



Winter 2025

TAFE Newsletter

Texas Association of Future Educators

Monica Oliver, TAFE State Program Director

TAFE State Office, 1833 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78741

Phone (512)443-2100 ext. 8512 | Fax (512)442-3343 | E-Mail: monica@tassp.org

From Our President:

JAYDEN PETTY, ALIEF TAYLOR HS



Howdy, TAFE members. I hope all of you enjoyed your area conferences and the experiences that came with them. I hope all of you took this time not only to compete against one another but also to make new friends and learn from each other. I want to congratulate those who advanced in their competitions and are competing at the state conference! To those who didn't advance, do not let this bring you down in any way. Continue to strive for greatness, and as the world-renowned Rocky Balboa says, "It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving

forward; how much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done!". So, take this and let it fuel you to continue being great.

With the state conference approaching, I inevitably think about where this incredible journey began. It is truly remarkable how, in such a short time, I would have learned so much and gone on so many adventures with this special group of people, which you know as the state officer team. The adventures seemed never-ending, from officer training camp to traveling Texas and attending nearly half of the area conferences. Every moment I spent with the officer team was filled with laughter and joy. Being this year's TAFE state president has allowed me to show who I am and what I bring to the table. I have been allowed to speak up for those under voiced opinions and show that, as a minority, anything is possible. I want to thank all of you for allowing me to lead TAFE as your state president.

As all of you know, with my term is coming to an end, I would like to thank all of those who helped and supported me throughout my journey as TAFE state president. This would not be possible without the help of all of you future educators. I hope all of you continue to succeed in your conquest to becoming educators. I am genuinely proud of ALL of you.

Feel free to contact me anytime at notjythrr@gmail.com or [presidentpetty](#) on instagram



www.tafeonline.org



College Connections:

**JACQUE ROE - LOCKHART HIGH SCHOOL
TAFE VICE-PRESIDENT**

Howdy y'all, I am so sad to be leaving my position, but I am more than grateful for the opportunity I've had. Serving as a state officer has been an incredible journey, filled with learning, growth, and unforgettable memories. I am so thankful for the other state officers and everyone who has been involved in this amazing rodeo. The support, dedication, and passion of this organization have truly inspired me, and I can't wait to see the impact future leaders will make. While this chapter is coming to a close, I know the lessons and friendships I've gained will last a lifetime.

A Message From Texas State University:

Become "Texas State Prepared" at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. When Texas State opened in 1899, its sole purpose was to prepare Texas teachers. Today, Texas State offers more than 200 undergraduate and postgraduate degrees to serve the needs of future generations of Texans. But, we remain rooted in teaching those who want to become tomorrow's educators.

We have two beautiful, vibrant in-person campuses — one in San Marcos, one in Round Rock — and a variety of ways for you to discover each through in-person or digital experiences. Both campuses are filled with opportunities to engage in life-changing learning, creative energy and community spirit.

"Texas State Prepared" means you will be taught by professors with real-world classroom experience and engage in practice-based coursework. During your time at Texas State, you will be provided with gradual classroom exposure with multiple in-school experiences. Many classes are actually taught on PK-12 campuses so you can apply what you are learning while being immersed in the classroom. You will have the opportunity to engage in multiple professional development opportunities and can choose from a variety of student organizations including TAFE!

We are a Hispanic-serving institution and value our first-generation college students, veteran-affiliated students, and transfer students. We offer multiple pathways to certification including instructional aide pathways where you can become certified while working in a school as a paraprofessional. We offer year-round, paid teacher residency where you can complete your clinical teaching (student teaching). Our students' success is achieved one student at a time.

Our students are well-prepared for their certification exams and their scores on these exams exceed the state average. We prepare more university-trained teachers than all other Texas universities. Our graduates are highly sought after by school districts.

If you have questions about Texas State, please contact me at gb28@txstate.edu. I am a Texas State graduate and would love the opportunity to talk to you more about Texas State.

Glenna Billingsley, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction





KUDOS

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

This year has been nothing short of life-changing. Serving as your State Secretary has been an incredible journey filled with growth, laughter, and unforgettable memories. From stepping out of my comfort zone to meet new people, to presenting at workshops and bonding with my officer team, every moment has shaped me in ways I never imagined.

To my officer team: thank you for being the best part of this experience. Whether we were brainstorming ideas, laughing until we cried, or tackling challenges together, you made this year truly special. To Mrs. Carnahan, all the teacher leaders, and especially Ms. Oliver, thank you for your unwavering support and dedication. Your guidance helped us accomplish so much and inspired me to push further.

A big thank you to the universities and colleges that hosted our area conferences, providing amazing opportunities for future educators to learn and grow. To our dedicated area coordinators and officers, your hard work made each event truly unforgettable.

TAFE has given me a community, a family, and a sense of purpose. While it's hard to say goodbye, I'm excited for what lies ahead—for myself and for all of you who make this organization what it is.

Thank you for this incredible opportunity. To every future educator: never stop believing in the power of education and the difference you can make.

Please feel free to reach at izicrossett@icloud.com or [izi_crossett_ross](https://www.instagram.com/izi_crossett_ross)



RECREATION ►

The CCHS TAFE club had the opportunity to participate in Hope Elementary's Family Night. The event was a fun and interactive experience, giving members a chance to connect with students and explore what it's like to work with children. It was a memorable evening filled with excitement and creativity!



◀ FUNDRAISING

Timber Creek TAFE organized a successful Panda Express fundraiser to support their chapter's activities and goals. The

event provided a great opportunity for the community to come together and contribute to the development of future educators. The chapter extends its gratitude to everyone who participated and supported their cause!

◀ SERVICE

Clark TAFE is making a difference with their "Caps for Cancer" initiative! By collecting clean screw-on caps, they are working to support cancer-related causes while encouraging service within their community. For every 30 caps donated, participants earn one service hour, combining sustainability with meaningful impact.





PICTURE THIS: Virtual TAFE Scrapbook

AUBREY FISHER – CLEBURNE HIGH SCHOOL: TAFE HISTORIAN

Howdy Y'all!

I just wanted to say that being a state officer has been an amazing experience, and it has been a pleasure to be able to advocate for TAFE students. I want to thank everyone in TAFE. You are all amazing and have truly helped me get to where I am today. I cannot wait to continue my amazing journey in education, and I am so excited to become an educator. Thank you again for this opportunity.

🤠 A big cowboy shoutout to **Tarleton State University!** 🤠 We're thrilled to see y'all saddling up and competing at this year's Area 10 competition! Can't wait to see the collegiate crew ride into the Teach Tomorrow Summit. Keep blazing the trail, Texans! 🌟🤠

🤠 Way to go, **J. Frank Dobie High School TAFE!** 🌟 Y'all are truly wrangling the importance of showing appreciation for your amazing educators. Your dedication shines brighter than a Texas star! 🌟 We can't wait to see what incredible achievements y'all lasso up next. Keep riding tall, Trailblazers! 🤠



🤠 Hats off to **Edward S. Marcus High School TAFE!** 🌟 Y'all did a fantastic job shining a spotlight on your incredible teachers—showing you're there and you care makes all the difference! 🤠 Keep blazing the trail with your hard work and dedication. The future is looking as bright as a Texas sunrise! 🌅🙌



🤠 Big Texas sized shoutout to **Veterans Memorial High School TAFE!** 🌟 Y'all are living the spirit of TRAFLES by showing the 'A'—Appreciation—through your thoughtful recognition of Law Enforcement. 🚓🙌 Your kindness and gratitude make a mighty big impact. Keep riding strong and leading the way! 🤠🌟



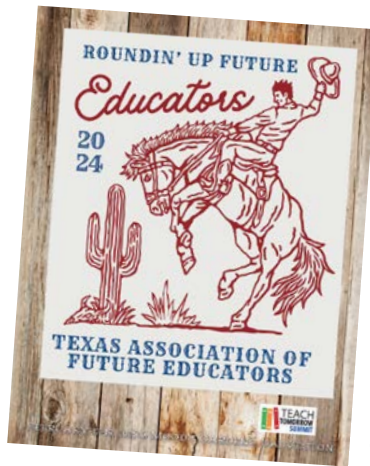


From the Director

Monica Oliver | monica@tassp.org or 512-443-2100 ext 8512



We registered over 3700 attendees at this year’s conference, with 2410 competitive event entries. What a spectacular turn out it will be. It is all due to your great work and contributions to our organization. We could not do what we do without you guiding, mentoring, and fostering future educators at your local campuses. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication!



41st Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit

We can’t wait to see you in Galveston! Just a few reminders- Students, guests and teacher leaders must be in dress code at all times. Regardless of if students are student helpers or competitors, they **must be in dress code**. Dress code is required even during the closing session. No awards will be given out on stage; all awards will be distributed in packets at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.

Shoutout to the 2024-2025 State Officer team! They have worked hard this year to not only connect, but to lead this year with creativity, passion and dedication to TAFE’s mission. They represented TAFE in CTSO’s at the Capitol last month. They met with Senators and Representatives to discuss the impact CTE and CTSO have had on them in their high school experience. It was truly a great opportunity to connect and spread awareness.

NOTE: Due to limited space and safety, ONLY REGISTERED PERSONS can enter the General Sessions. No unregistered guests, judges, parents, etc., are allowed in the General Sessions, without a paid conference nametag. If your school is not staying, awards will be mailed, after postage has been paid. We will have photo stations set up in the lobby with award titles on them to allow for more photos. Be prepared! See the end of this newsletter for schedule, event rooms and maps to print out for students ahead of the conference. [VIEW TTS PROGRAM »](#)

TAFE Voice at TASSP Region Meetings

Archie McAfee, Executive Director of TASSP and TAFE, has requested to have TAFE representatives at the TASSP Region meetings, in hopes of recruiting more chapters, and to spread the mission of TAFE to principals across the state. This is a genuine opportunity for student voice, especially TAFE student voice, where we have not had one regularly before. Please send me an email if your school would like to represent TAFE by giving a 10-minute presentation. The following are the regional meetings we need coverage at the following meetings, if you can make one, please email me and let me know!

- 02/27/25 6:00 P.M. Harlingen HS South – Harlingen
- 03/04/25 10:00 A.M. Region 3 ESC – Victoria
- 03/05/25 5:30 P.M. [MST] El Paso Area (TBD)
- 03/26/25 9:00 A.M. Region 9 ESC – Wichita Falls
- 03/26/25 6:00 P.M. McCool Academy – Lubbock
- 04/02/25 11:00 A.M. San Angelo Area (TBD)
- 04/02/25 6:00 P.M. Midland/Odessa Area (TBD)
- 04/09/25 11:00 A.M. Region 16 ESC – Amarillo
- 04/16/25 6:00 P.M. Royce City High School – Royce City
- 04/23/25 6:00 P.M. Marble Falls HS– Marble Falls
- 04/28/25 6:00 P.M. Region 7 ESC 7 – Kilgore
- 05/07/25 9:00 A.M. Region 8 ESC – Pittsburg
- 05/14/25 10:00 A.M. Online via ZOOM
- 05/14/25 6:00 P.M. Fort Worth Area (TBD)



Texas Association of Secondary School Principals SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

The TASSP Academic Excellence Recognition Program was established to honor and recognize high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in areas of academic achievement, test scores and writing skills. The program will recognize twenty graduating Texas seniors with an unrestricted scholarship of \$500. In addition, these twenty winners will be introduced at the general session of the TASSP Summer Workshop held in Austin in June and also honored there with a luncheon featuring the students, parents and their principals. Thirty finalists will be recognized locally with plaques donated by Jostens.

Who is Eligible?

Each Texas high school whose principal is a member of TASSP may nominate ONE graduating senior for this recognition.

What is the Selection Process?

The TASSP Academic Excellence Committee will review and score the applications according to this weighted value:

- 65% of total score on their G.P.A. and SAT or ACT score.
- 35% of total score on the essays portion of the application
- Scoring of the essays is done without knowledge of authorship.
- The top twenty will be selected as the All-State Academic Team and will be given a \$500 unrestricted scholarship. The next thirty will be selected as Finalists and will be sent a plaque.

Deadline: Submit to TASSP.org website link below by March 7, 2025, 11:59 PM [CST]

[VIEW PAGE AND FORMS »](#)

TEENS SERVING TEXAS AWARDS

The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals and its members recognize that students' achievements often go beyond academic accomplishments. The TASSP Teens Serving Texas Recognition Program was established to honor and recognize high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in areas of community service, leadership, and personal accomplishment through unique endeavors, obstacles overcome, or special talents. The program will recognize five graduating Texas seniors with an unrestricted scholarship of \$500. In addition, these five winners will be introduced at the general session of the TASSP Summer Workshop held in Austin in June and also honored there with a luncheon featuring the students, parents, and their principals. Twenty-five finalists will be recognized locally with plaques provided by TASSP.

Who is Eligible?

- Each Texas high school whose principal is a member of TASSP may nominate ONE graduating senior for this recognition. Each student nominated should meet the following qualifications:
 - Has a minimum cumulative grade point average equivalent to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the previous three years (freshman, sophomore, and junior years).
 - Is required to be pursuing the Distinguished Graduation Plan.
 - Submits the application packet according to the guidelines and by the specified deadline of March 7, 2025.
- Deadline: Submit to TASSP.org website link below by March 7, 2025, 11:59 PM [CST]*

[VIEW PAGE AND FORMS »](#)

TAFE UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES:

- 2/20/25 Officer Training Workshop Registration Opens
- 3/7/25 TASSP Academic Excellence and Teens Serving Texas Scholarship Deadline
- 7/14/25-7/15/25 Teach Leader Workshop
- 2/26/26 - 2/28/26 42nd Teach Tomorrow Summit
- 3/4/27 - 3/6/27 43rd Teach Tomorrow Summit
- 2/14/28 - 2/26/28 44th Teach Tomorrow Summit
- 2/12/29 - 2/14/29 45th Teach Tomorrow Summit



EDUCATORS RISING DATES AND DEADLINES:

- 2/1/25 Early Bird Registration for EdRising Conference opens
- 2/1/25 National Competition Applications open
- 2/17/25 Honor Society Opens
- 2/24/25 Student officer applications close

Teach Tomorrow Summit Preview - Print this out for your Students to PLAN AHEAD!



Monday, February 17, 2025

ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY THOSE REGISTERED CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSIONS

7:30a - 8:45a..... Breakfast Available Concession Stands are Open
8:00a - 5:00p Registration Open Convention Center Registration
7:45a - 8:30a..... Judges Check-in (Adults Only)..... Registration Lobby
9:00a - 8:00pSome Competitive Events Begin..... Check app for links/pg 22
Division/Event: Varsity: Creative Lecture, Educators Rising Moment (English), Ethical Dilemma, Exploring Non-Core Teaching Subjects. MS/JV: Exploring Non-Core Teaching Subjects. JV/Collegiate: Impromptu Lesson. JV: Inside Our Schools (English). Seniors: Student of the Year
9:00a - 10:30a.....Opening General Session (See box below)Exhibit Hall B/C
10:45p - 11:30a Breakout Sessions (Set 1) Check app for links/pg 10
10:45a - 12:00p All Remaining Competitive Events Begin Check app for links/pg 22
11:30a - 5:00p Exhibits OpenSouth Lobby
1:00p - 3:00p Officer Campaigning (See Voting Delegate card for information)..... North Lobby
12:00p - 12:45p Lunch provided for judges on duty Lunch on your own
1:00p - 6:00pAll Competitive Events resume Check app for links/pg 22
1:00p - 1:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 2) Check app for links/pg 10
2:00p - 2:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 3) Check app for links/pg 11
3:00p - 3:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 4) Check app for links/pg 11
4:00p - 4:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 5) Check app for links/pg 12
6:00p - 6:45pDinner provided for judges on dutyDinner on your own
7:00p - 9:00pAll Competitive Events resume Check app for links/pg 22

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

7:30a - 8:45a..... Breakfast Available Concession Stands are Open
7:00a - 7:45a..... Judges Check-in (Adults Only) Registration Lobby
8:00a - 5:00p TAFE Store Opens.....Convention Center Registration
8:00a - 12:00pCompetitive Events Resume Check app for links/pg 22
9:00a - 5:00p Exhibits Open.....South Lobby
8:00a - 9:00a Political Rally (a voting delegate from each school must attend)Exhibit Hall B/C
9:15a - 10:00a..... Breakout Sessions (Set 6)..... Check app for links/pg 12
10:15a - 11:00a..... Breakout Sessions (Set 7)..... Check app for links/pg 13
11:15a - 12:00p Breakout Sessions (Set 8)..... Check app for links/pg 13
12:00p - 12:45p Teacher Leader and Student Lunch provided by TAFE..... Concession Stands Tickets
Lunch provided for judges on duty
1:00p - 6:00p All Competitive Events resume Check app for links / pg 22
1:00p - 1:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 9)..... Check app for links/pg 14
2:00p - 2:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 10)..... Check app for links/pg 14
3:00p - 3:45p Breakout Sessions (Set 11)..... Check app for links/pg 15
4:00p - 4:45p Graduation Signing Event Exhibit Hall B/C
6:00p - 8:00p Dinner on your own..... Concession stands are open
8:00p - 10:30p TAFE DanceFrances Ann Moody Ballroom, Hotel
Attendees (students and teachers) should be in a TAFE T-shirt and jeans with no holes.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY THOSE REGISTERED CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSIONS

9:00a - 11:00a..... Closing General Session.....Exhibit Hall B/C
Award packets can be picked up AFTER the closing general session, at TAFE Registration. Please show courtesy and do not leave the Session early. All packets not picked up will be mailed, after postage has been paid.

Teach Tomorrow Summit Preview - Print this out for your Students to PLAN AHEAD!

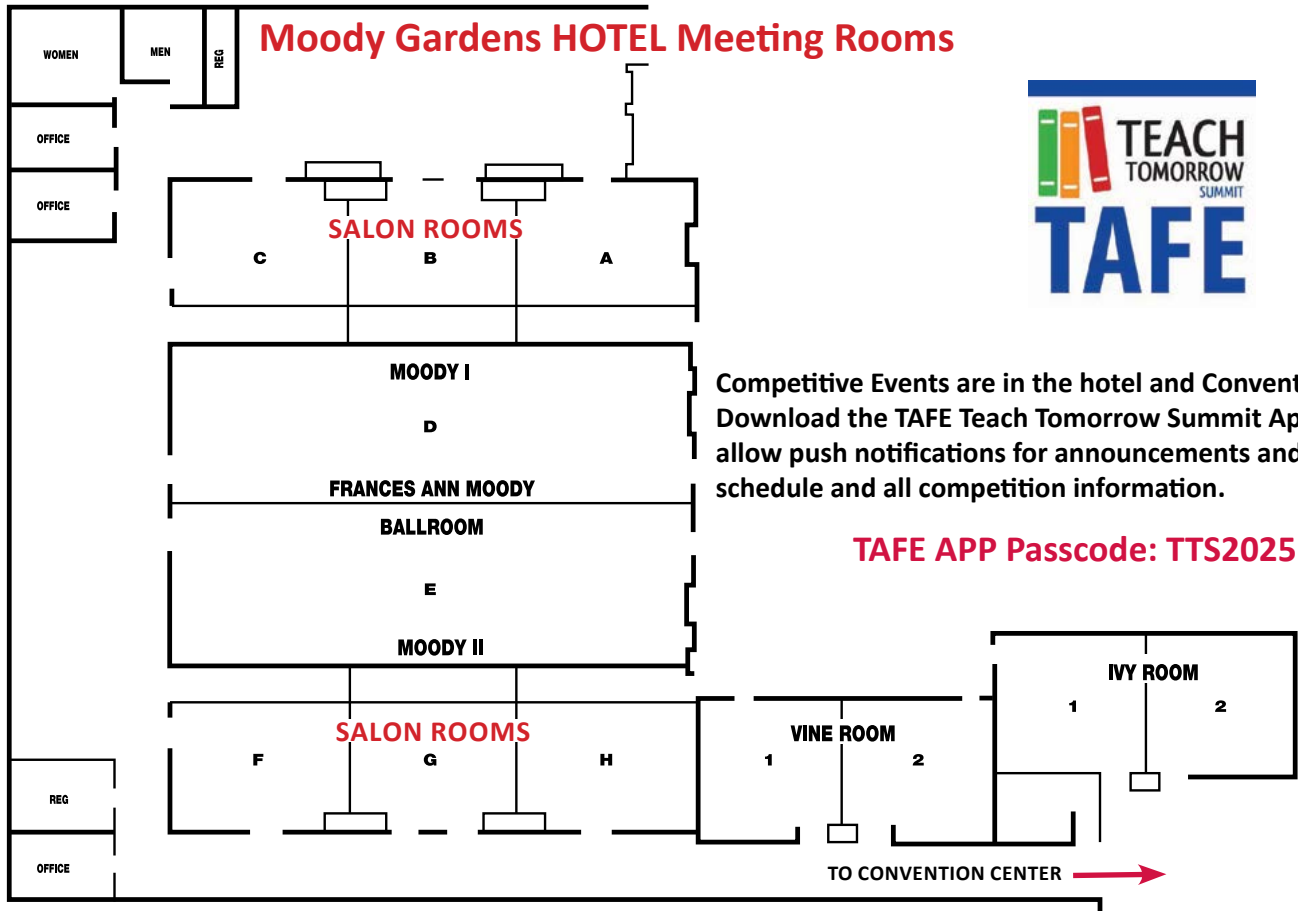
Competitive Events Locations

What do I do if I have a conflict with my Competitive Events schedule?

Go to your competitive event room location and speak with a TAFE CE Coordinator (wearing a neon shirt) and they can help you reschedule. **They can help you with most issues!**

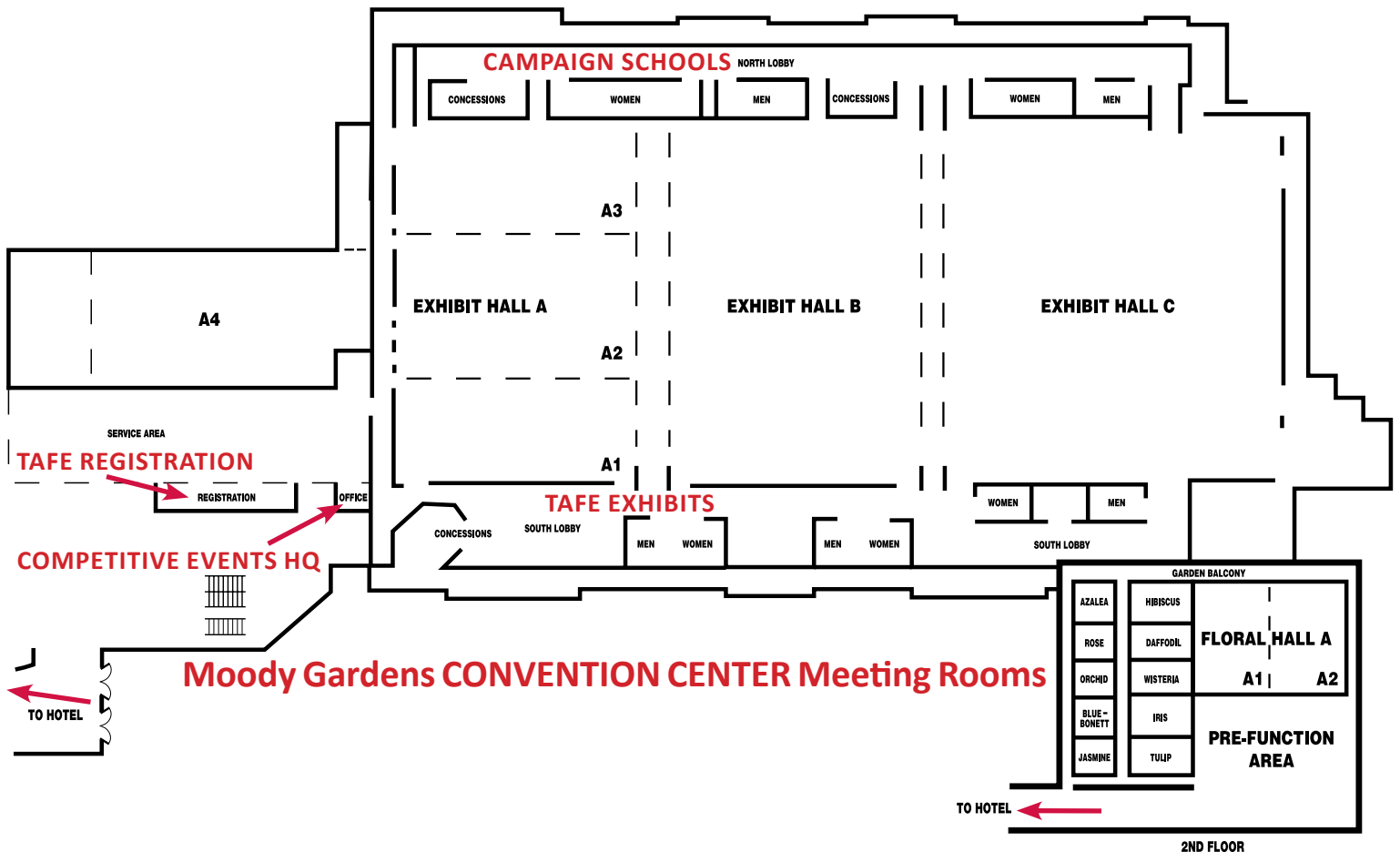
EVENT	LOCATION (CONVENTION CENTER OR HOTEL)
Chapter Yearbook	Moody 1 (Hotel)
Children's Literature (Collegiate)	Orchid (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Children's Literature K-3 (English)	MS/JV-Azalea V-Hibiscus (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Children's Literature K-3 (Spanish)	MS/JV-Orchid V-Wisteria (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Children's Literature Pre-K (English)	MS/JV-Rose V-Daffodil (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Children's Literature Pre-K (Spanish)	MS/JV-Bluebonnet V-Iris (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Creative Lecture	Salon F1 (Hotel)
Differentiated Lesson Plan	JV-Vine 2A V-Vine 1B (Planning @ Ivy 2B) (Hotel)
Educational Leadership Fundamentals Essay	Bluebonnet (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Educators Rising Leadership Award	Salon G1 (Hotel)
Educators Rising Moment (English)	Vine 1A (Hotel)
Educators Rising Moment (Spanish)	Vine 1B (Hotel)
Ethical Dilemma	JV/C-Salon G2 V-Salon F1 (Hotel)
Exploring Education Administration Careers	MS/JV-Salon H1 V-Salon G1 (Hotel)
Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers	MS/JV-Salon G2 V-Salon H1 (Hotel)
Exploring Support Service Careers	Salon H2 (Hotel)
Goal Setting	Salon G1 (Hotel)
Impromptu Lesson	JV/C-Vine 2A V-Vine 2B (Planning @ Ivy 2B) (Hotel)
Impromptu Speaking	MS/JV/C-Ivy 1A V-Ivy 1B (Planning @ Ivy 2B) (Hotel)
Inside Our Schools (English)	Salon B1 (Hotel)
Inside Our Schools (Spanish)	Salon C2 (Hotel)
Interactive Bulletin Board	Moody 1 & 2 (Hotel)
Job Interview	Jasmine (Conv Center 2nd Floor)
Lesson Planning & Delivery - ARTS	JV-Salon A1 V-Salon B2 (Hotel)
Lesson Planning & Delivery - CTE	Salon A2 (Hotel)
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Humanities	JV-Salon B2 V-Salon C1 (Hotel)
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Spanish	Salon C2 (Hotel)
Lesson Planning & Delivery - STEM	JV-Salon B2 V-Salon C1 (Hotel)
Portfolio	Moody 1 & 2 (Hotel)
Professional Development	Ivy 1A (Hotel)
Project Visualize	Moody 1 (Hotel)
Public Service Announcement	Ivy 2A (Hotel)
Public Speaking	MS/JV/C-Floral Hall A1 V-Floral Hall A2 and Tulip (C-Center 2nd Fl.)
Researching Learning Challenges	V-Salon A1 JV/C-Salon A2 (Hotel)
Special Edition	Moody 1 (Hotel)
Student of the Year	Salon C2 (Hotel)
Teacher Created Materials	Moody 2 (Hotel)

Teach Tomorrow Summit Preview - Print this out for your Students to PLAN AHEAD!



Competitive Events are in the hotel and Convention Center. Download the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit App and allow push notifications for announcements and updates, schedule and all competition information.

TAFE APP Passcode: TTS2025



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS

DRESS CODE:

NEW FOR 2024-2028!!!

TAFE DRESS CODE FOR ALL CONFERENCES:

Student Mandatory Attire for General Sessions, Recognition Sessions, Exhibits, Workshops, Breakout Sessions, Competitions and Luncheons

DRESS CODE: TAFE Conference & Competitive Events

Approved by TAFE Board of Directors June 2024

STUDENT MANDATORY ATTIRE FOR GENERAL SESSIONS, RECOGNITIONS SESSIONS, EXHIBITS, WORKSHOPS, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, COMPETITIONS, LUNCHEONS

- **TAFE black blazer is encouraged**
 - Men's Black Blazer / Women's Black Blazer **Visit www.blazerdepo.com**
 - TAFE/EdRising patch placed on right lower pocket.
 - *Area and State Officers cannot wear their royal blue blazers during competitions.*
- **Solid black blazers, cardigans or sweaters**
- **Solid red, royal blue, white, or black polos or professional shirts** (long or short sleeves)
 - Polos and professional shirts may have school or TAFE logos on the upper right or left-hand breast pocket.
 - Dresses are not in this category.
- **Solid black, navy or khaki bottoms** (slacks, skirts, dresses)
 - Skirts and Dresses must be to the knee.
- **Solid red, black, white, or royal blue bow ties, neck ties and suspenders may be worn.**
- **Dress shoes** (black or brown preferred) (maximum 3" heel)
- **Conference name badge worn during all conference functions.**



NOTE: Students should be aware that when competing - points may be deducted for what the judge considers to be inappropriate or non-businesslike appearance and dress. (Examples of this may include visible tattoos, facial piercing, hair styles or colors, etc.)



UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

- Jeans **X**
- T-Shirts **X**
- Skin-tight clothing
- Midriff-baring clothing
- Extremely short skirts or dresses (shorter than 2 inches above the knee)
- No shorts are allowed at any TAFE Area or State Conference
- Athletic clothing **X**
- Clothing with printing that is suggestive, obscene, or promoting alcohol illegal substances/activities
- Swimwear, unless wearing a cover-up and only traveling to and from and at the pool
- Rubber, beach type flip-flops, no athletic shoes including designer athletic shoes
- Nightwear (pajamas) should not be worn outside of your hotel room. **X**

TEACHER LEADERS/CHAPERONES JUDGES/GUESTS

- Business professional **✓**
- NOT acceptable: Jeans, t-shirts, athletic wear. **X**

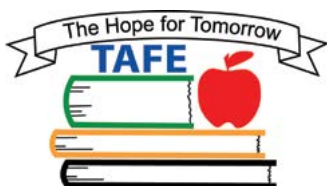


DO THE RESEARCH!

Check out the **DRESS CODE PAGE** under the **COMPETITIONS Tab** on the Home Page!



NOTE: This Dress Code is also applicable at the TAFE AREA CONFERENCES!
Visit www.tafeonline.org for more information.



Texas Association of Future Educators

Monica Oliver, TAFE State Program Director
TAFE State Office, 1833 South IH-35, Austin, TX 78741
Phone (512)443-2100 ext. 8512 | Fax (512)442-3343 | E-Mail: monica@tassp.org