

Fall 2024

# TAFE Newsletter

## Texas Association of Future Educators

Monica Oliver, TAFE State Program Director

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### From Our President:

**JAYDEN PETTY, ALIEF TAYLOR HS**



I hope your school year is off to a great start, and I'd like to wish you an early happy holidays! With area conferences just around the corner, I want to extend my best wishes to all of you competing—give it your all and put in 100% effort! This is a valuable opportunity to grow, not only in your leadership and public speaking skills but also in your personal development. Opportunities to compete in educational events are rare, and the skills you gain now will undoubtedly benefit you as you transition into

your teaching career. Remember, these conferences are about more than just competition. Take this chance to network, make new friends, and build connections that could last a lifetime. Wishing you all a safe and successful trip to and from the conferences!

The state conference is just around the corner, and with it comes the excitement of our new state officer elections! If you're ready to challenge yourself and grow as a leader, I strongly encourage you to consider running for state office. Serving in this role is a fantastic opportunity to enhance your leadership, communication, and public speaking skills while collaborating with a team of like-minded individuals who share your passion. For more details, visit our website. Best of luck, and see you at the conference!



# College Connections:

JACQUE ROE - LOCKHART HIGH SCHOOL  
TAFE VICE-PRESIDENT



Happy fall, y'all! As fall settles in and we come up on the holiday season, the excitement of college planning and applications is in the air. Whether you're exploring future campuses, weighing career paths, or getting ready for next steps, this season is all about making connections that set the foundation for your journey ahead. Remember to pause and take care of your mental health and embrace gratitude for the journey you're on and the support around you.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

### CONTINUE YOUR TAFE JOURNEY AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – COMMERCE

Looking for opportunities to be part of an exciting group of future teachers dedicated to the profession and the community? Choose to continue your engagement with TAFE by attending Texas A&M University – Commerce (TAMUC). The Texas Educators Affiliate of TAFE has over a hundred members, and we offer events that support our community, develop our skills as future teachers, and provide much needed social time with other teacher candidates.



And, we're competitive! At the 2024 national competition in Washington D.C. our chapter president, Susan Macias, won first place for her children's book *The Imposter Monster*; Haley Hill, our chapter secretary, won 2nd place in the Educators Rising Moment competition, and Jasmine Salinas Gonzales earned a blue ribbon for her interactive bulletin board.

At TAMUC, our program offers many pathways to certification including new opportunities for paid internships and a para-professional route for future teachers who need to maintain a job while they go to school. Whether planning to teach elementary, bilingual education, special education, or a secondary content area, TAMUC offers high quality, affordable, and flexible options to transition teacher candidates to certified teachers.



"If you have any questions about our university or our programs, feel free to reach out to myself or other faculty members. We pride ourselves on the relationships we build with our students and the support we provide to assure their success."

- Dr. Carol Revelle, Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction & TEA/  
TAFE Faculty Advisor





# KUDOS

**IZI CROSSETT - KINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL  
TAFE SECRETARY**

Wishing you all a holiday season filled with joy, love, and everything that makes this time of year magical! As we wrap up the year, remember to pause, take a deep breath, and reflect on all the moments that made you stronger. Spread kindness, embrace gratitude, and trust in yourself as we head into a new chapter. I can't wait to see what the next year holds for all of us—enjoy every moment, and happy holidays!

We want to give a huge thank you to our amazing Area Coordinators Monica Oliver, Susan Stevens, Anne Grimes, Connie Thornell, Carrie Swisher, and Claudia Bell who went above and beyond to plan such unforgettable Area Conferences. Your passion and dedication, along with the hard work of our Area Officer Teams, have truly made this year one of a kind.

We're also super grateful to our hosting locations for welcoming us and giving us the perfect space for these memorable conferences. A big shoutout to Austin Ince, and an extra thanks to our State Director, Monica Oliver, for your tireless efforts your dedication really shines. Finally, thank you to our Teacher Leaders for all your support. Your contributions have been the backbone of these successful conferences. We appreciate you all!



▶ **A is for Appreciation** and Alief Taylor TAFE showed their appreciation for their hardworking custodians! TAFE Members stepped in to help clean the cafeteria during lunch breaks and put together goody bags and custom shirts for each custodian.

▶ **F is for fundraising**, and Clark TAFE is serving up more than just snow cones every Tuesday! Catch them at the concession stand, working hard and raising funds with snacks and smiles. We love seeing your passion and dedication in action keep it up, Clark TAFE!



▶ **E is for Educational Awareness**, and TAFE is leading the charge by honoring and showcasing our amazing breast cancer survivors—true symbols of strength and resilience. We're proud to celebrate these warriors and raise awareness for the fight against breast cancer. It's inspiring to see other chapters wearing pink and showing their support as well. Together, we make a powerful impact!





# PICTURE THIS: Virtual TAFE Scrapbook

**AUBREY FISHER – CLEBURNE HIGH SCHOOL: TAFE HISTORIAN**

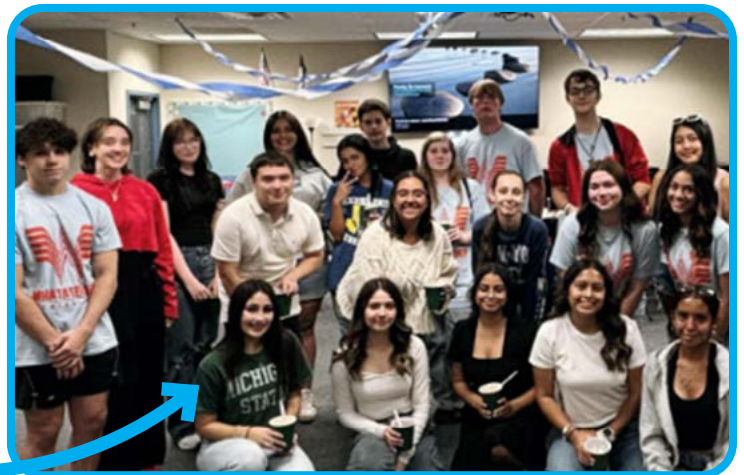
Howdy TAFE! I'm your historian, Aubrey Fisher! Part of my job is to highlight some amazing things that chapters are doing all around our great state of Texas! There have been so many chapters doing amazing things lately and I would like to showcase some of our chapters!

► Shout out to Floydada TAFE for raising money for someone special in your community!



▲ Great job Burnett Junior High School for sharing your love and supporting your teachers with a special treat! We love seeing chapters highlight the A of TRAFLES!

► Shout out to Lake View High School as well as Central High School for getting together and celebrating TAFE!



◀ Awesome job, Everman TAFE! This chapter helped clean up our beautiful earth! Way to show up, volunteer, and get the job done! Keep up the good work!!



## From the Director

Monica Oliver | [monica@tassp.org](mailto:monica@tassp.org) or 512-443-2100 ext 8512



I can't believe it is almost December! The Teach Tomorrow Summit will be here before we know it. Our office and area officer teams work tirelessly to welcome 6,300+ students to our 11 area conferences this year. We are excited each area has grown, welcome new chapters and see more students applying for officer positions. We are finally starting to have consistent practices in place that help conferences run smoothly. The area officers and their teachers deserve a big round of applause for a successful season.

Our state officer team set many goals for themselves this year and have worked hard to reach them. One of these goals is to increase membership and student leaders in our organization. So far, we have seen more students applying for leadership positions in each area. It will be exciting to see what happens with state office applications.

### [TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT \(TAFEONLINE.ORG\)](https://tafeonline.org)

**Have you considered running for the Board of Directors?** We will have 1 high school teacher leader position up for election at the Teach Tomorrow Summit. You can find details about the application and past meeting minutes here: [TAFE Board of Directors](#)

**Student leaders are what keep our organization growing and thriving.** We can't continue to grow without them! There are few areas still looking for area officers to round out their teams. TAFE state officer applications are due January 13th, 2025. You can find details here: [Running for State Officer](#)

**41st Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit early bird** registration will open on December 9th and close January 17, 2025. Hotel costs plus additional information is available here [Teach Tomorrow Summit](#)

**Prescored Materials Upload deadline is January 24, 2025 by 5:00pm.** To avoid any further confusion all events, except for Interactive Bulletin Board, Teacher Created Materials and Project Visualize will have an item you need to upload for Prescoring. Interactive Bulletin Board, Teacher Created Materials, and Project Visualize will stay with the Originality Pre-Submission, only.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

### EDUCATORS RISING UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES:

- 11/18/2024 Conference breakout session proposals opened
- 1/2/2025 Scholarship applications open
- 1/2/2025 Student officer applications open
- 1/17/2025 Breakout session proposals close





# UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL!

Spend a summer teaching and a lifetime leading. Work with highly motivated students, build your leadership skills, and receive aligned coaching towards teaching excellence.

## BECOME A BREAKTHROUGH SUMMER TEACHING FELLOW

### SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

\$4600 (base) + \$1956  
AmeriCorps Education Award

Complete an Interest  
form!



### SUMMER 2025 PROGRAM DATES

June 5-July 31, 2025

- 2 Weeks of Orientation
- 6 Weeks of Classroom Teaching

### MORE INFORMATION:



2401 Claremont Lane, Houston, TX 77019



[www.breakthroughcollaborative.org/teach](http://www.breakthroughcollaborative.org/teach)



[teach@breakthroughcollaborative.org](mailto:teach@breakthroughcollaborative.org)

# 2024-2025 Mark Your Calendar!

## NOVEMBER – DECEMBER AREA CONFERENCES

Area 1 – Nov. 2 @ Texas A&M Kingsville

Area 2 – Nov. 16 @ UTSA

Area 3 – Dec. 3 @ Mary Hardin Baylor

Area 4 – Nov. 15 @ University of Houston Dwtm

Area 5 – Nov. 11 @ Sam Houston

Area 6 – Dec. 6 @ Texas A&M Texarkana

Area 7 – TBD @ Hartford Learning Center

Area 8 – Nov. 9 @ South Plains College

Area 9 – Nov. 15 @ Center for Career and Tech Education

Area 10 – Dec. 7 @ Texas Women's University

Area 11 – Nov. 16 @ Dallas Baptist University

**December 1** **DEADLINE TO PAY FOR EDUCATORS RISING AFFILIATION FEES THROUGH TAFE OFFICE -**  
\$15.00 individual dues for all TAFE members prior to competing at Area Conferences.

**December 9** **TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT REGISTRATION OPENS**

**January 13** **APPLICATION TO RUN FOR STATE OFFICER POSTED BY 5:00 PM CST**

**January 13** **APPLICATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY 5:00 PM CST**

**January 17** **DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING ONLINE FOR TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT**

**January 17** **DEADLINE UPLOADING LESSON PLANS, POSITION PAPERS, AND VIDEO LINKS  
FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS BY 5:00 PM CST**

**January 20** **REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS TIMES: OPENS**

**January 24** **REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENT TIMES: CLOSES @ 5:00 PM CST**

**February 1** **EDUCATORS RISING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPENS**

**Late January** **CAPITOL LEADERSHIP: Austin, TX**

**January 31** **TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEES DUE**  
Checks must be postmarked by January 31, 2025, to receive the discounted rate.  
Postmarked February 1, 2025, or after the rate is \$100 per person

**February 17-19** **TAFE TEACH TOMORROW SUMMIT: Moody Gardens, Galveston**

**April 7** **EDUCATORS RISING COMPETITION APPLICATION AND EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES**

**April 24-26** **LOCAL, AREA & STATE OFFICER TRAINING WORKSHOP:**  
Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center

**May 1** **2025-2026 CHAPTER AFFILIATION OPENS**

**June 26-29** **EDUCATORS RISING NATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL



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