



"Sharing Pearls of Wisdom" ~ Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary

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Suzanne Ramirez
Area 5 Director

Los Fresnos CISD

TAPT Family,

December 2022

I hope that your Thanksgiving break was wonderful and that you are looking forward to the Winter Holidays. I also hope that you took some time to rest and reflect on what you are thankful for. Thanksgiving is a great time for me to realize how blessed I am and thankful for my amazing family and for the love, encouragement and support shown to me by my personal family, my transportation family, and from my TAPT family. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this great organization and my transportation team; but I am also extremely thankful for our TAPT Executive Committee, Marisa, Keith, the PDC Committee members, instructors, and interns for their efforts and endless hours of continued support to our organization and members and all of the volunteer committees that make this organization great!

I am thankful for everyone who strives daily to ensure our students are transported to and from school safely. THANK YOU for your dedication and commitment! I know you have lots of choices on what you can do on the weekends, but I am grateful you choose to spend time taking professional development courses to continue to grow professionally, network with other professionals, and enhance your knowledge and skills. You and your team make a positive difference in the children you transport, their parents and our communities.

As you look forward to and prepare for the Holiday Season and all its festivities, I encourage you to share a bit of joy everywhere you go. A kind smile, a sweet good morning, or a sincere and positive "it is so good to see you," can turn around an otherwise challenging day.

As we close the chapter on 2022 and move into 2023, there are many things to be positive about and look forward to. The TAPT Executive Committee met briefly last week via Zoom, and we will be meeting again in January to continue plans for our 50th Anniversary Conference and Trade Show in The Woodlands. I cannot express enough my gratitude and appreciation for this amazing group of professionals, and I look forward to finalizing plans with them and sharing a great program with you soon. I can share that the Keynote speaker we have planned will be welcoming, motivational and personally restorative. As you can tell, I cannot wait for June to get here to see my transportation colleagues and our amazing vendors come together to show great support for our industry and share "*Pearls of Wisdom.*"

Just a few reminders and updates:

- The host location for the 2023 TAPT State "Roadeo" on April 29th is Mesquite ISD. Thank you Mesquite ISD. If you would like to host in 2024, please let us know.
- Nominations for the 2023-2024 TAPT Executive Committee will be accepted through January 6, 2023. The nominations will be presented at the January TAPT EC meeting and the initial Slate of Candidates will be posted online.
- Nominations from the floor will be accepted starting February 20th and will close March 6th at 11:59 pm. Approved nominations will be added to the ballot when early voting begins.

Please remember that your Executive Committee is here to serve you. Do not hesitate to reach out to your area director if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you again for your continued support and encouragement. I wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season and a prosperous and happy new year!

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Ducote', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patricia Ducote, CTPTO
TAPT President 2022-2023