

Spring Newsletter



TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

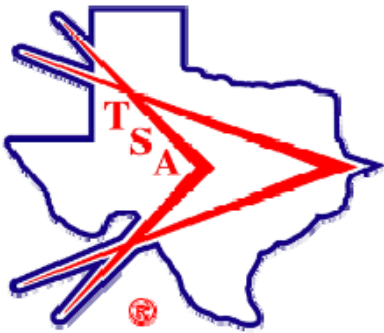


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State Leadership Conference

Another state leadership has passed, and things seem to get better and better. This year's theme was based off the game show Survivor. The students that participated were split into different countries and traveled to each of their challenges as a team. There were different breakout sessions covering trust, teamwork, communication, and Stanley's Ice Breaker. As the countries traveled to a new obstacle, they gained valuable wisdom in how to become a great leader and team member. There was even time in their quest to have some free time to get to know each other better. The Survivor theme also served as a reminder, to every Texas TSA member, of the devastation cancer can cause to anyone, anywhere, at anytime. As you all know, Texas has a goal to raise double of what we raised last year for the American Cancer Society. We are off to a great start by the donations and money raised from the BINGO night. The Snuggly and Hello Kitty Sandwich Maker were some of the great prizes up for grabs and big hits among the students. We raised about \$444. Then Zach, a member of the Texas TSA Leadership Team, and a few brave souls told the entire assembly how cancer affected their life through family members. As always, the food, housing, and hospitality were outstanding. We can't thank the Texas Lions Camp enough for being the home of the Texas TSA Leadership Conference. If you were not able to attend the best leadership yet, that's okay. You always have next year, and we have state contest and nationals coming up. Have a stumping good time participating in your local TSA chapters to raising money for ACS and working on state contests; see you at the 2010 Texas TSA State Contest.

-Jeremy



Stanley Wyre a former national officer was our guest speaker this year at the statewide leadership in December



TSA Alumni

Like many of you my high school career is nearing its conclusion but I look back on my experiences in TSA with great pride and appreciation. Walking the stage this coming May or June doesn't mean that your TSA involvement must also come to an end. In fact there are a variety of opportunities to continue participating and supporting TSA through college and even into your career! The National TSA Alumni Association is a group that helps facilitate service to the association by our former members. Through this group former members can serve in a wide range of capacities such as advisors at the local, state, and national level, judges, and event coordinators. This year at state contest in Waco, there will be an alumni mixer for current TSA Alumni and for those graduating seniors hoping to return next year as TSA Alumni. Information regarding joining the National TSA Alumni Association will be available as well. This event and others held at the National Conference in Baltimore, MD, are just the first step in continuing your TSA career. Over the past four years, TSA has become a defining aspect in my life and like many of you I can't imagine graduating and never looking back. I encourage you to come meet current members of TSA Alumni at state contest and look into the ways you can stay involved. Remember once in TSA, ALWAYS in TSA!



-Chelsea

How to become a State Officer



Hey yall! Its that time of year again, State Officer Nominations. If you are interested in becoming an office ask yourself these questions. Can I explain, to a complete stranger (in professional dialogue), the purpose of Texas TSA? Are you able to convey to others the way your program benefits our society? Will Texas TSA be your top priority in your school and around the state? Will you be able to miss 10 class days during the school year for Texas TSA business and still maintain your grade point average? Are you willing to travel across the state for leadership training and to promote Texas TSA? Will you be able to attend all the Texas TSA events for Texas on the dates indicated on the attached tentative agenda? Am I willing to serve on the Leadership Team if I do not get elected? If you answered yes to most or all of these questions all you need to have the packet that explains in detail what you need to have to become an officer. It'll include all the dates you'll miss during school. It will also explain the code of conduct in being an office, your duties and your responsibilities as an officer. I've had so much fun this year helping fellow students plan all the conferences for yall. Now its your turn to help make TSA greater than ever. I hope to see you at State in Waco!!

Leadership is the art of getting some one else to do something you want d one because he wants to do it.

~Dwight Eisenhower

-Morgan

American Cancer Society



As each of you know, our major charitable project in TSA is the American Cancer Society. At the State Leadership Conference we raised \$444. This year we are still selling yellow wooden roses as part of our fundraiser. We will be selling them at State Contest in Waco in time for Mother's Day. We want each of you to help so that we can make a difference. Our goal last year was \$7,000 and we met that goal. This year our goal is to raise at least \$15,000. If you think about it, we have over 10,000 members in TSA (not including advisors) and if we each donated at least \$2 dollars, that's over \$20,000 which is a lot higher than our goal. Texas TSA, let's show the community that we care!

-Melanie

State Contest

Hello Everybody!

Time for an update for the fast approaching TSA State Contest! The dates will be May 8th and 9th, and the place will once again be Waco, Texas. The competitions will be held at the Fairgrounds, the same location as last year. Hope you're putting the finishing touches on your projects, because the weekend is just around the corner. Hopefully there won't be any delays like last year's Swine Flu!

The events and schedule for this year will be given to the advisors soon. The events are similar to last year, and we will have three General Sessions.

We are lucky to have an open arena again, so meeting so be ready to come show your support because we will be voting on new officers. We will also be selling TSA t-shirts and Yellow Roses for the American Cancer Society Yellow Rose of Texas fundraiser. If you haven't helped your local chapter out with a fundraiser, it's not too late! The top three schools that raised the most money will be awarded at the end of the Contest.

Come prepared for a great time, and Good Luck to all contestants!

- Emily Hisel



Kristina

Howdy Texas TSA,

Texas TSA has been my second family for 5 years now. It will always hold a special place in my heart because it has taught me so many different things and it has shaped me into the person I have become today. I have served Texas TSA proudly for the last four years. Not everyone is as lucky as I am. I can remember my first state contest and how I saw the state officers. I knew right then that I wanted to be one when I was older.

My State officer experience started my 8th grade year. I had decided to run for Treasurer. I remember I was so nervous to have to say a speech in front of 500 students. I was sitting backstage and they were fixing to call my name, my heart rate started to increase. They called my name and I walked out on stage and said my speech the bad thing was I said it way too fast because I was so nervous. Later on my dad reassured me that I did fine. The last general session came for them to announce the 2006-2007 State Officer Team. I was so excited when my name was called. I felt so relieved. That year was so fun! It took me awhile to be comfortable around the other officers because I was the youngest. All of them except one was a senior, the other one was a junior. I remember how they would always talk about where they wanted to go to college and what they wanted to do. I would just sit there and listen.

The next year I decided to run for vice president for my sophomore year 2007-2008. This year was a little bit different. I had an opponent. The first year I ran unopposed. I knew that I was going to have to give it my all in my campaign. I ended up getting elected. This year threw a curve at me though because the president at the time Alyssa Gomez had decided to run for a national officer. It was fine that she was running but if she was elected that would mean that I would become president. She got elected and I became the president. I was overwhelmed at first because I was only a sophomore and I was going to lead over 1500 students. I feel as though I ended up doing a good job even though I wasn't sure how the year was going to turn out.

The following year I ran for secretary for my junior year 2008-2009. It was a different this year because I went from being the one who was in charge to stepping back and following someone else. It worked out just fine though.

My last year, I decided to run for president for my senior year 2009-2010. I wanted to go out big with Texas TSA. I got elected. The only thing different about this year was that I was also going to try to run for a national office. The only reason I wasn't sure about running for a national office was my fear of public speaking. I finally realized that if I didn't at least try it that I might regret it later in my life. I sent in my application in and got an acceptance notification. I started planning right after that. It takes a lot of hard work to run for a national office because you have to spend time making stuff to hand out and preparing the best speech you could possibly give. My family, friends, and I spent countless hours preparing. Everybody wanted me to do my best and they were willing to help me at any cost. The time finally came for nationals. I was so nervous when I had to go on stage just to introduce my name, what office I was running for, and my campaign slogan. The following day I had to give my speech. I had practiced so hard before I left and I had it memorized. I did write some hints to help me out on my speech if I got nervous and couldn't remember. I got up there and started talking I was extremely nervous but somehow I wasn't nervous anymore. I ended up doing the best I had ever done at giving a speech. When it was almost over I remember looking at my dad and he had the biggest smile on his face. I could tell I had done a good job. After we said our speech we had meet the candidates, where anyone could come up and ask us any question they wanted. Believe me I got some pretty out there questions. Even though I didn't get elected I was ok with that because I was still Texas TSA's President and that was ok with me. I wouldn't have traded that experience for anything in the world!

This year has been one of the best years I wouldn't want to go out my senior year with any other team. I have truly been blessed to be able to serve you. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart to have given me a chance to serve this wonderful organization for 4 years.

-Kristina

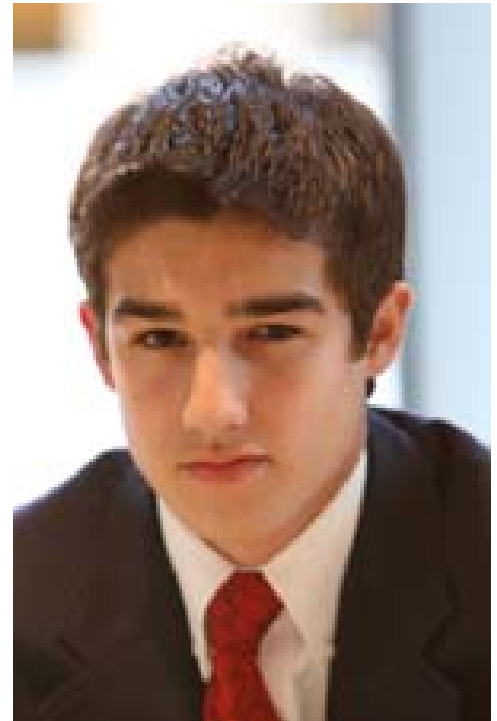


"Don't tell people how to do things, tell them what to do and let them surprise you with their results."

-George S. Patton

Candidate for President

Hello, my name is Zach Ludolph and I am running for your Texas TSA president. I stand here today still in awe of the amazing future TSA has provided us and the future we shape daily. I have heard your voices, seen the impact TSA has made on many lives, and realized the potential this organization truly contains. As students of today, we must be boldly striving to shape our future and the future of the world for tomorrow. I am only one student, but you are many. I present my case not to only lead you, but to be the voice of Texas TSA, and to serve that cause well. I believe in a Texas TSA that impacts the lives of many; not including our own students, but the lives of our very own state. It is indeed time for this organization to actively shape the fate of a vast society. As Texas state president, I hope to reach that goal, and leave a precedent for the future leaders to actively grow upon shaping the future of a generation yet to be. This is not the president's duty, but the duty of all of us. Let us boldly shape Texas.



Candidate for Vice-President



Hi my name is Kaitlin Cook and I have been an active member of TSA for four years. This past year I had the honor and privilege of serving you on the State Leadership Team. This opportunity helped me to develop as a leader and discover the importance of teamwork and communication. It has been an exciting experience working with the state officer team planning the leadership conference, working on the state newsletters, and the Yellow Rose of Texas ACS campaign.

In addition to serving on the State Leadership Team, I have been very active in both of my chapters. I have been a member of Nolan Richardson Middle School Chapter and Chapin High School Chapter. I have competed at the Regional, State and National level. I am very dedicated to this great organization and would like to share with you my dedication and enthusiasm for Texas TSA.

Robert Greenleaf said "Good leaders must first become good servants". I am asking for the opportunity to serve you as the next 2010-2011 State Vice President.

Candidate for Secretary



For the past year I have served as part of the Texas State Leadership Team. I have witnessed the procedures, planning and meetings the state officer team must have to keep this great Texas TSA organization running smoothly. Experiencing the swift pace and actions of the State Officer team has been one of the greatest learning experiences of my life. On top of this, I serve as the baseball representative for the Student Athletic Leadership Council at my High School. This group is a selected number of student athletes that work to keep the school sports program organized, pronounced and respected. Always looking for a way to pay back to the community is what we do every day.

In any leadership situation, experience is the greatest factor that will determine a good leader. I have led with the best and have learned how to be better.

Candidate for Reporter

Hello Texas TSA! My name is Travis Welborn and I am running for your 2010-2011 State Reporter. Since beginning my TSA career as a freshman, I have had the privilege to attend many conferences with TSA as well as represent our state at the National Conference the past two years in Orlando and Denver. As our chapters Reporter, I assist our club by keeping our publications and latest news up to date and to keep our members informed on the latest within our club. I am the editor and runner of our website, blog, Twitter, and Facebook group. I also was appointed to be our chapters Fundraising Chairman where I assist in organizing the orders we receive as well as teaching our members how to properly use the equipment necessary to make our products. With these qualifications you can see my skills used in my office and I hope you have the confidence to support me. Thank you.



Candidate for Treasurer



As a little girl in first grade, every little thing fascinated me when I came to TSA Competitions. Though I could not compete yet, I was filled with excitement and wonder every new competition that came along. I would watch, with many questions in mind all the competitions. All of these new things sparked an interest and inspiration in me. I want all TSA members to be able to experience the excitement, the teamwork, the inspiration, and the friendship that comes with TSA. I want to be able to work with TSA to help everyone see beneath the surface TSA isn't just a technological competition, but it is also a chance to be creative, make new friends, and spread diversity throughout the world as we all grow into adults. I ask for your support to be able to spread this understanding through all members of TSA.

Thank you, Brittany Zimmerman your candidate for Texas TSA Treasurer

Candidate for Sergeant-at-Arms



"Everyday do something that will inch you closer to a better tomorrow."

Doug Firebaugh

Fellow TSA members, the reason most of us join is because we all have great goals set for our futures. The Technology Students Association is a powerful vehicle to reach our destinations; however, it alone cannot take us all the way to the top. To attain that success one must take further actions and work hard from day to day.

My mission is to help better TSA, and, in part, to better myself. I have been to many leadership conferences in and outside of TSA; moreover, I plan to use all the skills that I have learned and the lessons in perseverance I have taken to heart in being a TSA member. Never forgetting the words that the most memorable keynote speaker at the Presidential Inaugural Conference, Desmond Tutu; my work ethic is always at a high. Helping others out when needed, I plan to be the best I can be.

The phrase "Tomorrow Starts Today" is a statement to remind us that we will be the leaders of tomorrow. I promise to work hard, and will be grateful for all of your support.

Would you like to be on the State Leadership Team?

Texas TSA continues to strive to provide Leadership Education And Development for the members of the association. Please consider joining the Texas TSA State Leadership team. There are a limited number of spaces on the team for the 2010-2011 school year. Applications are on the Texas TSA website or you can follow the link provided here. Applications need to be submitted at the upcoming State Contest for consideration for next years team.

[L.E.A.D. Application](#)

Sincerely,

Curtis Green, Texas TSA State Officer Coordinator
Texas Technology Students Association

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