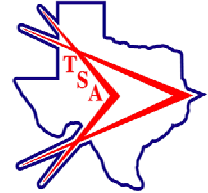


Texas Technology Student Association

Howdy ya'll!

We want to welcome you back for another wonderful year with Texas TSA. In this newsletter we will inform you about the Statesman Programs, State and National Conferences, Rulebook changes and the Statewide Leadership Conference. You will also find out how to get involved with your chapter with ideas for local chapter activities, fundraisers and information on the ACS program. We hope all of you are looking forward to this year as much as we are.



The Statesman and Achievement Programs



This year we offer some programs that can help you know more about TSA and earn personal recognition. The two programs are the Statesman Program and the Achievement Program.

The **Statesman Program** is for students to display how much knowledge they have about Texas TSA. There are two different degrees, the **Lone Star Degree** and the **Texan Degree**. Each of these degrees have their own requirements to be able to achieve this level. The **Lone Star Degree** may be taken at any of the regional conferences by taking a test about your knowledge of Texas TSA and making a 70 or higher on the test. The **Texan Degree** may be earned at the state conference after achieving the **Lone Star Degree**. By taking a more difficult test on your knowledge of Texas TSA and scoring an 80 or higher.

The **Achievement Program** has 3 levels **Bronze, Silver, Gold**. Each level must have 100 points in the four areas listed in the Achievement Booklet. The four areas include Leadership Development, Understanding Technology, School and Community Services, and Chapter and Personal Planning. After using one of these items listed in an area used to obtain the points they can't be used again. This program is designed to help the students grow in their service and knowledge of TSA. To obtain the Achievement Booklet go to www.texastsa.org and click on the "Achievement Recognition" link.

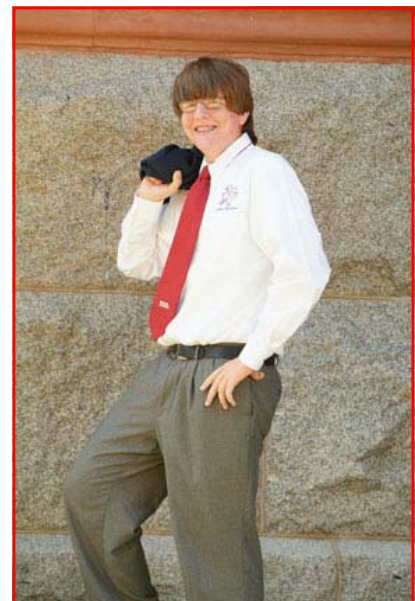
Your President,
Kristina Worley

State and National Conferences

First off, I would like to congratulate everyone's achievements at State and National competition and hope that you all had a good time. For more experience in some of these events, please come to our State Leadership Conference in December. The dates for the statewide leadership are December 6th, 7th & 8th this year and will be held at the Texas Lions Club Camp in Kerrville, Texas. Here we will be having break-out sessions that will help you work on qualities such as leadership, responsibility, and other attributes. As you may or may not know, Texas received a plaque for having the most high school chapters this year at the National Conference. Next year we hope to have even MORE chapters and continue to have the most chapters in the

nation. This year's State Contest will be held in Waco Texas on May 8-10. The National Contest will be held in Orlando Florida on June 28 through July 2. I hope that you succeed at these events and do the absolute best you can do to represent Texas and keep its good name. Best of luck to you in the rest of your school year!

Your Reporter,
Philip Green



State Leadership Conference



As we prepare to enter another exciting year of competition, I'd like to remind you all of the importance of establishing leadership within your chapters. Leadership is necessary to maintain a cohesive team, to achieve set goals, and to inspire others. All these aspects are what will take Texas TSA above and beyond. I believe that with the many leaders Texas creates, we will continue to leave our mark wherever we go.

Texas TSA is proud to have so many opportunities for our members including an annual leadership conference. For the 2007-2008 year, our leadership training will once again be held in the Texas Lions Club Camp in Kerrville. Chapters are encouraged to arrive early to enjoy the facility's many features. These facilities include hiking trails, tennis courts, and miniature golf. Registration will be held on Thursday, December 6th. The expected cost this year will be \$80.00 a person and includes four meals and lodging. The conference will conclude on Saturday, December 8th and is expected to be better than in previous

years.

Special guest speaker, Patrick George has delivered over 1,500 motivational presentations at conferences, colleges and schools throughout the United States and Canada. He has appeared in the Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel and other publications. Patrick also publishes an annual newsletter that he sends to past clients, students and potential clients. This newsletter is available free through his website www.patrick-george.com In addition to our very own officers, National TSA Vice President Alyssa Gomez will be hosting a breakout session.

I encourage everyone to participate in this conference. I know that all those in attendance will gain valuable leadership skills, lifetime memories, and new friendships that keep our Texas TSA strong and far above the rest. See you in Kerrville!

Your State Treasurer,
Judith Ha

Fundraising, Community Service, and Social Activities

TSA is an organization that is composed of not only competition and conferences, but also, fundraising, community service, and social activities. Local chapters engage in these activities that help contribute to members as well as everyday individuals from our communities.

Fundraising is an important factor that contributes to success. Any possible way of raising funds will be very beneficial to your chapter. Some ways of fundraising include pens, baked goods, food, and candy sales. Remember, each penny counts and is greatly appreciated.

TSA is also about helping others. community service makes it possible to assist our people and our community. Christmas caroling and spending time with elderly in an adult day care are great ways of helping out others in need. As a chapter, you can also adopt a family and provide the essential items to their home. "Relay for Life" is one of TSA's main focuses and creating an American Cancer Society walk can be beneficial.

Chapters can also help their environment by planting trees and picking up trash in their community. Remember, the feeling of helping somebody is larger than anything else in the world.

Having fun as a chapter is also fundamental for the participation of your chapter members. Guest speakers can be an asset to your chapter to help promote dedication and effort. Ice breaking games make members feel comfortable with one another. Celebrating accomplishments can make the chapter feel appreciated and others to set their standards up high. Remember, it is not only about hard work, it's about enjoying your time as a TSA member.

These local chapter activities are what make up the Technology Student Association. It is up to you and your chapter to get the best out of it.

Your Secretary,
Adriana Elizondo



Rulebook Changes



Last July, many technology teachers and the State Officer Team were able to attend the Annual State Technology Teacher Professional Development Conference. During this conference, the Texas TSA Board of Directors met for their Summer Board Meeting. The meeting discussed multiple issues about the current and past years, but one of the most important decisions of the meeting was the Texas TSA Rulebook. Because of the complication of the current TSA rulebook, the Board voted for a proposal to reform the Rulebook. Many students and teachers would agree that the rulebook is not in the best shape, when the advisors voted, the final vote was 101 for and 69 against, and so the Board chose to adopt the proposal written by Mr. Ricky Broussard for the revision of the rulebook. The proposal states that the rulebook would be organized into a category system instead of a course based organization. In other words, instead of the competitions being grouped into a manufacturing systems class, all of the woods would be in one category, or all of the metals would be in one category. Along with dividing the competitions into categories, they will also divide the categories into levels. Level one, high school, would be for those who have NOT completed two courses. Level two high school, would be for those who HAVE completed two courses, or are working on an independent study course. It is the same idea for middle

school except that they will only be separated by one year.

In revising the rulebook the class based projects will be eliminated. This means that members can do any project they want, even if they are not in that specific class. The Board's goal is to reduce the number of projects that have little to no entries and maximize the number of entries in the other projects.

The "new" categories for the high school rulebook will be:

- Wood
- Metal
- CNC
- Other Materials
- Construction Modeling & Design
- Photography
- Multimedia
- Communication & Print Media
- Applied Technical Science
- Drafting & CAD

Your Vice President,
Julia Williams

American Cancer Society

In TSA, besides competition we also show the kind of organization we are by helping the American Cancer Society. We as a whole take part in the "Relay For Life" and fundraise for this project. Around the country the TSA chapters raised more than \$44,000 to help contribute for the vital research, education, advocacy, and patient services. Last year at the National Conference we participated in a "Relay For Life", and had luminaries in honor or memory of someone touched by cancer. Next year at the National Conference again we will recognize the chapters and states that raise money. We learn that many of us have something in common and it's a great joy to see that we're there for each other. TSA is a BIG family that is waiting for you!

Your Sgt. At Arms,
Katia Gutierrez



Thank You TSA!



Contact Information

State Officers

Kristina Worley

katwalk10@msn.com

Julia Williams

ctownjewels09@yahoo.com

Adriana Elizondo

adrieli990@hotmail.com

Judith Ha

ah_nusij@yahoo.com

Katia Gutierrez

Philip Green

solovedtheworld@gmail.com

Advisors

Pam Cook

pkcook@episd.org

Curtis Green

cgreen@wisd.org