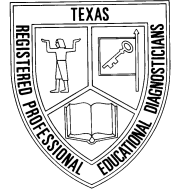


UPDATE



New Board Members Sought for 2017

Have you considered serving on the TPED Board? It will soon be election time, with three positions to be filled for terms beginning in January, 2017. We are looking for three practicing registered educational diagnosticians. Why should you consider serving on the Registry Board? Serving on the TPED Board is an excellent way to have a substantial and ongoing influence in the educational community. It provides an opportunity to learn from other perspectives and draw from a rich pool of expertise in the field of educational assessment. In addition to valuable professional benefits, relationships are formed through Board service that last through the years. If you are interested in serving on the board or you know of anyone who might be interested, please submit a brief biography to Deb Hawkins at debhawk1995@live.com for consideration by the Board. Members will receive membership ballots through the mail this summer for terms beginning January 1, 2017.

Diagnosticians and Time Management

Strategies to Increase Productivity and Decrease Stress:

As educational diagnosticians we are constantly on the go and “multi-tasking”. *We start one task*, but before we’re finished an email or phone call *interrupts us* and we’re on to something else. These interruptions rob us of precious time and *create unneeded stress* and anxiety. Practicing these strategies can bring order to your day and add minutes back on your clock.

1. *Spend time at the end of the day to schedule the next day.* Consider having your schedule coincide with the school’s bell schedule. As teachers we developed lesson plans and as diagnosticians we need to maintain similar structure. Mark off ARD times and then schedule in testing and report writing. You’re more likely to complete a task if it’s written down.
2. *Set specific times of the day to check and respond to emails.* Having email alerts or instant messaging pop-up while report writing interrupts our Working Memory which (as RegPed’s know) is necessary for effective written communication.
3. *Let phone calls go to voice mail.* Answering the phone when you’re scoring a protocol or report writing takes you away from the task at hand. Check your messages at specific times and return the call when you can be fully present.
4. *Place a Do Not Disturb sign outside your door when you absolutely have to get something completed.* While it’s important to be available to staff members, respecting your time is vital to performing duties assigned.

Legislative Report



Legislation Notables 2015-2016

<http://www.tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Education-84th-final-bill-track.pdf>

Campus/District A-F Ratings HB 2804 requires the commissioner to rate districts and campuses on an A-F scale (an overall grade and also grades for each domain). The bill delays implementation of A-F for campuses and districts to 2017-18 (Under HB 5, the A-F district ratings were to begin in 2016-17.)

Educator Input into IEP SB 1259 requires that each district develop a process to be used by a teacher who instructs a student with a disability in a regular classroom setting to provide input into the student's IEP. *The bill provides that the regular education teacher who serves on a student's ARD committee should be one who is responsible for implementing a portion of the student's IEP.*

PE Curriculum for Students With Disabilities

HB 440 requires the physical education curriculum to meet the needs of students who have a disability, including a mental disability.

Campus Behavior Coordinator SB 107 requires the designation of an administrator on each campus as a campus behavior coordinator who is responsible for maintaining student discipline, implementing progressive discipline management techniques as appropriate, and promptly notifying parents of major sanctions such as suspension, DAEP placement or expulsion.

Video Cameras in Special Ed Classrooms SB 507 requires a school district or open-enrollment charter school to provide video equipment for a special education classroom upon request of a parent of a student in that classroom (starting in 2017-18). Districts may solicit gifts, grants, and donations from any person for use in placing such video cameras. The bill includes specifics about archival, confidentiality, etc.

Minutes of Instruction/School Calendar HB 2610 requires a school district, starting in 2015-16, to provide at least 75,600 minutes of instruction, including intermissions and recesses, rather than 180 days. The commissioner could approve reduced instruction time under certain circumstances causing school closure; if the commissioner does not, a district could add additional minutes to the end of the normal school hours as necessary to compensate for minutes lost due to closure. *A day of instruction is defined as 420 minutes. A school district cannot schedule the last day of school for students for a school year before May 15.* A district that does not offer each grade level and that has prospective or former students who generally attend school in another state for the grade levels the district does not offer may schedule the last day on any date permitted under this provision or the law of the other state.

Truancy HB 2398 makes significant changes to statutes relating to truancy. It decriminalizes truancy and requires school districts to implement truancy prevention measures. The bill also requires the expungement of all documents and records of a truancy conviction. It creates a new civil process to deal with truancy matters. It requires TEA to adopt rules regarding standards and best practices for truancy prevention measures and for sanctions if a school district fails to comply with the provisions in the bill.

Legislative Report (continued)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES 2016

Dates of Interest

85th Legislature convenes - January 10, 2017

85th Legislature adjourns - May 29, 2017

How to Stay Informed of the Legislative Process

When in session, check out the Texas Legislature Online (TLO) home page, which will include the time that the House and Senate are scheduled to convene each day.

Methods to view introduced legislation include:

Legislative Reports - View list of bills filed in the House or Senate

Bill Status - View the current status and legislative history for a bill

Text Search - Find bills with specific content.

Subject Search - Find bills on a specific subject using the bill search or the subject index.

You can create a personal bill list and receive e-mail notification as the status changes on bills you chose to watch at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/MnuMyTLO.aspx>

Who Represents Me?

Find out who represents you in the Texas Senate, Texas House of Representatives, the Texas delegation to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the State Board of Education at <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/>



Communication with our State Representatives and State Senators is key for TPED members!

- *Call their office, make an appointment to meet them the next time you are in Austin*
- *Know your area State Representative - Find your Representative - house.state.tx.us*
 - *Contact their aides, who keep track of Bills - hro.house.state.tx.us*
 - *Ask to be added to their e-mail updates*

TPED Registry Exam Information

The TPED Registry Exam will be administered at Texas Tech College of Education, *Lubbock* April 30, *Lewisville* ISD June 11, and *Houston* ESC 4 June 17. Sixteen applicants are approved to take the TPED Registry exam at one of the *three testing sites*.

The Texas Professional Educational Diagnosticians' Board of Registry Examination consists of 100 multiple choice questions plus additional questions. The exam is based on the SBEC Standards for Educational Diagnosticians and the CEC Advanced Standards for Educational Diagnosticians.

Please go to the TPED website to *register for the 2017 exam*. Exam dates and administration sites to be determined. The Registry Exam study guide reflecting the current state standards and competencies will be forwarded upon registration for the exam at www.regped.com.

The Future of Continuing Education

As we look at our busy schedules and the wave of the future, *we have many options for continuing education*.

So far 2015-16 has been a busy year and it appears that will continue through the end of the school year and into the summer. Last year the *TPED Board* voted to use *alternative methods for training* since Symposium was not available this year. While our participation numbers were not as high as hoped, compared to the last two or three Symposiums, *participation in this new format has been good*. Thirty-five members attended the *WJ-IV, Dyslexia* webinar, twelve attended the *UNIT 2* webinar, and forty-seven attended the *C-SEP* webinars. For the most part, responses to our surveys were very positive. *Special thanks go to Riverside/HMH* for partnering with us on these webinars.

TPED is hoping to once again *partner with Riverside/HMH* to provide members with *additional webinars* as they become available. While these webinars are free to all, the only way to *get CPE's* is through registration and our *co-host's continued cooperation*. We are also hoping to offer similar training opportunities from *Pearson* and hope to have information from them soon. As my time on the Board is soon coming to an end, I would like the membership to *let me know which areas would interest you for continuing ed in the future*. msmoon305@sbcglobal.net

TPED is now on Facebook! Keep up with the latest Registry news by becoming part of our FB Community. Use the following link or search "TPED Excellence". You'll be glad you did.

<https://www.facebook.com/TPEDExcellence>



Contact Us

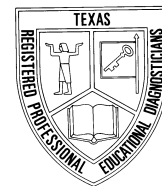
TPED/
Board of Registry
PO Box 53661
Lubbock, TX 79453
(806) 853-9399

debhawk1995@live.com
www.regped.com

Chair Report

The TPED Board of Registry met on April 7—8, 2016 at the Embassy Suites Love Field in Dallas, Texas. The following members were present:

Jeanna Miller, Chairperson
Debbie Rollins, Vice Chair
Lisa Horton, Treasurer
Leslie Flisowski, Secretary
Georgene Moon, Continuing Education Chair
Sarah Johnston, Legislative Chair
Janna Brendle, Credentials Chair



The Board was assisted by Debra Hawkins, Administrative Assistant.

The Board reviewed applications and approved a total of 16 applicants for the exam. **TPED Board members congratulate these applicants on completing this phase of the process.** The Board reviewed and updated current policies and procedures, approved the annual budget, and approved contracts for independent providers. *TPED will again have a table at TEDA conference this year in October. TPED members, stop by the table for your member gift!* We are looking forward to working closely with TPED members this year.

Preparing for a HARD ARD

Have a difficult ARD meeting coming up? While they can be stressful and time consuming, many difficult ARD meetings can be less-difficult by avoiding some common mistakes, improving our relationships with parents, and understanding the dynamics created by the ARD process.

Be proactive in developing relationships with parents, building trust through active communication and collaboration during the school year.

Prior to the ARD meeting, meet with parents. Share strengths of the student. Listen to their concerns. Ensure parent concerns are addressed in proposed IEP documents.

Hold a staffing with all ARDC members. Discuss present levels, proposed actions, and parent concerns. Talk through scenarios and possible options.

Provide IEP members necessary documents before the meeting for their review (i.e. FIE, proposed goals/objectives, proposed accommodations, etc). This allows each to be an active participant.

Provide an agenda of the ARD meeting to all members. Follow the agenda. Seek first to understand the parent perspective. Ask open-ended questions. Validate their feelings when possible. Be approachable and respectful.

Create an inclusive environment by explaining acronyms and educator language throughout the meeting.

Be flexible and willing to make changes that are in the student's best interest.

Texas Registered Professional Educational Diagnosticians

*“NOT JUST
COMPETENCE ...
EXCELLENCE”*

Application Packets can be requested by visiting
www.regped.com

Completed packets due by March
15th

*Check our website for
Continuing Education information
and to purchase
TPED merchandise*