

The Bandera PROPHEET

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TAFE Area 2 conference notes

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On Saturday, Dec. 3, Sherri Kelly, Medina High School's FCS instructor and I hosted the Area 2 TAFE (Texas Association of Future Educators) Conference at Bandera Middle School.

The conference brought together students from 16 high schools in our surrounding area such as Clark, Stevens, Floresville and East Central with over 200 students participating in competitive events.

With the invaluable help of numerous teachers and community volunteers as well as student helpers, this conference was a success!

Bandera and Medina have the majority of Area 2 officers with the President (Addyson Allen) and Historian (Kacey Breeden) from Bandera and the Vice President (Rachel Devora) and Secretary (Sienna Carter) are from Medina.

TAFE is an organization that is designed to promote and encourage the field of education. Students sign up to take on leadership roles within their community and state as well as having the option to compete in 42 different events.

The events consist of things like Children's Literature, Lesson Planning & Delivery, Interactive Bulletin Board and Job Interviews. Students choose an area that interests them and with the help of their teacher leader, create and compete to hopefully take their project all the way to the Nationals.

Our National Affiliate is Educators Rising, and for the past three years, I have had students advance as well as place at the National Level in events such as Inside Our School and Creative Lecture.

Our Ready, Set, Teach program at Bandera High School, where a large majority of my TAFE members come from, has grown and fostered some incredible learning opportunities for students to gain first hand experience in the classroom.

This year we had a record number of students compete and advance to state competition to include:

Addyson Allen: Educators Rising Moment

Avery Allen and Makayla Gonzales: Interactive Bulletin Board

Layne Bowman and Calie Tripp: Project Visualize

Zoe Servantes: Exploring NonCore Teaching

Riley Smith: Job Interview

Kacey Breeden and Julieta Hernandez: Children's Literature

In a world where public education is taking a hard hit and we are facing a massive teacher shortage, it is a beautiful thing to watch our students grow a love for teaching.

I am so happy and proud and it is a powerful role to play, guiding and shaping the next generation of educators right here in Bandera ISD.

We are excited to attend and compete at the Teach Tomorrow Summit that will take place in Round Rock on March 2-4.