

**Dan Blier**

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**From:** Dan Blier [blierdan@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 05, 2010 7:46 PM  
**To:** Blierdan@aol.com  
**Subject:** TBTEA May 2010 Membership Update



## **Texas Business and Technology Educators Association May 2010 Membership Update**

May 5, 2010

Daniel Blier  
Blierdan@aol.com

Dear Daniel:

Happy Cinco De Mayo! This holiday is especially important here in Texas as nearly 50% of our kindergarten through 12 grade students are Hispanic. The diversity of our student population and teacher ranks makes our state's education both unique and challenging. Speaking of challenging, the technology credit requirement eliminations are making the lives of some of our business teachers stressful. I am hearing from several of our members that positions are being cut and teachers are being told to get recertified in core areas. I have deep concerns with this strategy. Although getting recertified may keep these individuals employed, we are eliminating great teachers that are teaching life skills and career oriented skills. Eventually companies will find that our high school students are no longer coming to their businesses with entry level technology and career skills. This will also mean that our high school graduates may not arrive to their college or university of choice with the necessary technology skills for success.

As we prepare for summer, some of our members may be forced to seek a new position. If you know of any open business or technology position in your district or area, please provide me with as much information about the position and contact person as possible.

In this month's update, please note the upcoming deadline for the Texas Career Education Conference. Under the Governmental Relations/Legislation category, you will find a call to action for all TBTEA members to reinforce what CTE and Business classes mean for our students and the business community.

Have a great month of May! Summer is right around the corner.

Daniel Blier  
Vice President – Secondary Education

## CONFERENCES

### Mountain-Plains Business Education Association (M-PBEA)

Fort Collins, Colorado will be the location of our next MPBEA Conference from June 17-19, 2010. Visit this [link](#) to learn more about this conference and M-PBEA.

The Pre-Conference is being presented by Insurance Education Institute on June 23 and 24 at the convention venue, Fort Collins Marriott, Fort Collins, Colorado. Complete information and the application are available on MPBEA's website [www.mpbea.org](http://www.mpbea.org).

Mountain-Plains Business Education Association is seeking volunteers to serve as either coordinators or liaisons. An article is available online explaining the responsibilities and the form is available on the website [www.mpbea.org](http://www.mpbea.org).

### Texas Career Education Conference

The TCEC will be held in at the Sheraton Hotel in Dallas, Texas from July 12-15, 2010. All conference registration, hotel reservations and other conference information can be found at <http://tcec2010.com/>.

#### Early Bird Deadline

May 7, 2010.

[Register today for the Texas Career Education Conference.](#)

#### Microsoft Training Offered by Certiport

Each year, Certiport offers Microsoft on site training at the summer conference. Information and registration forms regarding the workshops can be found at: <http://tcec2010.com/certiport>. This link is also from the Registration tab on TCEC website. If you are planning to attend this summer Texas Career Education Conference, consider going to this extra training. Seven-hour certification workshops are being offered in: Word 2007, Excel 2007, PowerPoint 2007 and Photoshop CS3/4 at Business and Management Center just a few miles from the Sheraton. Transportation will be provided. Lunch boxes are optional since there are no eating places within walking distance.

#### ATC Trainings

Please note that ATC Trainings has been moved to Wednesday, July 14 from 6:00pm - 9:00pm.

#### TEKS Trainings

Business Administration and Management, Marketing, Finance, and Information Technology TEKS training will be offered Thursday, July 15 in the morning and will repeat again in the afternoon during the conference. This will only be modules 4 and 5.

## GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS/LEGISLATION

### Call to Action - Working Toward Reinstating the Technology Credit

By eliminating the training to use technology as a requirement, Texas and local school districts are going in the wrong direction. The three links are two articles, one from CTAT and one from ACTE

about CTE and the technology credit issue. The third is my recent letter to the school board and administration of Lewisville ISD asking them to reconsider their decision. I strongly recommend that you use my letter and change the information to reflect your district's information and send this information to your Superintendent and other senior administrators and each School Board member. My superintendent has stated they will review it for 2011-2012. Even if your school district has elected to make technology a local requirement, it is important that we reinforce this positive decision. Please do not sit on the sidelines waiting for someone else to save these jobs.

Technology Applications Credit Release

<http://tbtea.org/documents/Tech%20Apps%20Credit%20Release.CTAT.04.22.10.pdf>

Career Readiness Paper [http://tbtea.org/documents/Career\\_Readiness\\_Paper.pdf](http://tbtea.org/documents/Career_Readiness_Paper.pdf)

Letter to School Board and Administration from Dan Blier

<http://tbtea.org/documents/April2010SchoolBoardTechnologyLetter.pdf>

### PE Options and CTE

The link below is the updated information about the new PE requirements and how this issue and CTE courses may be affected. Please share with any of your students that may want to take a CTE course, but don't think they can because of scheduling conflicts and credit requirements.

[Physical Education \(PE\) options for Career and Technical](#)

## NBEA

National Business Education Association is the national organization representing our curriculum at the United States Government level. Are you interested in joining NBEA, but need more information? Contact Violet Snell, TBTEA's National Representative, for assistance.

## AWARDS

We will be announcing all award recipients at this summer's TBTEA Awards Luncheon during the Texas Career Education Conference. Be sure to purchase your tickets in advance with your conference registration so you won't miss this opportunity to join us for lunch with your fellow business and technology teachers. Each year, there are only a limited number of seats at this luncheon and we are forced to turn some of our members away. Don't be a business teacher left behind.

## COMMITTEES

Our committee chairs continue to work hard for our association. If you wish to serve on one of these committees, please contact the committee chair. You can find contact information on the <http://TBTEA.org> website.

Committee	Chair
Awards	Donna Crook
Conference	Janet Flusche
Educational Development	Mazie Will

Fundraiser	Shirlyelaine Gray
Governmental Relations/Legislative Action	Tina Casey
Nominating	Michelle Kirkland
Membership	Dan Blier
Scholarship	Dan Blier

## MEMBERSHIP

As we are fast approaching the end of the school year, we want to start remind you that your TBTEA membership expires on July 31, 2010. To avoid a disruption in continuous membership, your membership form and dues should arrive by August 1, 2010.

TBTEA has added a new method to join and pay your membership. Visit us online and complete the membership form [here](#). You have two choices at this point:

1. Complete the membership form on your computer and print it. Send a check made out to TBTEA along with your completed form.
2. Complete the membership form and determine how much your membership and other amenities total up and click on [this link](#) to PayPal. Once you have processed your payment, send your completed form to Barbara Leschber at the email address on the form.

The Texas Career Education Conference will be offering active TBTEA members a \$40 discount for this year's conference. We are excited to add this new membership benefit to our members. More details will be announced in March when the TCEC website will be launched. Please encourage your colleagues to join TBTEA so they will be able to take advantage of this valuable membership benefit. Here is our current [membership form](#).

Any questions or concerns regarding your TBTEA membership should be addressed to [Dan Blier, Vice President–Secondary Education](#). Specific needs relating to Liability Insurance should be directed to [Barbara Leschber, Executive Director](#).