



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2020

Dear TAPT Friends and Family,

As I started to write this note to you, I felt a little tug on my heart and realized how much I miss seeing my TAPT family.

Occasionally, I think we are all guilty of going about our daily routines and then all at once, when things change-realize just how much we take for granted.

Vital norms that just happen every day...turn off the alarm, get up, drive in traffic and go to work; keep our dental appointment for our 6 month cleaning; or catching the bus to go to school...are not the daily "normal" now. For some, this is very hard to accept. For others, they are enjoying being home with their children, being home for dinner every night and just being able to catch up on that long list of "Honey-Dos."



Some have made this new, and hopefully temporary, lifestyle a challenge to themselves to learn something new ("What is Zoom?") or find new ways to remain positive. (Yes, I have played a silly Facebook game or two.)

As the second in charge of a small district, my role has always been to be wherever and whatever the district needed me to be. If it meant dressing up as Santa Claus because Santa got sick and could not be at an elementary campus, well, that is what I did.

For those of you in similar situations, this new "normal" has increased your responsibilities, not decreased...meaning more conference calls and Zoom or Go To meetings, and, making more decisions that will have a greater impact than ever before.

I wish I had some great words of wisdom to share...but for those of you who know me...you know that is not my style. What I do wish to share though, is that your TAPT Family misses you and we also need each other. Don't let Social Distancing keep you from calling each other, sending funny little notes and memes to each other and to keep us posted as to how you are doing.

Keith and Marisa are working hard to keep you updated on the latest information as we receive it. Directors- please be sure to update the [online survey](#) as information changes within your district. Please know that we are cautiously optimistic about the June Conference but certainly will make the best decision for our Members based on guidance from local, state and federal authorities. When this situation gets better and we pray it will soon, I think *we will all be ready to see each other in McAllen!*

Please go ahead and register for the professional development classes you need. Exhibitors, please register for the booth space you are interested in - so you do not lose your spot. If we cancel, we will refund your registration fees.

We believe that as we get closer to the Easter Holiday, we will all know more regarding the status of this virus and plans school districts will have for the remainder of the semester. ***We will let you know as soon as we know any information.***

Please take care, stay home if you can and of course, use all precautions to stay well and protect yourselves and your loved ones. **Keep those GIFs coming!**

Warmest regards,

Steve Batchelor