

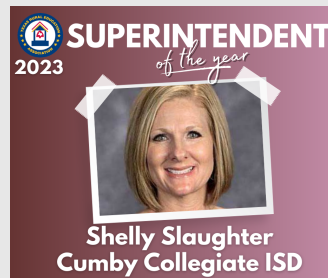
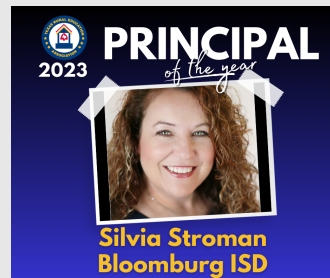


TEXAS RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# NEWSLETTER

Leadership | Advocacy | Sustainability

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## 2023 Of the Year (OTY) Winners Announced

Wow what an amazing group of nominees and finalists we had this year. Congratulations to the finalists and the winners, they made the review committee's job very difficult. We look forward to celebrating the winners and finalists at the OTY Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, June 27 at Kalahari during TREA's Annual Summer Conference.

On behalf of TREA, we want to express our gratitude for their outstanding work and contributions to the education of rural kids in Texas. They truly have made a difference in the lives of their students and their community, and we are honored to recognize their achievements.

Again, congratulations to this entire group of finalists and winners. [Read](#) the official press release announcing the winners which you may use and share as needed. We look forward to seeing everyone at the TREA conference.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Teacher OTY

Kim New | Cherokee ISD

Principal OTY

Silvia Stroman | Bloomburg ISD

Superintendent OTY

Shelly Slaughter | Cumby Collegiate ISD

School Board OTY | Blue Ridge ISD

Tammy Phillips - President

Kevin Dauster - Vice President

Shelly Enloe - Secretary

Trustees: John Gauden, Gary Lillard, Tom Pierson,  
Phillip Pulliam, Matt Kimball-Superintendent

## Congratulations to all of the TREA 2023 Scholarship Winners!

Addy Bannowsky | Menard ISD

Aidan Miksch | Flatonia ISD

Ashley Perry | Edgewood ISD

Bethany Sims | Harmony ISD

Brayden Hernandez | Crowell ISD

Clare Wong | Queen City ISD

Cory Hamilton | Spur ISD

Elena Jurado | Childress ISD

Emma Conner | Clyde CISD

Gracie Aldridge | Redwater ISD

Hannah Collins | Huntington ISD

Logan Seidenberger | Glasscock  
County ISD

Madison Brumit | Kerens ISD

Mariana Salazar | Edna ISD

Marisol Hill | Milano ISD

Mikaela Haseloff | Muleshoe ISD

Paris Sanchez | Dawson ISD  
(Dawson)

Preston Pustejovsky | Abbott ISD

Reese Bassano | Prairiland ISD

Riley Bohl | Teague ISD



(Winners listed in  
alpha order by first name)

Jack Davis | Spearman ISD  
Joisalyn Tarno | Quitman ISD  
Juliana Cueva | Palestine ISD  
Kaden Morris | Aspermont ISD  
Kailey Washburn | Jasper ISD

Sarah Dacus | Harmony ISD  
Shayne Wollam | Palacios ISD

Read the official [Press Release here](#)  
announcing the winners which you  
may use and share as needed.

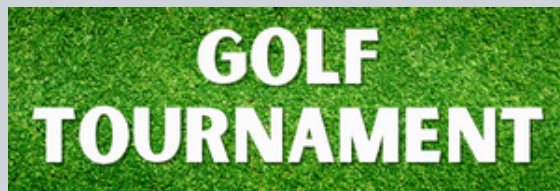
### TREA Summer Conference

Receive CE & Board Training Hours for Superintendents,  
District Staff, and School Boards during TREA 2023.



Photo from the 2022 Scholarship Banquet

### Golf Tournament June 26



**DEADLINE MAY 25**

Join the fun at Forest Creek Golf Club on Monday, June  
26 for the Putting Contest at 7:45am with the  
Tournament Tee Time at 8:30am. Breakfast, Lunch & 2  
drinks are included. Prizes will be awarded.

### Opportunity for Texas and rural school districts to be featured in an AASA Magazine story!



From Dr. Allen Pratt, NREA, Executive Director:

AASA is looking for the following information:

- Are there any initiatives in the works related to rural K-12 education and tele-health that have been around for at least a year that could potentially be spotlighted in the AASA magazine? What are the success stories and lessons learned?
- What relationships does the state affiliate have with public schools or with school leaders locally or statewide?
- What type of technical assistance (e.g., convenings, toolkits, grant-funded support) does the state affiliates provide to school districts around tele-health and/or mental health in schools?

If interested in submitting, contact Rebecca Shaw at  
[rebeshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rebeshaw@gmail.com).



With a record breaking year of 267 entries, TREA is pleased



Theme: Reflecting Back, Leading Forward

to announce the winners for the Student Art Contest Award Program. Each of the winners will be presented with a cash award. The winners' entries will be displayed during the TREA Summer Conference at Kalahari Resort in Round Rock on June 25-28, 2023. We want to thank all of the students and art teachers for their participation.

Read the official [Press Release here](#) announcing the winners which you may use and share as needed.

#### Grade Level 3-5

Jacey Seaman | Buna ISD | 1st Place  
Jaycee Cruz | Cushing ISD | 2nd Place  
Gentri Gooch | Groesbeck ISD | 3rd Place

#### Grade Level 6-8

Kendyl Wilson | Hubbard ISD | 1st Place  
Ella Graves | Cherokee ISD | 2nd Place  
Olive Mueller | Hitchcock ISD | 3rd Place

#### Grade Level 9-12

Ana Yzaguirre | Bynum ISD | 1st Place  
Omeira Bearss | Whitewright ISD | 2nd Place  
Dakota Silhan | Goliad ISD | 3rd Place

### TREA President & Board Member attend NREAC Trip to Washington

Last month, Bill Chapman (TREA Pres. & NREA Rep.) and Todd Williams (TREA Board Member & NREAC) traveled to Washington DC to participate in the NREAC (National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium) visit to the capitol. This event had NREA representatives from across the country meeting to focus on the legislative agenda for 2023. There were representatives from California, Tennessee, Kentucky, New York, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Maine.

On Monday, the delegation met with a series of individuals relating to issues pertinent to Rural Education. The day began with policy experts from New America and the Learning Policy Institute who focused on active legislation that is currently in the pipeline. They also addressed the reality that exists with the debate over the debt ceiling. Additionally, the group heard from several representatives from the Department of Education - Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. These staffers detailed the key priorities of Secretary Cardona. These include raising the academic bar, improving learning conditions, creating a globally competitive workforce, and student mental health. The group then heard from a representative from the Food and Research Action Center to address school nutrition issues. She detailed that there was some possible interest at the federal level to address CEP. In the afternoon, representatives from the Committee on Education Funding focused on reminding congress to not pull back unspent ESSER funds as they have been allocated, and that it is a big mistake to apply proposed spending caps or the arbitrarily cut budgets. These items were apparently being discussed during the debt ceiling talks. Julian Cunningham, the new USDE Director of Rural Engagement spoke to the group as to what her role is and took questions. She hopes to integrate herself in to Rural Ed and work with NREA and its members. The day wrapped up by a visit from Will McIntee, the White House senior Advisor for Public Engagement. He spoke of the White House's desire to assist Rural Schools.

On Tuesday the different NREAC representatives hit the capitol. Bill and Todd had meetings with four offices. They met with staffers in the office of Rep. Troy Nehls and Rep. Michael Cloud, and actually had meetings with Rep. Jake Ellzey and Rep. Nathaniel Moran. All of the offices were welcoming. The candor exhibited in the face to face meetings with Congressmen was quite surprising. Both of them were very supportive of rural schools. As a side note, rep. Moran's brother is currently the superintendent of Whitehouse ISD.

### Texas Rural School District Cohort Grant Application is Open!

No Kid Hungry Texas knows that rural school districts play an essential role in ensuring students receive the nutritious meals they need to reach their fullest potential. That's why No Kid Hungry Texas, in partnership with the Texas Rural Education Association, is inviting rural school districts to apply for a \$30,000 flexible grant that can be used to support federal child nutrition programs or community nutrition programs that help connect children with meals. Additionally, cohort members will be asked to participate in a school-year-long cohort which runs from August 2023 – May 2024 where members will meet bi-monthly (every other month) with other cohort members to network and share promising practices in feeding kids in their community.



APPLICATION DUE MAY 26, 2023

To learn more about eligibility and how to apply go to  
<https://state.nokidhungry.org/texas/resources/txruralcohort/>



### Welcome Demco | New Silver Sponsor

Demco is a time-tested brand with a single goal: help educators spark curiosity and ignite learning. From inspired furnishings and thoughtful space design to innovative learning tools and top-quality supplies and equipment, our products and services are designed to maximize the potential of educational spaces — and the people they serve. Learn more at [demco.com/about-us](https://demco.com/about-us).

### Welcome Artcobell | New Silver Sponsor

Artcobell. We are school furniture experts, transforming learning environments to transform learning. Built on +60 years of manufacturing expertise and led by a team of seasoned pros. We are: Texas-based and USA-made, flexible and responsive, consistently reliable, problem solvers, focused on designing and building furniture that supports teachers and students in today's learning environments. Experience our full line of K-12 school furniture, providing the tools to help schools navigate the demands of today's - and tomorrow's - learning strategies. [www.artcobell.com](https://www.artcobell.com)



### SMU District Leadership Fellows



### Deadline extended to June 30

Applications are now open for the 2023-2024 cohort of the SMU District Leadership Fellows program. Apply today to join the 2023-2024 cohort of SMU District Leadership Fellows and develop your leadership skills:

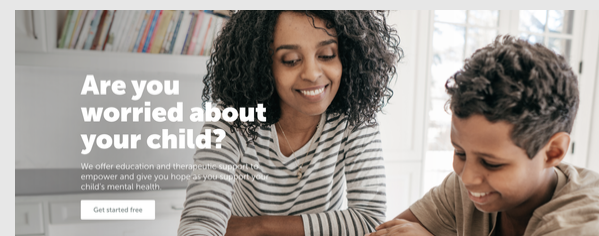
Early Bird Applications due March 31, 2023 | More Info Application: <http://bit.ly/DLF-2023-App>  
#SMUDistrictLeaders #WomenInLeadership  
#SuptChat #LeadershipDevelopment #edchat  
#SchoolLeaders

### Touching Base Newsletter | US Dept. of Ed.



Sign Up to Receive the  
[Touching Base Military Community Newsletter](#)

### ParentGuidance.ORG



[ParentGuidance.org](https://parentguidance.org) schools give their parents:



## TREA Job Board

Don't forget to use TREA's [Job Board](#) for any and all of your district/ESC postings. Use the code MEMBERJOB10 when entering your postings so you aren't charged for them.

- Free Online On-Demand Courses taught by licensed therapists
- District-Wide Introductory Family Mental Health Night hosted by experts
- Access to “Ask a Therapist” user submitted questions and clinician responses

## Legislative Update

If you are a current TREA Member District Superintendent and are not receiving the Legislative Update emails, please contact [Bonnie Walker](#).

It's a game changer for rural communities, where it is often difficult to get access to trusted mental health resources.

## TEXAS RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

7415 Southwest Pkwy Bldg 6, Ste 500 #243 | Austin, TX 78735 | [www.txrea.com](http://www.txrea.com)

Bill Tarleton  
Executive Director  
tel:254.602.2056  
[btarleton@txrea.com](mailto:btarleton@txrea.com)

Bonnie Walker  
Director of Operations  
tel:512.415.1646  
[bwalker@txrea.com](mailto:bwalker@txrea.com)

Kasey Hyde  
Coordinator of Member Services  
tel:877.567.8732 ext. 3  
[khylde@txrea.com](mailto:khylde@txrea.com)

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