared cloud storage space called Google Drive, and the ability to share documents with others in and out of the domain, G Suite for EDU is the perfect productivity suite for the education realm. Learn how to organize your drive, create from your drive, and collaborate with others by sharing and commenting in a shared workspace. You'll never look back!

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Extended Session

107 – Home Security Awareness & Mail Theft Prevention and Investigation Process

Officer Arturo Castellanos #145, SAPD North S.A.F.F.E. Unit

An active attack response training for employees of school's businesses, churches, and other venues. A brief history of active attack events and what we have learned from them.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

1:00 PM – 2:20 PM

108 – Quick & Easy Portfolio

Annette Knaus – Retired North East ISD

A cool & easy DIY portfolio that holds a notepad, sticky notes, mini-calendar, and pen – all in one place. There will be a \$5.00 fee for supplies collected at the beginning of the session.

109 – Positive & Effective Communication

Robert Hagle, Consultant Certification/New Teacher Support Programs Region 20 Education Service Center

This session focuses on developing communication skills that foster clarity, collaboration, and positive interactions. Through interactive exercises, participants will learn key strategies for active listening, constructive feedback, conflict resolution, enabling to build stronger relationships both professionally and personally.

110 – It's Five O'clock somewhere but it's Chocolate Time Here!

Barbara Jennings, CEOP, TESA Past President 2006-2007, Retired San Jacinto College, TPEP Chairman

Overcoming stress. This session has lots of chocolate. Will cover the rules of chocolate, what is stress and causes of stress. Three types of stress, discussion on events that occur in our lives, and ways to reduce stress.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

2:30 PM – 3:50 PM

111 – Tips for Interacting with Strong-Willed People

Kelly Smith, Behavior Specialist, Mesquite ISD

This session will give you several tips on interacting with a strong-willed person. This session will explore ways to interact with strong-willed individuals that will help avoid power struggles while maintaining a positive relationship. Come to learn how to take care of yourself while improving your relationship with the 15 percenters (strong-willed people).

112 – Restore Your Sanity with Sacred Rest

Jamie Vincek, Director of Talent Development, Lamar CISD

The nonstop demands of modern life have left many of us drained and overwhelmed. This session will explore types of rest and strategies to integrate rest into your day, helping you become more productive, happier, and thrive both personally and professionally.

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

113 – First Timers

TESA Past Presidents

You will learn more about TESA's rich history starting in March 1951 as well as current TESA programs and benefits including TPEP, Affiliate Services, Scholarships, Publications, Workshops and Conferences.

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

8:00 AM – 9:20 AM

201 – Ready to Retire

Teacher Retirement System Representative

An overview of TRS benefits and the retirement process, including eligibility, tiers, calculation of benefits, retirement plans and insurance.

202 – Tips for Interacting with Strong-Willed People

Kelly Smith, Behavior Specialist, Mesquite ISD

This session will give you several tips on interacting with the strong-willed person. This session will explore ways to interact with strong-willed individuals that will help avoid power struggles while maintaining a positive relationship. Come to learn how to take care of yourself while improving your relationship with the 15 percenters (strong-willed people).

203 – You Talking to Me? Public Speaking 101

Barbara Jennings, CEOP, TESA Past President 2006-2007, Retired San Jacinto College, TPEP Chairman

Tips on overcoming fear, things to pay attention to when speaking. Tips on handling nervousness, how to organize your material to get the most effective results and how to grab the audience's attention at the beginning and close with a dynamic end.

Wednesday, June 25, 2025
Extended Session

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

204 – Accordion Style Mini Photo Album

Michelle Gerard, TESA Member-at-Large, Killeen ISD

In this class, you will create a beautiful mini photo album from start to finish, no matter what your crafting experience. A \$10 fee will be collected for supplies. Once the album is assembled, you will personalize and embellish it, adding your own creative touches. The album will hold 12+ photos, making it a perfect keepsake. You will enjoy every step of creating this stunning album! Feel free to bring additional supplies (scissors, designer paper, and adhesives).

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

1:30 PM – 2:50 PM

205 – Positive & Effective Communication

Robert Hagle, Consultant Certification/New Teacher Support Programs Education Service Center Region 20

This session focuses on developing communication skills that foster clarity, collaboration, and positive interactions. Through interactive exercises, participants will learn key strategies for active listening, constructive feedback, conflict resolution, enabling to build a stronger relationship both professionally and personally.

206 - Just say NO! My passion and peace will not be affected by you!

Gail Ward, Assistant Principal, Pasadena ISD & Ishmael Muhammad, RLA, Resource, Athletic Coach, Pasadena ISD

Would you like to stop letting others affect your peace and passion? Do you want to remain ignited regardless of the challenges? If you answer yes, then our brain power solution presentation is for you! Strategies, challenges, igniting our flame when it feels weakened is our specialty! The most exciting and motivating presentation you will see.

207 – Canva for Edu: It's Free for you Too!

Tina Niemann, Digital Learning Specialist, Tomball ISD

Canva for Edu is a design studio, and one stop shop for just about anything you may need to create: Presentation, graphics, newsletters, invitations, certificates, videos, and more. With built-in tools for removing backgrounds and inserting almost any graphic you could want. Canva will be your go to when creating. All you need is your school email to get started. Participants should bring a device.

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

3:00 PM – 4:20 PM

208 – Workplace Safety Essentials

Javier Cano, Risk Solutions Consultant, Texas Association of School Boards, Risk Management Fund

This session will focus on unique risks faced by support personnel's essential roles and provide actionable strategies to mitigate them.

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

3:00 PM – 4:20 PM

209 - Just say NO! My passion and peace will not be affected by you!

Gail Ward, Assistant Principal, Pasadena ISD & Ishmael Muhammad, RLA, Resource, Athletic Coach, Pasadena ISD

Would you like to stop letting others affect your peace and passion? Do you want to remain ignited regardless of the challenges? If you answer yes, then our brain power solution presentation is for you! Strategies, challenges, igniting our flame when it feels weakened is our specialty! The most exciting and motivating presentation you will see.

210 – The beginner’s guide to understanding AI

Tina Niemann, Digital Learning Specialist, Tomball ISD

You will be living in a world with Artificial Intelligence (AI). Are you ready? Do you know what all the fuss is about? Learn about large language models, how to use them, and how they are changing education in a fundamental way. Participants should bring a device.

Thursday, June 26, 2025

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Extended Session

301 – The many facets of Cybersecurity in Education

Benjamin Anderson, Professor of Practice, UTSA, Ian Burre, Professor of Practice, UTSA

Education has a number of unique challenges when it comes to cybersecurity. These include sensitive (student) information protection, use and protection of computers and other information systems (tablets, phones), while also ensuring those systems can be used to support students and the educational mission. This presentation will discuss a variety of these issues, risks to be aware of, and best practices that can be applied in these areas.

302 – How to build your own “Wow!”

Debbie Wade, CEOP, TESA Past President 2001-2002, Retired San Jacinto College

Each person has unique and sometimes hidden qualities, talents, characteristics, skills, and abilities that combine to make “Wow” factors for that person. These “Wow” factors are used in every aspect of our lives. In this session, we will focus on building our own “Wow” which will help us become better employees and put more excitement into our work lives. Be prepared to create, build, and have fun!

Thursday, June 26, 2025

8:00 AM – 9:20AM

303 – Gateway Solutions

Dianne Page, Deidre Bock, Shelly Johnson, Account Executive, Gateway Printing, Office Supply & Alumni Furniture Solutions

What Gateway can provide/how we can help/solutions for office products, printing, promotional items and furniture.

Thursday, June 26, 2025

9:30 AM – 10:50 AM

304 – Gardening in Retirement

*Ernestine (Tina) Carrola, Retired Bexar County Master Gardener, Retired Master Science Teacher
Northside ISD*

Make Happiness Chemicals through Gardening! Various handouts from SAW (San Antonio Water Service) on gardening, pamphlets, booklets and websites.

305 - Gateway Solutions

*Dianne Page, Deidre Bock, Shelly Johnson, Account Executive, Gateway Printing, Office Supply &
Alumni Furniture Solutions*

What Gateway can provide/how we can help/solutions for office products, printing, promotional items and furniture.