

November 20, 2020

I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. Undeniably, 2020 has been a trying year for all of us, and it is so easy to focus on all the hardships that we have seen and/or experienced. However, as we enter the holiday season, it is important for us to reflect on the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us.

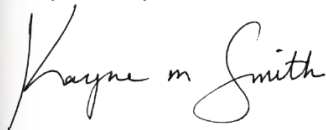
In the haste of the challenges presented to us with COVID-19 in our jobs, at home, and in our day-to-day lives, it is important for us to pause, reflect, and give thanks. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously." As 2020 comes to a close, we need to reflect on the good and show gratitude and thankfulness for those who have supported us.

For me personally, I am blessed with an amazing family. I am thankful for the unconditional love and support shown to me by my family at home, my team at work, and my TAPT colleagues, all of which are like family to me. I am thankful that, during a pandemic, we are still able to come together safely through our chapters and our professional development program opportunities. I am grateful for the members of Area One, as we recently had a very successful PDC series in Canyon ISD. I am appreciative for the CENTEX chapter for inviting me to their meeting this month and extending a warm welcome to me. Finally, I am thankful for our TAPT Executive Committee, Marisa, and Keith for their tireless efforts and continued support to our organization and to our members.

I encourage each of you to take a moment to pause, reflect, and give thanks. Find some time before the holidays come and go to remember that, regardless of the challenges we have faced this year, we have come together as a family, and never stopped providing safe and reliable transportation to our students and communities. For that, I am proud of you all.

I wish you and your loved ones a safe, healthy, and restful Thanksgiving.

Respectfully,



Kayne M. Smith, Ed.D.
TAPT President, 2020-2021

