



Student Teacher Newsletter

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June 2010

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Make the Most of Your Student Teaching Experience!

You're almost there. Graduation is so close you can taste it. But before you get ready to toss your cap into the air, there's one more hurdle for you, perhaps the most important: Student Teaching. Here are some tips for a successful (and worth-while) student teaching experience:

- Take ownership of your training and let your cooperating teacher know your expectations upfront.
- Be professional. When speaking with your cooperating teacher, do so with respect.
- Follow the school rules! This might seem obvious but it is important that you do not break the rules your position helps to

enforce. If it is against the rules to chew gum in class, then do not chew it yourself.

- Treat the students as if you are the actual teacher. Many students try to become friends with you first. Give them reason to respect you as a teacher, too.
- Go everywhere with your cooperating teacher! Sit in on parent/teacher conferences. This is all part of teaching and you should have experience with this also!
- Always try your best! If you are doing your best whether or not someone is watching it won't be as scary when they are!
- Ask if you can integrate some of your own

teaching or class management skills. Your cooperating teacher might just learn a new technique from you!

- Get student input about your lessons. If you aren't sure how your lesson went, ask one or two students what they thought. Sometimes they have wonderful suggestions!
- Always plan too much. It's better to have too much planned than to have the students sitting there with nothing to do.
- Befriend the Office Staff (especially if you believe you will be staying in the area). They can make your time during student teaching much easier to handle. Don't underestimate their worth.)

Various contributors

Tip From a TAMUK Teacher

What advice would you give aspiring TAMUK educators? I remember the wisdom of my mentor teacher who taught me to be firm during the first two weeks of school. She always told me to learn to give a little and enjoy being with the kids when you can, but not during the

first two weeks. She said that is the time you establish respect, authority, and control over the classroom environment, and until you have that, you should stay firm. She also said "Junior high students are special. In elementary school, kids don't care what you know, they just want to know

you love them. High school students don't really care if you like them or not, they want to know what you know. But in junior high, they want to know what you know AND they want to know you love them."

~Jessica Hester, Alumni, Teacher, and Doctoral Candidate

TEA Updates

Certificate Production

Effective September 1, 2010, the Texas Education Agency will no longer mail printed certificates. A "printer-friendly" copy of the certificate will be accessible online. This version of the certificate will be a document suitable for framing.

The representation of a person's certificate status as maintained on the TEA website is considered to be the official record of educator certification.

Certificate Deletion

Educators who wish to obtain certificates that are scheduled for deletion in fall 2011 **must meet all certification requirements by August 31, 2011.**

Candidates who complete all requirements on or before August 31, 2011, must apply online and be recommended by an educator preparation program no later than October 30, 2011. These deadlines will be strictly enforced.

Certificates Scheduled for Deletion in Fall 2011:

1. Bilingual Supplemental EC-4
2. Bilingual Supplemental 4-8
3. Bilingual Generalist EC-4
4. ESL Generalist EC-4
5. Generalist EC-4
6. Spanish 6-12
7. French 6-12

Please see Daniella G. Varela, Certification Officer at Rhode Hall 117 if you have questions or for more information.

New for You! Performance-based Academic Coaching Team

Dr. Irma Harper, Texas A&M University System

Students in certification programs may now take advantage of the Performance-based Academic Coaching Team (PACT) System website! Designed by the Texas A&M University System and funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the PACT system (not to be confused with PACT testing) is designed to help you, the new teacher.

Being on the front line can be intimidating and lonely which makes having immediate support and guidance valuable to you as you begin your teaching career. You will be able to access immediate teacher helps, teaching resources,

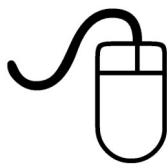
discussion boards, and an electronic mentor. The e-Mentors are hand selected experienced teachers. They are trained and have signed a confidentiality form stating that no information about individual students will be released. The e-Mentors will be available by email from 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Explore the site. Post a question. Read our Quick Helps. The system needs will be continually upgraded with new materials based on reflections and feedback you give us.

Students can also benefit from certification test review sessions! Please contact TAMUK-ACP staff at 361-593-4051 if you are interested, and to request access to the PACT site.

PACT Website:

tap.tarleton.edu/pact



*Keep up with us
online at
education.tamuk.edu*

**Performance-based
Academic Coaching Teams**



COE Around Campus: What's Up at TAMUK

Lots More Teachers!

The College of Education Office of Student Services is proud to announce the certification of 178 new teachers, principals, and school counselors this Spring! Congratulations to our Alumni and ACP completers, and best of luck in your new careers!

University Ranks in List of Top 50

Texas A&M University-Kingsville is ranked 7th in the nation for agriculture degrees awarded to Hispanics, according to the May 2010 issue of *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine*. The university is also included among the top 50 universities granting bachelor's degrees to Hispanics. According to the list, A&M-Kingsville ranks 43rd.

"It is both gratifying and affirming that a national higher education publication has recognized the work that we do to promote educational access and opportunity," said A&M-Kingsville President Dr. Steven Tallant. "We are fortunate to have top-rate faculty, staff and students who make accomplishments like this possible."

TAMUK's College of Education Has a New Name!

The College of Education at Texas A&M University-Kingsville has a new name—one that better reflects some of the most popular programs in the college. Its new name—the College of Education and Human Performance—will highlight the role the college plays in training both future teachers and human performance professionals.

The change follows a national trend for education colleges. Texas A&M University System Board of Regents approved the change during a meeting May 28. The change will not impact the college's programs or administration

Distinguished Students Honored at Spring Commencement

Five graduates at Texas A&M University-Kingsville's spring commencement ceremony received the Distinguished Undergraduate Student. Only one bachelor's degree student from each college receives the award.



Students must be a graduating senior with no less than 60 credit hours earned at Texas A&M-Kingsville, have at least a 3.5 grade point average and must be involved in extracurricular activities.

This spring's recipients are Miriam Elizabeth Villanueva, College of Arts and Sciences; Alix Linley Ball, Dick and Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences; Melissa St.Clair, College of Business Administration; Dyana Lee Bullinger, College of Education; and Francis Ehisuoria Musa, Frank H. Dotterweich College of Engineering.

Outstanding Students, Future Educators Named

The Dick and Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences at Texas A&M University-Kingsville recently held its annual awards program. Our congratulations to Kelsey Fort, a senior from Seguin majoring in Agriculture Science with teaching certification and to Amber White, a senior from Glen Rose. White is pursuing a degree/ certification Family and Consumer Sciences Education.

Articles as featured on TAMUK News Website

**TE_xES Practice
Test**

June 19

8:30 AM

Rhode Hall 122

**Sign up at OSS
today or call**

361-593-4051