CHAPTER 10

What Professional Development Resources are Available?

INTRODUCTION

Many professional development opportunities exist for Texas educators to enhance their skills in the technology applications curriculum area. Colleges and universities offer courses related to the teaching and learning of computers and related electronic tools, while districts, consortia of districts, and educational service centers frequently host summer and weekend educator preparation symposia. These resources are very valuable to Texas educators because schools are to implement the Technology Applications TEKS guidelines for K-12 beginning in September 1998.

In this chapter you will find professional development resources:

- Frequently Asked Questions about professional development
- Professional development as detailed in the *Long-Range Plan for Plan for Technology, 1996-2010*
- A Sampling of Professional Development and Educational Activity Web Sites
- Education Service Center Technology Task Force videotapes
- Education Service Center TEKS/Curriculum Directors and Technology Directors/Contacts
- Centers for Educator Development

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The following have been the most frequently asked questions about professional development regarding the technology applications knowledge and skills and their application into other curriculum. The answers have been provided by the Texas Education Agency.

1. How can school districts fund the training, software, and hardware to support the technology applications curriculum?

In addition to various local, state, and federal sources, the technology allotment has provided $30

per student annually since 1992 (Texas Education Code, Section 31.021). All school districts in Texas are eligible to receive a technology allotment, for the purchase of technology in support of the goals of *The Long-Range Plan for Technology.* Technology allotment funds were made available to schools beginning September 1992. The purpose of the allotment is to provide for the purchase of electronic textbooks or technological equipment that contributes to student learning; and, to pay for training educational personnel directly involved in student learning in the appropriate use of electronic textbooks and for providing access to technological equipment for instructional uses. Section 31.002 of the Texas Education Code defines the following:

- electronic textbook - computer software, interactive videodisc, magnetic media, CD-ROM, computer courseware, on-line service, an electronic medium, or the other means of conveying information to the student or that otherwise contributes to the learning process through electronic means;
- technological equipment - hardware, a device, or equipment necessary for instructional use in the classroom, also including use to gain access to or enhance the use of an electronic textbook, or professional use by a classroom teacher.

The Technology Integration in Texas (TIE) grant, the Texas Technology Literacy Challenge Fund initiative, as well as the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) are grant opportunities available for Texas schools. There are other federally funded initiatives, such as Title programs, that can be used to purchase technology. For more information on state grants and funding, visit the TEA web site: http:// www.tea.state.tx.us or the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund site: http:// www.tifb.state.tx.us. For information on federal grants and projects, visit the U.S. Department of Education site: http:// www.ed.gov.

2. What staff development opportunities in technology are available to school districts?

Local districts offer staff development opportunities including the use of technology. In addition, technology preview and training centers at regional education service centers provide staff development and technical assistance for districts in the area of educational technology. Through the support of preview centers, district personnel receive hands-on experience and an orientation to state of the art technologies for use in the classroom. They also receive training and staff development on the integration of technology into the teaching and learning process. Technology institutes, summer camps, and other staff development opportunities are available through the ESCs.

Many of the state technology initiatives have special awareness/training sessions. Not only has there been training on how to implement the initiatives but also there has been training using the initiatives as vehicles for professional development. For example, the T-STAR network has many programs that focus on the use of technology in education. These programs delivered to Texas schools are valuable resources for professional development.

The Centers for Professional Development of Teachers through institutions of higher education have been developed for the purpose of integrating technology and innovative teaching practices in the preservice and staff development training of public school teachers and administrators. These centers are designed on the basis of current research into state-of-the-art teaching practices, curriculum theory and application, evaluation of student outcomes, and the effective application of technology.

There are Centers for Educator Development (CED) that are staff development centers in the core content areas working to help educators become familiar with the new curriculum guidelines and help to incorporate the TEKS effectively into instruction. In addition, there has been a technology focus on the CEDs to help them collaborate and coordinate the integration of technology into their staff development programs.

Many professional organizations provide staff development opportunities at conferences and workshops around the state. In addition, many businesses provide staff development in the area of educational technology.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS DETAILED IN THE LONG-RANGE PLAN FOR PLAN FOR TECHNOLOGY, 1996-2010

Research on successful professional development reveals that all members of an institution must share a common understanding of the goals and knowledge base in order for the institution to improve. As a result, the *Long-Range Plan for Technology, 1996-2010* addresses staff development needs not only of teachers but of all the members of the professional education community. At the public school level, these include teachers, administrators, curriculum coordinators, counselors, librarians, and other educational professionals. The plan also addresses the training needs of faculty at the university level, particularly those involved in pre-service educator preparation.

Retraining is a Priority

To provide quality education to all learners, the training and retooling of the current educator workforce in using technology tools to teach and learn must be identified as a priority. In addition, technology can and should be used to provide equitable access to quality, standards-based professional development.

Just-in-Time Professional Development

When they have a concern about instruction or management, educators need immediate access to relevant, high-quality professional development and technical support both during and outside the instructional day. This type of professional development is known as “just-in-time’ rather than ‘just-in-case” assistance.

Just-in-time professional development rejects the standard of often irrelevant or ill-timed professional development presented just in case one ever needs it. It replaces this with a new standard for professional development, one that is on demand and just in time for effective use. All educators should have cost-effective access to high-quality information regardless of geographic location or time of day. Technology makes this feasible.

State, regional, and local institutions as well as the private sector all play a role in developing, facilitating, and providing this model of professional development. Significant coordination among these entities and allocation of resources will be necessary to train the educator workforce in integrating technologies into all facets of instruction, management, and planning (p.27).

Recommendations to Regional Education Service Centers

1. Establish and maintain partnerships in support of local technology initiatives.
2. Offer professional development to educators on technology integration into the TEKS.
3. Offer professional development to educators by distance learning, distributed learning, and other means.
4. Design and implement professional development programs for educators on technology integration into teaching and learning, instrumental management, professional development, and administration.
5. Design and implement staff development for local personnel responsible for technical support.

Recommendations to Local Education Agencies

1. Allocate at least 30 percent of technology allotment for professional development.
2. Provide opportunities, incentives, and support for educators to develop model practices using technology.
3. Provide training in data examination and analysis through technology to support sound decision-making.
4. Provide professional development on integrating technology into teaching and learning, instructional management.
5. Integrate planning for technology into all classroom, campus, and district planning.
6. Design and implement educator development, on site and by distance and distributed learning, to meet expectations for technology proficiencies by educators.
7. Make available and provide incentives for educators to participate in distributed, just-in-time professional development.

Recommendations to Institutions of Higher Education

1. Design and implement educator preparation and development programs that meet state certification standards and expectations for technology proficiencies for educators.
2. Support field-based educator preparation and development and use of technology in the field.
3. Provide professional development to faculty engaged in educator preparation in integrating technology into teaching and learning, instructional management, professional development, and administration.

Recommendations to the Private Sector

1. Provide opportunities to educators for professional development and access to technology systems.
2. Collaborative with educators in the development of products and services to meet schools' technology needs (pp. 30-31).

A SAMPLING OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY WEB SITES

Self-empowerment to acquire new knowledge and skills is perhaps the best way for educators to continually renew and enhance their skills. A wealth of resources exist on the World Wide Web for this purpose, many of which are maintained by educators themselves. The list below contains sites selected as examples of educator professional development. Certainly educators will come to acquire their own favorites as their experience with the web increases.

Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators

http://www.capecod.net/schrockguide/index.htm
This guide is a classified list of sites on the Internet found to be useful for enhancing curriculum and teacher professional growth. It is updated daily.

Classroom Connect

http://www.classroom.net
A comprehensive site for educators. It includes searching tools specifically for educators, links to thousands of schools online, online resource materials for teachers as well as an online teacher contact part in which teachers can "meet" online for various projects and activities.

Classroom Connect Search Page

http://www.classroom.net/classroom/search.html
This site includes a Guide to Searching as well as links to many types of searches including World Wide Web, Usenet, Gopher, FTP as well as specialized searching such as Research IT, MapQuest and the Electric Library.

Web Sites and Resources for Teachers

http://www.csun.edu/~vceed009/
A collection of sites and resources from the Internet for teachers to use in their classroom. They range from lesson plans, creative classroom projects, interactive activities, visits to museums, and trips around the U.S. as well as around the world. The eight categories include English Language Arts and Reading, Social Studies, Math, Science, Art, Music, Just For Kids and ESL/Bilingual.

Global SchoolNet Foundation

http://www.gsn.org
GSN was a pioneer and is still a leader in linking kids around the world. Their web site includes projects registry for telecommunication projects, International Schools CyberFair contest, desktop videoconferencing, articles about using the Internet in the classroom and links to many more educational sites.

ICONnect: Connecting Learners to Information

http://www.ala.org/ICONN/
School library media specialists, teachers and students will find the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to navigate the information superhighway at this web site. Included are Online Courses, Curriculum Connections, KidsConnect and Mini-Grants.

Busy Teachers' Web Site
http://www.ceismc.gatech.edu/BusyT/
This site includes links to many curricular areas on the web. Among the 19 categories are Art, Biology, Computer Technology, Elementary School, HS Guidance and Counseling, Physics and Social Studies. In addition there is a teacher reference section link.

Blue Web'n Learning Sites Library
http://www.kn.pacbell.com /wired/bluewebn/
Included are lessons, activities, projects, resources, references and tools for many areas such as Arts, Business, English, Foreign Language, Math, Science, Technology, Education and more. This site also has a keyword search engine to find resources more efficiently.

SAMI Lesson Plans and Projects
http://www.learner.org/content/k12/sami/lessons.shtml
Over 200 links to educational sites on the web. They are listed A to Z and include a comprehensive list of search engines at the end of the list. Included are AskAnExpert sites, lesson plans, education link sites, project sites, as well as sites for most curricular areas.

AskERIC
http://ericir.syr.edu
AskERIC site offers a virtual library and the ERIC database as well as the opportunity to ask questions via email.

TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association)
http://www-tcea.cc.utexas.edu/
This site includes curricular resources specific to Texas Educators, information about the annual state conference as well as a link to searching on the web.

TCET (Texas Center for Educational Technology)
http://www.tcet.unt.edu
The TCET mission is to promote research and development collaboratives for integration of technologies and applications in the public school system. Included are many publications, links to relevant educational organizations, links to school districts in Texas in addition to many educational projects.

TENET (Texas Education Network)
http://www.tenet.edu
TENET offers links to Educational Resources, Schools on the Internet in Texas as well as other parts of the world, the TENET search engine, grant opportunities, and much more.

Alphabetized Internet Education Resources
http://www.unl.edu/websat/alpha.html
This is an alphabetical listing (as well as linking) of all resources mentioned by the Internet Education Clearinghouse. They range from elementary to college level in topic. There are links to virtually every educational topic imaginable.

InfoDesk:The Web Weekly Hotlist (Web Sites for Kids)

http://www.tcm.org/info/education/programs/interact/kids-list.html
Included are weekly selected sites especially for kids. The selected sites include kids publications, Science and Nature, sports, music, cartoon, craft and much more.

CUE Resource Center

http://www.cue.org/resource.html
This resource site includes links to California Instructional Technology Clearinghouse, the California Technology Information Project, U.S. Dept of Education as well as many other sites related to educational technology. There is also a list of FTP sites in which to download free software.

Doc's Education Resource Pages

http://www.nmia.com /~cram/
A compendium of links to education-related web pages of interest to teachers and students. Included at this site are many links to curricular sites as well as lesson plans, libraries, kids stuff and more.

Education World

http://www.education-world.com/
In addition to lesson plans, books in education, news in education, resources for administrators, this site has an education site review listing their selected best sites. Also included is a search engine to their database of over 50,000 sites.

Berit's Best Sites for Children

http://db.cochran.com/db_HTML:theopage.db
Selected and reviewed education sites appropriate for children. Categories include Just for Fun, Serious Stuff, Kids on the Net, Creatures Great and Small and more.

Elaine's Essential Elements

http://boisdarc.tamu-commerce.edu/www/r/rulla/
This web site links to sites in the following categories: Integrating Technology and the Curriculum, Technology Journals, Lesson Plan Resources, Basics such as DOS and Windows tutorials, Mac software as well as curriculum links.

NASA's Quest Project

http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/
This site includes a visit with the shuttle team online, tracking of Live from Mars, online interaction projects as well as more resources for bringing the Internet into the classroom.

The Internet Schoolhouse

http://www.internetschoolhouse.com/
Includes links to many resources for the K-12 classroom teacher including a curriculum guide as well as example projects.

Online Educator
http://www.ole.net/ole/
Among other things this site offers the ability to search their lesson plan archives by subject and grade level.

Teacher/Pathfinder: An Educational Internet Village
http://teacherpathfinder.org/
This site includes school, community, parents, teachers and administrators in the quest to use the Internet to improve education.

Pitsco's Ask An Expert
http://www.askanexpert.com/askanexpert/
This site is a clearinghouse to the many expert pages in which users may ask questions of experts via email and receive quick responses.

Boulder Valley School District
http://bvsd.k12.co.us
A comprehensive site for K-12 educators and administrators which includes educational resources and projects as well as a web page model for schools districts.

Bellingham Public Schools
http://www.bham.wednet.edu/
A model site for school districts which provides many categories including: Explorers of the World, Online Research Projects, Virtual Field Trips, Curriculum Pages, Staff Development Plans, Design Tenets, Virtual Museums and more.

Curriculum Resources
http://www.ed.gov/EdRes/EdCurric.html
A site with curriculum resources for educators from the federal government.

Planning/Professional Development - Organizations
http://www.ed.gov/EdRes/EdAssoc.html
A site with planning and professional development resources for educators from the federal government.

T.H.E. Institute
http:// www.thejournal.com
A site that provides professional development services and consulting to persons and organizations involved with K-12 and higher education institutions.

Computer Learning Foundation™
http://www.computerlearning.org
A site with numerous projects, grant opportunities, and materials to help parents and educators use technology effectively with children.

Education Service Center Task Force Video Tapes

Many educators have such busy schedules that there is little time to attend weekend training sessions or semester-long classes. Videotape training is a good alternative for those wishing to acquire a specific skills. The following videotapes are available from your regional Education Service Center for $5.00 each. The tapes may be reproduced or broadcast for campus or district use. Additional tapes will be produced, the goal being to produce six per year.

Topic	Platform
Windows 95	
ClarisWorks Word Processing	Windows and Macintosh
ClarisWorks Spread Sheet	Windows and Macintosh
HyperStudio	Windows and Macintosh
ClarisWorks DataBase	In production

EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER CONTACTS

ESCs may be accessed via the TEA Web Site at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/technology

Region I

Technology - Jaime Vela
TEKS/Curriculum - Ellen Gonzales
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Edinburg, TX 78539-2234
(956) 383-5611
FAX (956) 383-3524

Region II

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Region III

Technology - Ken Task
TEKS/Curriculum - Sheryl Roehl
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Victoria, TX 77901-2899
(512) 573-0731
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Region IV

Technology - Bob Baker
TEKS/Curriculum - Muffet Livaudais and Jane Potter
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Houston, 77092-2096
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FAX (713) 744-2725

Region V

Technology - Dianna Harvill
TEKS/Curriculum - Susan Jarrell
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Beaumont, TX 77703-4299
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Region VI

Technology - Raylene Renfrow
TEKS/Curriculum - Sandy Nolan
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Region IX

Technology - Susan Sullivan
TEKS/Curriculum - Rob Dyson
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Region X

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TEKS/Curriculum - Lyle Froese
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Region XI

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TEKS/Curriculum - Kay Jacoby
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Region XII

Technology - Nancy Little
TEKS/Curriculum - Robyn Davis
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Waco, TX 76702-3409
(254) 666-0707
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Region XIII

Technology - Luke Martin
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Region XIV

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Region XV

Technology - Nickie Weaver
TEKS/Curriculum - Judy Meador
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Region XVI

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Region XVIII

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Region XIX

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TEKS/Curriculum - Molly Munkatchy
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FAX (780) 775-6537

Region XX

Technology - Jeanne Martinez
TEKS/Curriculum - Ed Vara
1314 Hines Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78208-1899
(210) 224-3128
FAX (210) 224-3130

CENTERS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHING

In recent years Texas has established several Centers for Professional Development of Teachers (CPDTs) with the primary mission of preparing preservice teachers for their professional roles through a joint master teacher apprenticeship and university faculty mentorship. Current CPDT names, locations, directors, and phone numbers are provided in the list below.

CPDT Directors

Program	Director	Institution	phone/fax	ESC
Big Country CPDT	Dr. Jerry Whitworth (Chair) whitworth@nacanor.acu.edu	Abilene Christian University P.O. Box 28228 Abilene, TX 79699	(915) 674-2000 (915) 674-2123 (fax)	14

CDPT/The Partners Project	Dr. Betty Conaway (Director) betty_conaway@baylor.edu	Baylor University P.O. 97314 Waco, TX 76798-7314	(817) 755-1111 (817) 755-3593 (fax)	12
Big Country CPDT	Dr. Lewis Lemmond (Director) Lewlel@tenet.edu	Education Service Center Region 14 Box 578 McMurry Station Abilene, TX 79697	(915) 691-6407 (915) 691-6778 (fax)	14
Big Country CPDT	Dr. Peter Gillman (Dean) pgilman@tenet.edu	Hardin-Simmons University Box 16225 Abilene, TX 79697-9698	(915) 670-1347 (915) 670-5859 (fax)	14
Houston Consortium of Urban CPDT	Dr. Linda Roff (Director) lroff@tenet.edu	Houston Baptist University 7502 Fondren Houston, TX 77074	(713) 774-7661x2469 (713) 995-3361 (fax)	4
Big Country CPDT	Dr. Bob Peters (Dean) bpeters@hputx.edu	Howard Payne University H.P.U. Station Brownwood, TX 76801	(915) 646-2502 (915) 649-8903 (fax)	15
Spindletop CPDT	Dr. Paula Nichols (Director) pnichols@tenet.edu	Lamar University P.O. Box 10034 Beaumont, TX 77710	(409) 880-1847 (409) 880-1897 (fax)	5
Panhandle South Plains CPDT	Dr. Joyce Hardin (Dean) jhardin@tenet.edu	Lubbock Christian University 5601 W. 19th Street Lubbock, TX 79407	(806) 796-8800 (806) 796-0048 (fax)	17
Big Country CPDT	Dr. Terry Northup (Dean) T_northup@mcm.acu.edu	McMurry University Box 578 Abilene, TX 79697	(915) 691-6200 (915) 691-6778 (fax)	14
CPDT/CEDE	Dr. Jacquelyn Alexander (Dean) jalex@ollusa.edu	Our Lady of the Lake U. 411 S. W. 24th Street San Antonio, TX 78207	(210) 434-6711 (210) 431-3927 (fax)	20
CPDT	Dr. Tony Talbert(Director) edu_tit@shsu.edu	Sam Houston State University P.O. Box 2119 SHSU Huntsville, TX 77341	(409) 294-1238 (409) 294-1102 (fax)	6
Hill Country CPDT	Dr. Dave Pullias (Director) dpullias@schreiner.edu	Schreiner College 2100 Memorial Blvd. Kerrville, TX 78028	(210) 896-5411 (210) 896-3232 (fax)	20
Southwest Texas CPDT	Ms. Pat Curtin (Director) pcurtain@tenet.edu	Southwest Texas State U. 1225 Highway 123 San Marcos, TX 78666	(512) 396-6878 (512) 392-5463 (fax)	13
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Stephen F. Austin State University CPDT	Dr. Patsy Hallman (Director) PHALLMAN@SFASU.EDU	Stephen F. Austin State U. P.O. Box 6103 Nacogdoches, TX 75962	(409) 468-1575 (409) 468-1577 (fax)	7

SR APPLE Center	Dr. Joyce Mussey (Director) Kimik@Sul-Ross-1.SULROSS.EDU	Sul Ross State Univ-Alpine Department of Education- BoxC115 Alpine, TX 79832	(915) 837-8164 (915) 837-8390 (fax)	18
Regional Collaborative CPDT	Dr. Teresa Heinz-Lopez (Director) TLopez@tamiu.edu	Texas A&M International University 5201 University Blvd. Laredo, TX 78041	(210) 236-2425 (210) 326-2424 (fax	1
Texas Education Collaborative (TEC)	Dr. Tom Reynolds (Director) tomr@tamu.edu	Texas A&M University 326 Harrington Tower College Station, TX 77843-4232	(409) 862-4540 (409) 845-9663 (fax)	6
CPDT/Costal Bend Educational Collaborative	Dr. Carol Goodman (Director) ekqueen@tamucc.edu	Texas A&M University Corpus Christi 6300 Ocean Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78412	(512) 994-2450 (512) 994-2732 (fax)	2
Northeast Texas CPDT	Mrs. Pat Westergaard (Director) pat_westergaard@etsu.edu	Texas A&M U.-Commerce P.O. Box 3035 East Texas Station Commerce, TX 75429	(903) 886-5641 (903) 886-5156 (fax)	10
NorthEast Texas CPDT	Ms. Jean Jones (Director) jjones@tamut.edu	Texas A&M U.-Texarkana P.O. Box 5518 Texarkana, TX 75505	(903) 838-6514x302 (903) 832-8890 (fax)	8
Houston Consortium of Urban CPDT	Dr. Irma Malloy (Dean) (no e-mail address given)	Texas Southern University 3100 Cleburne Avenue Houston, TX 77004	(713) 313-7343 (713) 313-7436 (fax)	4
Panhandle South Plains CPDT	Dr. Elaine Jarchow (Dean) j2ela@ttac.ttu.edu	Texas Tech University Box 41071 Lubbock, TX 79409-1071	(806) 742-2377 (806) 742-2179 (fax)	17
Collaborative Community PD Center	Dr. Michael Wiebe (Director) a-wiebe@venus.twu.edu	Texas Woman's University TWU P.O. Box 425769 Denton, TX 76204-1029	(817) 898-2204 (817) 898-2209 (fax)	11
CPDT-CEDE	Dr. Jessica Kimmel (Chair) jessicak@the_college. .iew.tx.edu	The U. of the IncarnateWord 4301 Broadway San Antonio, TX 78209	(210) 829-3137x6000 (210) 829-3134	20
CPDT/CDED	Dr. John H. MMMoore III (Chair) jmoore@tenet.edu	Trinity University 715 Stadium Drive San Antonio, TX 78212-720**(?)**	(210) 736-7501 (210) 736-7592 (fax)	20
STEP/CPDT	Dr. Clarence Ham (Director) HAM@TENET.EDU	U. of Mary Hardin-Baylor UMHB Station Box 8017 Belton, TX 76513-2599	(817) 939-4572 (817) 933-4480 (fax)	12
Houston Consortium of Urban CPDT	Dr. Robert Houston (Director) rhouston@uh.edu	University of Houston 4800 Calhoun Houston, TX 72204-5874	(713) 743-5049 (713) 743-4989 (fax)	4

U of H Clear Lake	Ms. Jackie Rasberry (Director) Rasberry@cl.uh.edu	U. of Houston-Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd., Box 30 Houston, TX 77058	(281) 283-3612 (281) 283-3599 (fax)	4
University of Houston CPDT	Dr. Barbara Erwin (Director) erwin@dt.uh.edu	U. of Houston-Downtown 1 Main Street, #645 South Houston, TX 77002	(713) 221-8906 (713) 226-5234 (fax)	4
University of Houston-Victoria CPDT	Dr. Dennis Riedesel (Director) driedesel@cobalt.vic.uh.edu	U. of Houston-Victoria 2506 E. Red River Victoria, TX 77901	(512) 582-1141 (512) 572-8463 (fax)	3
University of North Texas, CPDT	Dr. Judy Adkison (Chair) adkison@coefs.coe.unt.edu	University of North Texas P.O. Box 13857 Denton, TX 76203	(940) 565-2235 (940) 565-4415 (fax)	11
Houston Consortium of Urban CPDT	Dr. Diane Clay (Director) dclay@pdts.uh.edu	University of St. Thomas 3800 Montrose Blvd. Houston, TX 77006	(713) 525-3829 (713) 525-3871 (fax)	4
CREST	Ms. Diane Patrick (Director) stetson@uta.edu	U. of Texas-Arlington P.O. Box 19227 Arlington, TX 76019	(817) 273-3575 (817) 273-2530 (fax)	11
Lower Valley CPDT	Dr. Aileen Johnson (Director) aileen@utb1.utb.edu	U. of Texas-Brownsville 80 Fort Brown Brownsville, TX 78520	(210) 982-0262 (210) 982-0293 (fax)	1
El Paso CPDT	Dr. Jorge Descamps Patdomin@UTEP.edu	U.of Texas-El Paso 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, TX 79968	(915) 747-7607 (915) 747-5755 (fax)	19
South Texas CPDT	Dr. Hilda Medrano (Director) rcarison@panam_.edu	U. of Texas-Pan American 1201 West University Dr. Edinburg, TX 78539	(210) 381-3627 (210) 381-2184 (fax)	1
U.T.-Permian Basin CPDT	Ms. Charle Scott (Director) Charle@Tenet.edu	U.of Texas-Permian Basin c/o Ector County ISD P.O. Box 3912 Odessa, TX 79760	(800) 320-9119 (915) 580-8119 (fax)	18
Center for Educational Development and	Ms. Donna Nanny (Director) dnanny@lonestar.jpe.utsa.edu	U. of Texas-San Antonio 6900 N. Loop 1604 West San Antonio, TX 78205	(210) 691-4816 (210) 691-5848 (fax)	20
Panhandle South Plains CPDT	Dr. Jim Todd (Chair) jlt@tenet.edu	Wayland Baptist University 1900 West 7th Street Plainview, TX 79072	(806) 296-5521 (806) 296-4580 (fax)	17
Panhandle South Plains CPDT	Dr. Ted Guffy (Interim Dean) tguffy@wtamu.edu	West Texas A&M University WTAMU Box 208 Canyon, TX 79016	(806) 656-2600 (806) 656-2601 (fax)	17

CENTERS FOR EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT

A relatively new initiative in Texas has been the establishment of Centers for Educator Development (CEDs). These exist to promote professional development materials and support for the foundation curriculum. Location and contact information for the current CEDs are provided below.

English language arts	http://www.tea.state.tx.us
Mathematics	http://www.tea.state.tx.us
Science	http://www.tea.state.tx.us
Social studies	http://www.tea.state.tx.us

TECHNOLOGY AND THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND APPRAISAL SYSTEM

The state of Texas has just developed and is in the process of implementing during the 1997-98 school year a new teacher appraisal system. The new system is called the Professional Development and Appraisal System (PDAS). The title is indicative of the goal of the system with appraisal being just one part of the system.

To support this system a software program has been developed for appraisers to use in the evaluation of a teacher in which all of the information is placed on the computer, both the evaluation of the domains and the criteria, as well as any cumulative data regarding the teacher's performance. In this the evaluation is by domain and by each criterion, in order to arrive at a domain rating for the teacher. Simultaneous with this activity, education service centers developed a professional development framework, which takes the 51 criteria in PDAS and specifies the staff development programs that support criteria within PDAS. Therefore, one staff development activity might cover ten different criteria, but that is specified so that teachers will have some idea when they have an area or a criterion on which they want some help, that some ideas from the service center will be available.

Also this framework has been linked back to the scoring process. Therefore, a principal who is evaluating a teacher who is weak in the performance of a specific criterion can simply take that criterion and pull up automatically all of the professional development that is available from the local service center. The developers of PDAS envision the expansion of this professional development framework to include local district staff development, other organization staff development, university staff development, and any private entrepreneurs that would be delivering such services, so there would be a wide variety of opportunities for a teacher to enhance their skills in teaching.

TEA encourages the use of technology and is using technology in the implementation of the PDAS system. The system should provide encouragement for teachers to use technology in their instructional programs. This is criterion 9 in Domain II in which the teacher is evaluated on the use of available technology.

The primary goal of the new system is to enhance student learning through the continual professional development of teachers. The use of technology hopefully will make this process much more efficient and effective in shifting the paradigm to more meaningful staff development for teachers.

SUMMARY

Numerous professional development opportunities exist for Texas educators wishing to learn more in the area of technology applications. These vary from self-service, go-at-your-own-pace activities to structured training exercises and university classes. This chapter is intended to help you find those that best suit your individual needs.

The START Web Site will be updated regularly. One of the first postings on the web site will be the grant recipients for Projects for Educational Technology. These are professional development models that will be shared with the state.

As a part of the START project, a form has been provided in Appendix E for schools, ESCs, CPDTs, CEDs, and others to share how they are planning for and implementing this technology applications curriculum. We hope these resources and ideas will be a good place to START!