

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 4 - SUMMER 2013

the TESA CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION, INC.



President's Message



Pat Crawford
President

This year has really flown by. It seems like yesterday we were getting ready for the fall issue of the TESA Connection, and now I'm writing my final message.

This year, as in years past, brought about changes. All changes will help TESA and our members grow stronger. Our new website went live in March. We have worked countless hours insuring the website is updated and are continually working to add information that will be helpful to our members. The STEM program has been updated and streamlined and during Summer Work Conference the members voted to add a category to membership. The new Institutional category will benefit the school districts and colleges who host STEM classes.

STEM has also been updated to allow qualified online classes count towards self-directed and re-certification hours.

I want to congratulate our newest CEOP recipients. I am proud of each of you as you should be of yourselves. You have committed numerous hours to reach this goal. As Shirley said at the celebration, now that you have completed your CEOP you should consider becoming a consultant. Consultant Training will be held in October in Killeen. Please check the website for more information.

I also want to congratulate the new 2013-2014 TESA Executive Board and Committee Chairmen's. Incoming President, Patti Walling, and her executive board will lead TESA on the Ride to Professional Success and will continue to make TESA Strong to the Core.

I hope you all enjoyed being back in Austin for SWC. Attendance was up this year and I don't think anyone was disappointed. Jana, Deana, Debbie and Lynn worked all year to bring you informative sessions, great vendors, and some fun. I think I had the best conference committee and this was the best conference ever!! For the fantastic conference, wonderful time and great memories, thank you ladies. I look forward to seeing everyone in Austin again next year.

Finally, I want to thank the 2012-2013 Executive Board, Committee Chairmen and all Committee Members for their hard work and support this past year. We had a great board that worked all year not just with the duties in their position, but worked as a team. If one person hit a snag there was always someone who jumped in to help. This was TESA's first year not to have a Fall Conference, so conducting business was a little more challenging but we did it. We did it through emails – E-motions, E-discussions, and E-votes. I am so proud to have served TESA with this outstanding board. Thank you the membership for the confidence in me and the support you have given me and the board this year. Without you there would be no TESA. You are our core and you are who makes TESA strong.

Have a great 2013-14.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Crawford".

Letter from the Editor & Table of Contents

From the Editor



Dianne Lemons
Editor

Welcome to the summer issue of the TESA Connection. I put a lot of thought into what I wanted to express to each of you in this issue as this is the last one my team and I will be producing for you. The one thing that certainly came to mind is how many TESA members contributed this year to the magazine. I hope you continue to share with the TESA members different things you and your association are doing in your community. As editor this year I have gained so much knowledge and have learned so much about the apple and the wonderful creation that went into its different parts and how it relates so much to the parts involved in team work.

In this issue are two wonderful feature articles from students who have just graduated from high school as well as affiliate articles. Please sit back and enjoy this issue. Also, included in this issue are pictorials of our amazing 2013 TESA Summer Work Conference held in Austin, Texas, June 18-22, 2013 at the Omni Southpark Hotel. What a great conference and a wonderful hotel to stay at. They truly know the meaning of customer service at the Omni.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my amazing team, Darcy Blackstock and Paula Lambright, for all their hard work and dedication in helping to produce the award-winning TESA Connection. Above all, I want each of you to know how very honored and grateful I am for your confidence in my ability to serve as editor of your magazine this year. It has been my honor and privilege to have served you as well as work with these two ladies and other members who did proofreading and wrote articles for us this year. I wish each of you a life full of wonderful blessings and endless possibilities in your professional and personnel lives. I look forward as I know you do to what TESA has in store for all of us this next year.



Darcy Blackstock
Assistant Editor



Paula Lambright
Advertising Manager

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Purpose Statement

We the members of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, hold that the primary purpose of the educational support staff association is to assist, as a team member, in developing citizens who will safeguard, strengthen, and improve America. The TESA Connection is published four times a year – fall, winter, spring, and summer. Membership in TESA entitles the individual to an annual subscription to the TESA Connection magazine, circulation approximately 2,000. Subscription rate for libraries and nonmembers is \$10 per year. Send request for subscriptions to: TESA Central Office, 1460 E. Whitestone Blvd., Suite 175, Cedar Park, TX 78613.

Please send information for the Fall Issue to :

Dianne Lemons

Mesquite ISD

405 E. Davis St. Mesquite, TX 75149 (972) 882-7320

FAX: (972) 882-7382 dlemons@mesquiteisd.org

Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER

2nd Labor Day - TESA Office Closed

OCTOBER

14th Columbus Day - TESA Office Closed

18-20th Consultant Training - Killeen, Texas

A close-up photograph of a snow leopard's face, looking slightly to the right. The leopard has light-colored fur with dark spots and a striking blue eye. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

**Strong people don't
put others down...
They lift them up.**

A Brief Recap of 83rd Legislative Session



Gerald Wharton
Legislative Consultant

The 83rd Texas Legislature adjourned May 27, 2013. Governor Perry immediately called a Special Session to take up voter redistricting. The Governor can, and is likely to,

expanding the topics to be considered as the Special Session continues. They can only consider items presented by the governor. Now to the recap of the 83rd Legislative session:

School finance is of the most interest to all of us. Senate Bill (SB) 1 set the state's budget, for the next two years. The bill added \$3.4 billion to formula funding. This replaces a large portion of the funds schools lost in the 82nd Legislative session. Most school districts, colleges and universities should see an increase in the state's funding; increased the Basic Allotment for FY14 and FY15; provided \$838 million for instructional materials; and included \$330 million to fund the TRS transition aid for school districts, for FY15.

Assessment and Accountability – House Bill (HB) 5 made improvements to high school graduation programs; plus reducing the number of end-of-course (EOC) exams and eliminated the 15% requirement. The EOCs were reduced from 15 to 5. Also, ensures all eligible high school graduates can apply for admission to Texas public 4-year universities and be eligible to receive TEXAS Grants. Mandates school districts evaluate student performance, using other means [other types of testing], not just relying on the state's assessments (STAAR). Lastly, create an accountability system to evaluate performance in three areas: academic, financial, and community engagement.

School Marshals – Creates a new category for law enforcement. School districts and Charter schools can have one school marshal for every 400 students. The school marshals must be employees of the school district or charter school. Additionally, they may carry handguns but may not issue traffic citations.

Teacher Retirement System – The TRS bill will make the pension fund sound within the 31-year funding period. This ensures the continuation of

the pension fund and allows for a Cost of Living Adjustment for specified retirees. There are benefit changes. All currently vested TRS members (those having 5 years or more of TRS service credit) will not be impacted by the changes in retirement calculations. Those TRS members not vested will have a minimum age of 62, as of August 31, 2014, to reach full retirement. They will also be penalized 5% per year early retirement reduction factor. The state contribution rate changes will increase from 6.4% to 6.8%. Employee contribution rate will increase from 6.4% to 7.7% over the next four years. Also creates a new school district rate of 1.5% of the minimum salary for TRS participating members for districts not participating in Social Security.

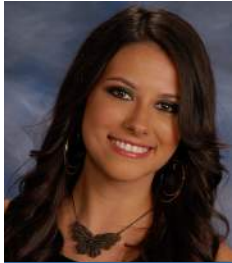
I will provide more information regarding these and other issues; plus actions taken in the Special Session, in the next edition.

Take a chance! All life is a chance. The man who goes furthest is generally the one who is willing to do and dare.

~ Dale Carnegie

Through the Eyes of a Student

By Savannah Leigh Berry



Savannah Leigh Berry

It's hard to believe that my high school years are over. It seems like yesterday my mom was dropping me off for the first day of my four years of high school. I learned a lot in those four years, but

my greatest accomplishment was learning how to use my hands for signing. I met some wonderful people and had touching conversations through American Sign Language. I also learned how to sign several songs and performed in front of a crowd.....not something I would have done four years ago. There are those teachers and paraprofessionals you will remember forever because they touched your life in one way or another. I have to say I had an amazing ASL teacher. Mrs. Ferlano taught me to sign one letter at a time with such power and patience. She is deaf and has a heart of gold. I admire her eagerness to help others and to teach those of us that have the ability to hear and speak. I will never forget this amazing teacher.

This year as a Senior I had the opportunity

to volunteer at one of the Mesquite schools. I was able to meet and work with parents and also be of assistance to teachers and office staff. I realized very quickly that not everyone is on the same level. A college degree is very important if you want a better life or better pay. Yet the heart of a teacher and the paraprofessionals are the same. They care about the children and want what's best for each one of them. I will have to say I admire the teacher assistant's at every school working just as hard as teachers or harder. They stay after school to help with discipline; some come in extra early to make sure all copies of work are ready for the teacher they work with. Some go the extra mile to teach the students to read or recognize letters and words as they move on to first grade. Some have the patience to help those students that have learning disabilities. Others have the ability to help students turn their lives around and make a difference. Then, there are the teacher's and teacher assistants that work with the special needs students caring and teaching them in a special loving way. These people are AMAZING with a huge heart and a BLESSING to our schools. The secretaries I have complete admiration and respect for them. The secretaries that

work in the offices are the eyes of the school. I will have to say the secretaries are the shield of each school as well and take whatever the day brings with a positive attitude and a smile on their faces. Sometimes they have irate parents that want answers now and the secretary is quick to pull the answer right out of a magic hat. The ability to do more than one thing at a time amazes me. I would go far in life if I had that quality and thanks to them I will work hard to achieve it.

I strongly believe that every paraprofessional that works for Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) is amazing at their job. They are hardworking employees who dedicate their lives and time to helping others. I have learned that life is full of surprises and we have to be prepared for a curve ball every day. I'm sure as my journey starts I will have more of life to see and understand. I thank these people for their guidance and I will always remember the teachers, teacher assistants and secretaries that have touched my heart and life to help me through my twelve years of schooling.

You cannot depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.

~ Mark Twain

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The 2012–13 Area Workshop Committee would like to thank the affiliates that held Area Workshops during this year.

Workshops held in 2012–2013

February 9, 2013	University of Houston–Clear Lake ESA
March 23, 2013	Garland (GESSA) & Mesquite (MEPA)

Area Workshops Planned for 2013–2014

February 1, 2014	San Jacinto College AEOP
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Area Workshops offer professional development and peer networking opportunities as well as fun, food and shopping! All affiliates are encouraged to hold an Area Workshop in their district/college/ESC.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all TESA members for your kindness and support this year!

2012–2013 Area Workshop Committee

Teena Hancock, CEOE, CEOP
Garland ISD
Area Workshop Chair

Robin Pool, CEOP
Pasadena ISD
Committee Member

If you are interested in hosting a TESA Area Workshop, please contact a member of the 2013–2014 Area Workshop Committee

Lynn Andrews
Area Workshop Chair
Irving ISD
lynnsiphone@gmail.com

Jennifer Baggett
Committee Member
Mesquite ISD
jbaggett@mesquiteisd.org

Yolanda Ayala
Committee Member
Galena Park ISD
yayala@galenaparkisd.com



CEOP Celebration 2013



Sixty clock hours is a long time to do anything and calls for a serious commitment. Those who earned their CEOP throughout the years are to be commended with a special acknowledgement of those who completed the STEM program in 2013.

The CEOP Celebration 2013 held at Summer Work Conference afforded the opportunity to recognize that special group. The program included historical information about STEM, a letter of congratulations from Lola Young, NAEOP President, and the awarding of a CEOP dangle to each participant.

Those participating were: Kimberly August, University of Houston Clear Lake; Diaelva Benefield, Spring Branch ISD; Leticia Benitez, Garland ISD; Monica Comeaux, Humble ISD; Sylvia Pruitt, Garland ISD; Rufaye Reed, Fort Worth ISD; Dolores Robinson, Killeen ISD, Ophelia Torres, San Antonio ISD; and Kay Whelchel, San Antonio ISD.

Congratulations 2013 CEOP Stars!

We Have A Spot For You



October 18 – 20, 2013
Killeen ISD

Train the Trainer, Effective Office Practices, Basic Communication,
Telephone Skills, Professional Image, and
Customer Service

Go to www.tesatexas.org for registration information

Fairfield Inn
200 E. Central Expressway
Killeen, TX
(254) 526-3333

**\$77.00
Breakfast
Included**

You are today where your thoughts have brought you; you will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you.

~ James Lane Allen

2013 TESA Summer Work Conference

First Timers Welcome at SWC



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference

SWC General Session



*Keynote Speaker
Greg Gilmore -
President of
Planview with
TESA Past President
Linda Sockwell*



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference



*TESA 2013-2014
President
Patti Walling,
San Jacinto College*



TESA 2013-2014 Executive Board

2013 TESA Summer Work Conference

2013 SWC Banquet & Board Installation



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference

Fun Breakout Sessions at SWC with Debbie Wade & Jennifer Lamb



2013-2014 SWC Committee



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference



Above: Nelda Van Dyke Winner 2013 Sherry Gray San Jacinto College

Left: TESA Administrator of the Year 2013 Ron Klinger from University Houston Clear Lake



*Award Winners
at SWC 2013*

Never say never, for if you live long enough, chances are you will not be able to abide by its restrictions. Never is a long, undependable time, and life is too full of rich possibilities to have restrictions placed upon it.

~ Gloria Swanson



2013 TESA Summer Work Conference



*President's Luncheon
2013 President
Pat Crawford
&
President's Reception
2014 President
Patti Walling*



2013 SWC Thank You

We are so grateful to so many people who helped make the 61st TESA Summer Work Conference a huge success!

Narisa Trammell, Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau
Entire Staff of the Omni Austin Southpark
Pat Crawford, TESA President
Patti Walling, TESA President-elect
Shirley Haswell, STEM Chairman
Melissa Davis, Administrative Assistant
Corbin Knolls, 3M Corporation

Peggy Hudson, TESA Past President
Gerald Wharton, TESA Past President
Linda Sockwell, TESA Past President
Sue Hand, TESA Past President
Lamar CISD Print Shop
TESA Choir
TESA Past Presidents

Our family, districts, friends, colleges, and coworkers who have supported, volunteered, and helped every step of the way.

Thank you to all who attended! Thank you for the opportunity to serve TESA on this committee. It was great to see everyone!
Bring someone with you next summer!

Jana Worthington, Debbie McFadden, Deana Ross, Lynn Andrews





Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.
Volunteering for TESA for 2014 – 2015

Insert
Photo
Here

TESA needs candidates who are enthusiastic about the Association, have effective leadership qualities, and are interested in serving as an officer or on a committee. Please complete the following questionnaire and return by October 1, 2013 to Helen Kettler, Nominations Committee Chairman, email hkettler@alvincollege.edu.

Please Print Clearly or Type Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Zip: _____

District/College/University/ESC: _____

Current Job Position (District/College/University/ESC): _____

☐ Elementary ☐ Secondary ☐ Administrative ☐ Higher Education ☐ Education Service Center (ESC)

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

Fax #: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Work Email: _____ Home Email: _____

Number of Years TESA Member: _____ CEOP: Yes / No _____

I would prefer to be contacted or receive information at ☐ Home address ☐ Work address

I would like to serve TESA because:

I would bring the following expertise to TESA:

Favorite Quote:



TESA Volunteering

I would be interested in serving:

☐ On a Committee (specify) _____

☐ As a Committee Chairman (specify) _____

☐ As an Elected Officer (specify) _____

TESA Events Attended

Please enter the **number of events**
attended and the **date of the most recent**

Number

Date

Area Workshop

Summer Work Conference

Fall Work Conference

Local Association Office / Committee Served

Year

Committee Name

Year

Committee Name

TESA Committee(s) Served

Year

Committee Name

Year

Committee Name

TESA Committee(s) Chaired

Year

Position Held

Year

Committee Name

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

TESA Office(s) Held – Elected and Appointed

<u>Year</u>	<u>Position Held</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position Held</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

NAEOP Office(s) Held and Committee(s) Chaired and/or Served

<u>Year</u>	<u>Position Held</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position Held</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Staff Training for Effective Management (STEM

Yes / No

Yes / No

Training Started?

Completed?

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Once elected and traveling for TESA would you most likely drive or fly? _____

If flying, which airport is most acceptable to you? _____

Supervisors

Superintendent/President/Chancellor/ESC Director: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____



TESA Volunteering

Immediate Supervisor: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Additional Supervisor: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please complete and forward the entire form no later than October 1, 2013 to:

Helen Kettler

Member-at-Large, Nominations

hkettler@alvincollege.edu

Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

Assisting TESA in 2014 – 2015

TESA needs members who are enthusiastic about the Association and are willing to give of their time and talents by helping behind the scenes. Let us know what you would like to do by completing the following information below and returning to Helen Kettler, Nominations Committee Chairman (contact information below).

Please Print Clearly or Type Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

District/College/University/ESC: _____

Current Job Position (District/College/University/ESC): _____

☐ Elementary ☐ Secondary ☐ Administrative ☐ Higher Education ☐ Education Service Center (ESC)

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

Fax #: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Work Email: _____ Home Email: _____

Number of Years TESA Member: _____ CEOP: Yes / No _____

I would prefer to be contacted or receive information at: ☐ Home address ☐ Work address

Tell us where your talents lie and how/where you would like to assist TESA: creating flyers/forms, presenting a session at SWC, facilitator at SWC, making phone calls, sending emails/letters, other areas

Please complete and forward to:

Helen Kettler

Member-at-Large, Nominations

hkettler@alvincollege.edu

3110 Mustang Rd.

Alvin, TX 77511

A Message of Gratitude

By Victor Nino, Channelview High School, Student Council President

During my years at Channelview High School I noticed that students have support from more places than just the classroom, but from the front office as well, specifically one administrative assistant, Ms. Renea Graves. Ms. Graves has offered support to not only me, but the organizations that I was part of. She has helped me speak with my Principal, Mrs. Cindi Ollis, and spit-balling ideas for future school spirit ideas.

There was one occasion where the Student Council had an idea to have a pep rally dedicated to the janitorial and lunch staff. When I spoke to Ms. Graves about it, she had an expression like no other. She made me feel like my Student Council had come up with one of the best ideas in the world. She had told me that the pep rally was a great idea because of the way that some of the students treat the Maintenance and Nutritional staff.

Also, Ms. Graves has been one of the biggest helps to our Principal as to getting jobs done. One day we had gone on a field trip and my Student Council sponsor had to get a form signed by Mrs. Ollis before we left. When she got onto the bus she told me how Ms. Graves had been talking on the phone, notarizing a paper and signing 3 other papers for other trips that day and that she had it all done in a span of 2 minutes.

Not only am I, but Channelview High School is extremely blessed to have an administrative assistant like Ms. Graves. She has a personality and a sense of humor that can not be replaced. She has not only helped me as a student with support and professionalism, but she has helped other faculty and organizations with kindness and a helping hand. Thank you Ms. Graves for all that you have done.



Victor Nino (Senior - Class of 2013)
Channelview High School, Student Council
President with Channelview High School
Administrative Assistant, Ms. Renea Graves

Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.

~ Norman Vincent Peale



Affiliate Services



Calling all Affiliates:
Renew Early and Strengthen your
Associations Core 
As you "Ride"  to Professional Success
In 2013-2014



Affiliating with TESA has many benefits:

- Assistance in the formation of a new association
- Visits from TESA Board members to ascertain your needs
- Assistance in the Installation of Officers for your local group
- Professional Development Advisory Sessions
- Consultant in-service presentations (Customized to fit your association needs)

Affiliate Services Committee

Marie Enax, Chairperson
Deana Ross
Kristin Hiney

Lamar CISD
Comal ISD
Mesquite ISD

enax@lcisd.org
deana.ross@comalisd.org
khiney@mesquiteisd.org



Application for affiliation can be found on the website: www.tesatexas.org
under the Affiliate Services tab.



Affiliates in Action

Pasadena ISD

Our March monthly meeting had a guest speaker - Barbara Jennings, retired from San Jacinto College and past president of TESA. The Communication is Everything session covered the tools to know when to stop talking and tips on better communication in order to have better relationships. She also discussed guidelines on how to shift gears before misunderstandings occur and the moment communication starts. Basically, we learned - when to speak and when to listen! Both are very important.

All CEOPs in Pasadena ISD were invited to attend our celebration of their accomplishment at our regular monthly April meeting. Each attendee received an apple with kisses and mints and a copy of the official TESA proclamation from TESA President Pat Crawford. Debbie McFadden, UHCL, was on hand to present information on how to get involved with TESA and the STEM program. We celebrated their accomplishments with cake, chip and dip and punch! We followed our celebration with a

special training from our own technology department. Emily Bourgeois presented "Tips and Tricks in Microsoft Outlook". We all came away with several tips and ideas to help us be more productive in our jobs.



CEOP recipients present included (back row) Debbie McFadden, UHCL; Ginny Perkins; Kathleen Larson; Millie Lawless; Genia Ripley; Donna Moreland; Esthela Serna. (front row) Kay Riggs; Robin Pool; Dee Medina.

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.

~ Dalai Lama

Weatherford Educational Support Association WESA Highlights of 2012-13



2012-13 WESA Board Members: Judy Prachyl, LaDawna Raper, Shari Morgan, Judy Tidwell, Patsy Johnston and Suzy Finneran.

The Weatherford Educational Support Association (WESA) had a busy year giving back to the community and sharing vital information regarding health to members.

WESA held four meetings during the school year and was honored to have the following community professionals share vital life saving information with our members:

- October 2012 meeting: In observation of Breast Awareness Month, Dr. Kimberly Strickland, D.O., with Weatherford Medical Associates spoke about breast cancer, stressed the importance of early detection and distributed helpful pamphlets. Three WESA members who are breast cancer survivors – WESA President Patsy Johnston, member Toni Rhodes and retired member Wanda Moran – were recognized and honored.
- December 2012 meeting: A Christmas luncheon was shared by all WESA members. The

Curtis Elementary Choir entertained everyone in attendance. What a blessing it was to be surrounded by the Christmas spirit through the voice of children. It was also an added blessing to donate hundreds of items to Parker County Meals on Wheels/Senior Center. WESA members joined together and gathered new items (warm clothes, bath items, paper products, etc.) to donate to Parker County senior citizens who were in need during the holiday season.

- February 2013 meeting: Principal Jenny Morris of Austin Elementary was awarded the WESA 2012-2013 Administrator of the Year award, and Amy Rankin, WISD PEIMS coordinator, was awarded the 2012-2013 Member of the Year award. In observation of Heart Health Awareness Month, Kimberly Hilmer, M.S.N., R.N., F.N.P.C., with Lone Star Health spoke about the symptoms and prevention of heart attacks and shared infor-

mation that everyone needs to know about cardiovascular disease.

- April 2013 meeting: WESA received 17 scholarship applications and proudly awarded four \$350 scholarships to Weatherford High School seniors. WESA also donated \$1,005 to Weatherford ISD Community Services to assist GED students with the costs of GED testing from monies earned from WESA Jeans Day, a fundraiser that allows district employees to wear jeans on a non-scheduled casual day for only \$5. WESA perfect attendance awards in the amount of \$25 were awarded to Toni Rhodes, Lori Berry and Judy Tidwell.

WESA's 57 members have made a difference at Weatherford I.S.D. and Parker County.



Pictured (clockwise, from left) are Koby Wulfjen (recipient) and mother, Lisa Wulfjen; Derek, Lauren (recipient), and Lonna Leach; Gene and Helen (recipient) Bailey Burks; WESA President Patsy Johnston, Hailey Reed (recipient), and WESA Reporter LaDawna Raper.

Affiliates in Action

San Jacinto College AEOP Officers Installation and Past Presidents Luncheon

San Jacinto College AEOP held our last meeting for the year with a special 30th Anniversary Officers Installation and Past Presidents Luncheon on May 17, 2013 in the Central Campus Ballroom. The meeting started with sharing a delicious potluck lunch with 32 AEOP members (including 7 Past Presidents), advisory board members Dr. Laurel Williamson, San Jacinto College Deputy Chancellor & President and Serita Dickey, North Campus Dean-Allied Health & Natural Sciences, and special guest Darcy Blackstock from TESA in attendance. As Sherry Gray read off the names of Past Presi-

dents, those present came forward to receive a beautiful white rose as a gift of our appreciation.

This year being our 30th Anniversary, it was only fitting to have one of our founding members officiate over the installation. Barbara Jennings was one of AEOP's founding members in 1983, forging a group of 14 secretaries to become San Jacinto College Association of Educational Office Personnel, AEOP. This 30th anniversary installation began by Barbara speaking on the theme chosen by Sherry Gray 2013-2014 Incoming President, "The Key to Success Is

the Journey". As Barbara installed each officer, telling them their official duties, they were presented with a yellow rose bud from Barbara. As each new officer walked to group with the new 2013 - 2014 board each were presented with a beautiful white rose in their honor.

Angela Klaus, outgoing 2012-2013 AEOP President, spoke of her experience as President and thanked everyone for their support. Sherry Gray gave a brief greeting with her motto, The Key to Success Is the Journey.



The Key to Success is The Journey. The journey begins early in our lives. Our parents have dreams of our futures while we grow from conception to adults. They nourish our bodies and our minds, providing us with the tools to become successful in our own dreams. They encourage our imagination as we grow from childhood with the dreams of what we want to be when we grow up. They provide us with the education and opportunities to make these dreams a reality.

Now as adults we take these opportunities and expand them to meet our goals. Each time we learn something new or even refresh our current skills and knowledge, we are succeeding.

So this next year as we grow together, I encourage you to take every opportunity to extend your journey and continue your success in whatever you do in your lives and in your careers.

We are successful!

Angela then handed the gavel over to Sherry for the New Year. Before adjourning the meeting, Angela presented a student from each of the three campuses a scholarship for \$250.

Now was the time to present our Thank You's to our Installation Officer and Outgoing President. Sherry presented Barbara with a cross depicting it made from old wood and nails. Barbara was very surprised and loved the cross. Next, Angela was presented a thank you from AEOP with a large recyclable bag loaded with supplies to cook pasta dishes and a pasta cookbook. Yes she does love to cook pasta!!

Last but not least, the AEOP Outstanding Member of the Year was announced. This year's member was recognized for her great work as 2nd Vice President, Bea Rodriguez. Her work obtaining speakers for each month, organizing meeting rooms, emailing meeting notices and invitations and planning meals was always met with enthusiasm and excitement. Bea was unable to attend the meeting due to medical leave; however, she will be presented with her Star trophy when she returns to work. Now on to next year for more exciting events with AEOP!



Garland Educational Support Staff Association

The Garland Educational Support Staff Association (GESSA) held their final general meeting of this school year on Tuesday, May 14th. The installation of the 2013-2014 Officers took place during the meeting. Pat Crawford, TESA President, installed the new board.

GESSA awarded three scholarships to paraprofessionals within our district. The recipients are Terri Doggett, Garland High School; Lizzie Henderson, Student Services; and Morgan Stevens, Enrollment Center.

GESSA is proud of the 31 paraprofessionals who received their CEOP this school year! Congratulations!



L to R; Pat Crawford, TESA President; Juliana Holmes, Treasurer; Pam Parks, Secretary, Koni Kaiwi, Vice President; Teena Hancock, President

If you don't design your own life plan, chances are you'll fall into someone else's plan. And guess what they have planned for you? Not much.

~ Jim Rohn

SBESA News

Spring Branch Educational Support Staff Association

The members of SBESA know a good thing when we see it --as demonstrated with the unanimous re-election of Shirley Labiosa as SBESA President for another year!

We are delighted that Shirley has taken the reins for a new year and we look forward to 2013-2014. Joining Shirley are newly installed officers Emilyn Verdinez, Felipe Campos, Corina Silva and Sandy Hanks.



Julia Peña, of the administration building, was awarded the Member of the Year award at our annual meeting in May 2013. Her commitment to hospitality this year has been without par. Every event has been beautifully prepared, the food has been delicious and SBESA has never looked better! Julia has juggled her SBESA responsibilities all while raising two delightful sons, working full time and attending college at night – and smiling all the time!! Congratulations, Julia!



Congratulations to our 2013 SBESA Scholarship winners! We were delighted to award \$650 each to:

Ryan Neal – Memorial HS
Mercedes Meza – Northbrook HS
Robert Barbosa – Spring Woods HS
Katherine Goss – Stratford HS

Ryan Neal, Mercedes Meza, Robert Barbosa proudly holding their scholarship certificates!

Not pictured: Katherine Goss

Many thanks to YOU and everyone who contributed or purchased items from our Silent & Live Auctions at our annual FunRaiser Night in February!

YOUR SUPPORT helped provide scholarships to these worthy Spring Branch students – it's all good!

VESA in Action!

The Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff Association has been busy this spring semester. Apart from our monthly meetings, several members attended the 3rd Annual Conference for Administrative Professionals (CAP) that was held at Region One on Friday, April 19, 2013.

VESA held their 46th Annual Bosses Banquet on Friday, April 26, 2013 at J.S. Adame Elementary Cafeteria in Donna. The theme for this year's banquet was "Circus". The bosses were treated to a casual, enjoyable evening of music, food and lots of desserts. Entertainment was provided by Bedford Ave. with Philip Zuniga on guitar and vocals and Dante Muñoz on drums and "cajon". Several items were on the agenda for the evening. First, the recognition of our bosses, followed by the installation of VESA Officers for the 2013-2015 School Years. Serving as the Installing Officer was Emily Anderson, Director for Elementary Science at Donna ISD. After the installation we had the announcement of the VESA Outstanding Support Staff Member of the Year 2013. This year's winner was Patty Garcia, from Weslaco ISD.

CAP Participants,
pictured left to right:
Margot Peña-Zuniga,
Lisa E. Gonzalez, Ofelia
Barrón, Irma Garcia,
Belinda Lara and Janie
Garcia



TESA President Pat Crawford declared April 24, 2013 at CEOP Recognition day. Since we have members from several valley districts, President Barrón opted to recognize the VESA members who hold their CEOP at the Bosses Banquet. She

presented a star glass dish with CEOP Recognition, their name and date on it along with a framed copy of the Proclamation that President Crawford issued and signed.



VESA Officers for 2013-2015, pictured left to right: Ofelia Barrón, President; Lisa E. Gonzalez, 1st Vice-President; Julie Briseño, 2nd Vice-President; Tracy Garcia, Secretary; and Patty Garcia, Treasurer.



CEOP Recognition, pictured left to right: Lisa E. Gonzalez, Ofelia Barrón, Julie Briseño, Janie Garcia and Martin Saenz; Not pictured: Maria Elia Chapa, Sylvia Flores, Ana Gallardo, Virginia L. Hall, Janie Palacios, and Amparo Treviño

Affiliates in Action



Outstanding Support Staff Member of the Year: Patty Garcia, Weslaco ISD



VESA Bosses present at the 46th Annual Bosses Banquet



VESA Members present at the 46th Annual Bosses Banquet



VESA Members attending TESA SWC 2013