



The Voice

Texas Business and Technology Educators Association

What's Inside?

Borger High BPA Honored	1
Best of Texas Winner	2
Surfin' the Waves of Change	3
How BPA Influenced My Life	2
Tech Prep Integration	5

Join TBTEA

If you are a member of TBTEA, Thank You. If not, please consider joining today. We need want need want need want need want-Yes, we need and want YOU!

Questions?

Call us!!

979-830-4023

PLEASE!



Join Us
for a
Cluster Conference
in
Athens, Texas
at
Trinity Valley
Community College

Monday, November 10

Borger High BPA Student Honored as "Best in Texas"

*K*risten Harvin, a senior and President of Borger High

School BPA was recently recognized

in Austin as one of the three chosen as "The Best in Texas" for Business

Education. Each year TCTC (Texas

Career and Technology Council) honors

the top students in Texas in each of the

Career and

Technical

program

divisions.

Mona Fannon,

BHS BPA

Advisor,

nominated

Harvin for this

prestigious

award.

According to Fannon, Kristen proved

to have high goals for herself as she

excelled in the classroom and BPA.

Her ability to succeed is recognized by

being involved in many activities while

working in the co-op program for two

years, serving as a team leader for both

Presentation Management Team and

Small Business Management Team,

receiving the Ambassador Award for two

years, and serving on the UIL computer

applications team for two years. She

has served as Borger BPA President and

Area IV Region I President organizing

many events.

She is highly

competitive and

willing to give

the extra effort

to achieve her

goal of majoring

in business

management.

According

to Harvin, "I

would like to thank Mrs. Fannon for

always believing in me and helping me

reach my goals. Being a part of this

great organization presents a world of

opportunity which will help me reach

Being a part of this great organization presents a world of opportunity which will help me reach my goal of living a successful and productive life in a business career.

Kristen Harvin

my goal of living a successful and productive life in a business career. Thank you to my advisor, Mrs. Fannon, Borger High School, and BPA for this highlight in my high school career.” Harvin plans to attend Frank Phillips College and Texas State University, majoring in business management. Kristen is the daughter of Jackie and Sherry Harvin of Borger.



On behalf of TCTC, Mona Fannon, TBTEA State Officer representing business education in Texas, proudly presents the “Best of Texas” Award and two scholarships to Kristen Harvin, Borger High School senior and BPA President.

Kristen Harvin
Best of Texas Winner

HOW BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA HAS INFLUENCED MY LIFE

By Lance Fannon, TBTEA Post-Secondary Scholarship Recipient

For the last three years of high school I was an active member of the Business Professionals of America organization. By being part of such a great organization, I was able to amplify my high school education by experiencing real world competition by being a part of the competitive events. I competed at the regional, state, and national levels placing high in Economic Research Team and was also actively involved in the torch awards, and the safety awareness project. Being a part of such a great host of activities has instilled in me a deep desire to own my business in the future. I have also learned many valuable skills through this organization including: organizational skills, friendship, teamwork, business ethics, patriotism, and most importantly, leadership. After three years of being a part of this great organization, it is apparent that leadership is the key to such a productive organization. Nothing can take the place of my experiences as Area IV Region I President during my senior year. I was actively involved in the national leadership conference and had various job responsibilities there. I was also required to attend the leadership training camp in the summer which allowed for leadership and networking opportunities. After four years of experience in the career and technology field, I decided to attend Oklahoma State University to pursue a Bachelor’s and Master’s in Human Resource Management. While I attend the University, I intend to partake in many internships to diversify my knowledge in the field of Human Resource Management. After I graduate from

[Continued on p. 4](#)

Surfing the *waves* of Change in Business Education

by Michelle Kirkland
TBTEA President 2008-2009



Michelle Kirkland
TBTEA State President
2008-2009

From typewriters to computers, floppies to flash drive, Shorthand to Multimedia, DOS[®] to Windows[®]--we business teachers have seen it all. Technology has marched ahead and it has always been the business educator who was able to tell the students and faculty "which key to push."

I am reminded of a cartoon from years ago in which a small girl was sitting at a typewriter. The young girl has a finger on the keyboard and says to her mother, "Listen...which key did I push?" The Texas business educator is very often a troubleshooter and answer person. How often has a knock at your office or classroom door revealed a frantic teacher saying, "Help me! I know you would know what to do."

We have also been able to perform wonders in our classes without many supplies. That is because this is a group of professionals. TBTEA has always been here to support and represent this great group of educators. When the State made changes to academic and vocational programs, TBTEA was ready to gather business teachers into one voice.

As the TEKS are rewritten again, we will continue to speak for Business Education. There are uneasy feelings since it is unclear which business courses will survive, but TBTEA will stand ready to assist business educators, from secondary to collegiate, with training and opportunities to serve each other. We must make it our job to remind schools, administrators, and our State Board of Education that business education is the foundation of American business and must remain so.

TBTEA and I ask that you tell us what you would like to have in the way of workshops, training, meetings, and service opportunities. Working together we can take our professional organization into the next decade. We will need new blood and new ideas to attract a new generation of business teacher. With a new plan, we will be ready to "Surf the Waves of Change in Business Education" while keeping strong ties to our friends across the state.

<http://www.tbtea.org>

<http://www.tbtea.org>

<http://www.nbcea.org>

Oklahoma State University, I plan to work for a large company as a recruiting manager. With the leadership experiences of BPA on my resume, I was elected to the office of President 2007-2008 for the Human Resources Association at Oklahoma State University. I was also chosen by the HR Advisor to attend the HR National Convention last summer in Las Vegas. This year I will attend the convention in Chicago. Recently I attended the School of Business Awards Banquet, and received the honor of “Outstanding Student in HR Department.” I have also obtained an important position in Career Services during the school year. This summer I will be working as an HR intern at Devon Energy in Oklahoma City.

Some may say that my career aspirations are impossible, but these people have not been a part of Business Professionals of America. Being a part of this organization has made me confident in my future, and has given me the knowledge and valuable skills I



need to be successful in the business achieving the things I had always dreamed of in the world of big business, and by being a part of Business Professionals of America, I know that I can achieve these things with this great set of skills, confidence, and expertise in the fields I have chosen to make into a career. The youth organizations play a vital role in the business education program. Thank you to Texas Business and Technology Educators Association for allowing me to represent your Post-Secondary Scholarship.



Integrating a Tech Prep Grant in the Business Curriculum “College Prep Proves Successful with a Click of a Mouse”

By Mona G. Fannon, MBE
TBTEA Past President
Borger ISD, Borger, TX
BCIS II Internship Coordinator
Career and Technical Division Chair

How many business educators ask this question? Do my students have the necessary information to adequately prepare for college successfully? It seems that students today just get the bare necessities of information, and do not prepare for that most important day—the first year of college. Do your students have access to the most updated information such as vital web sites to lead them to valuable information to prepare them for what they need to know about financial aid, grants, scholarships, survival tips, and job search techniques?

At Borger High School, one business educator of 29 years, Mona Fannon, felt that students there needed more information to equip them to be more successful in preparing early for college. Through the Region 16 Tech Prep Consortium, she tackled the task of writing a grant proposal called “College Prep: Success,” allowing her BCIS II Internship class to pilot this project. The grant was funded providing the necessary equipment for them to complete this project. She gathered the necessary information in a folder for each student, developed the curriculum and project guidelines, provided helpful guest speakers, researched the proper resources, presented the project, and implemented the timeline to finish the project.

The BCIS II Internship students’ task was to prepare a multimedia project given the necessary information and through research on their own, for other classes, parents, the community, counselor’s offices, media centers, county and college libraries, and even other school districts as far as 500 miles away. Mrs. Fannon presented the project and invited one of the administrators to view the presentation so the administration would be involved in the importance of the project. After the completion of the project, evaluations were completed by administrators, counselors, teachers, and students.

Once the multimedia projects were finished, students were divided into teams to conquer presenting the information to other students. They made presentations to English classes, BCIS classes, at-risk students, and Economic classes. One group set up a College Prep: Success station in the counselor’s office and the media center. Therefore, other students coming into those areas, could view the presentation by a click of the mouse, and find just the information they needed to start preparing for college early and successfully. The quality presentations are now being utilized even by recruiters for college when traveling to schools so they can use this information to encourage students to use this information to benefit them whether they are applying for

[Continued on p. 6](#)

scholarships, grants, loans, jobs, or even preparing for that perfect letter for college admittance or a scholarship application.

Before the presentations started, each student had to write an essay on their career goals. Students were given the proper guidelines, and these were completed and redone until perfect. The next process, students were given sample letters showing how to write the proper letter to apply for a scholarship. Fannon stressed the business format, the contents, and most of all, how to sell themselves in a scholarship letter. Through the years, Fannon has been the scholarship chair of many professional organizations, and knows just what the scholarship review committee is requiring. Fannon says, "This may be one of the most important letters you write this year. Once it is polished, it is done, and ready to be used for as many scholarships as you wish." She allowed students to use class time any time they needed to apply for a scholarship. She evaluated at the end of the year, and counted the number of scholarships that her students had received due to her guidance. Over half of the class had already received word that they had received scholarships. One student says, "Because of Mrs. Fannon's guidance and implementation of this project, we were better prepared for college than other students in our high school. Then we others this information through We also learned the importance work, and time management. way to write a letter to apply have already received many "Best of Texas" for business This has definitely been a hope other classes will benefit

"Do your students have access to the most updated information such as vital web sites to lead them to valuable information to prepare them for what they need to know about financial aid, grants, scholarships, survival tips, and job search techniques?"

Mona Fannon

After the project, distributed to administrators, counselors to determine the Strengths and weaknesses improve the project for future that more people had benefited expected from the starting determined that most had not of project before; they found they found the web sites had about college preparation; the the necessary information project; the students did have project; the presentation was

market; the students will be able to use their career goals essay, scholarship application letter, or resume in applying for college entrance, scholarships, grants, or financial aid; the project will help students make an easier transition from high school to post-secondary; students outside of the CTE Department did benefit from the project; and other academic or technical classes in the future should continue this project.

were able to share with multimedia presentations. of teamwork, quality of I learned the proper for a scholarship, and scholarships including the education scholarship. worthwhile project, and I from it in the future."

evaluations/surveys were teachers, students, and success of the project. were stressed in order to years. It was concluded from the project than was of the project. It was been involved in this type the information valuable; important information instructor did provide and guidance during the ample time to finish the adequate for the target

Plans have already been made for Fannon to help other teachers, counselors, administrators, etc. to set up "College Prep: Success" stations in their educational institutions. Through the success of one Tech Prep grant proposal, the word has already spread, and what is the result? It has allowed for a more informed student, citizen, parent, teacher, counselor, and administrator—and the word is spreading. "College preparation can be successful with a click of the mouse."