

## **TACO Meeting Minutes**

**1:30 pm 27 October 2019 (@CSOTTE Fall Meeting)**

**Welcome:** Katheryn Hartshorn, 2019-2020 President

### **Approval of Minutes from 11 June 2019 Meeting:** Katheryn Hartshorn

- There was a discussion/questioning of the list of new members announced at the June meeting. It was speculated that some of those listed were actually retirees. President Hartshorn said she would investigate.
- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Laura Allen which was seconded by Caroline Bray.
- The TACO membership voted to unanimously approve the minutes.

### **New Members:**

New members were recognized from the:

- University of Dallas
- Schreiner University
- St. Edward's University
- University of Texas of the Rio Grande Valley
- Tarleton State University
- Region 19 Regional Service Center

### **Retirees:**

None

### **Classroom Grants Report:**

- 60 applicants from 14 Educator Preparation Programs
- Awarded 6 grants of \$250.00 each
- The committee will take applications in the summer with a 15 July 2020 deadline (*unsure of this deadline since that was the date for 2019*)

### **Project Give Back:**

Alto ISD was chosen

They were devastated by two back-to-back tornadoes earlier in the year

Motion from Sandra Parnell for TACO to donate \$500.00 and seconded.

The TACO membership unanimously agreed to make this donation.

### **Panel Discussion on TEA Audits by Misti Corn (Texas A&M Univ.) and Jean Hubbard (Sam Houston State Univ.):**

Questions asked included:

- EPPs need to state if they met or exceeded expectations – how is this determined?  
Misti and Jean said that this is determined by the EPP since the audit process is a time for EPP reflection. The evidence chart is helpful.

- What surprises occurred? Comment was made by Jean that programs in her EPP realized that there were reasons for the requests she had been making all along.
- What were you not prepared for? Comment was made to download the evidence chart – it was found to be very helpful.
- When should an EPP hear back from TEA? One group was audited in 2016 and still has not heard back. Frustration was expressed by several members about the timeline for feedback from TEA.
- Need for hard copies of documentation and/or electronic copies? Conflicting reports were provided by members.
- Comment was made that this time it didn't feel like a "got you" audit, but more of a helpful review where TEA wanted to help EPPS improve their practices.
- Does TEA really count the number of fieldwork hours? Answer was yes and that EPPS need to pay attention to mere observations versus candidate active engagement in the classroom. Same for the student teaching 70-day requirement. A comment was made that if you school district experienced a natural disaster that interfered with the 70-day requirement, be sure to get and save documentation (natural disaster declaration) of the event. A suggestion was also made that a school calendar be included in candidate records since there are numerous variations.

**Reminders:**

- Let's Do Lunch "TACO Time" is Monday at 12:15 in Frisco 7. Mark Olofson will speak on ASEP Technology Changes.