



Texas Association of Parent Educators

NEWSLETTER OF TAPE SPONSORED BY CENTER FOR PARENT EDUCATION
<http://www.cpe.unt.edu/tape.php>

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TAPE Looking Ahead!
Linda Ladd, President (2006-2009)

TAPE Mission Statement

Come to the International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting which will be held on February 12-14, 2009 here in Denton at the University of North Texas.

As this is my last column as the TAPE president, I want to thank the Board and all members for your support and reflect on our successful growth as an organization.

- 50 parent educators joined TAPE and helped make this organization a reality for the board members who had worked for two years to make TAPE happen! Thank you!
- Thanks to Wally Goddard, Judy Myers Wall and Lucy Long for taking their time to create one hour presentations for the TAPE online workshops. A special thank you to Wally who spent about 20 of his 60 minutes trying to get back on the web!
- Congratulations to the parent education programs who applied for the Best Practices Award for these past three years. Last year's award to FAST brought the spotlight on this fine nationally known program.
- Thanks to the TAPE members who have contributed articles to the TAPE newsletters. Our goal is 3 newsletters per year, but we lost our secretary and could only send out two newsletters in 2008. I appreciate your patience!
- TAPE appreciates our good friends at UNT Center for Parent Education who provide TAPE with space on their web site as well as their web master!
- Thank you and good-bye to board members Mary Ellen Nudd, Debbie Klinger, and Lucy Long who helped launch TAPE.

As for me — see you at UNT! *Linda*



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS™

International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting is hosted by the UNT Center for Parent Education & the ISA Committee on Family Research

Scholars and practitioners from around the globe will present the latest in knowledge, research, educational strategies, curriculum, and parent education and support models.

Keynotes

New Discoveries in Parent Education by Dr. Wally Goddard (Thursday)

Parent Education for Fathers: Lessons Learned from Research by Dr. Jay Fagan (Friday)

Fathers at the Frontiers: The Impact of Social Policy on Men's Involvement in Child Care in Sweden by Dr. Linda Haas (Saturday)

Other topics:

- Deployment and Reunion
- Community Violence and Parenting
- Video Games and Your Kids
- Bullying
- International Adoption
- Nurturing Parenting Service-Learning
- Play Therapy for all Ages
- Culturally Responsive Parenting Programs
- Zebra Brains: Differences
- Fathers Reading Every Day
- Foster Grandparent Model

To register go to www.unt.edu/cpe and click on Brochure or Registration.

To build a network of professionals and opportunities to increase knowledge and skills in the fields of parent education, parent involvement, and family support in order to promote education in schools, communities, and state.

Inside this issue:

HELPING PARENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL	2
PARENTING THE SECOND TIME	2
CAREER GUIDANCE IN PARENT EDUCATION	3
2009 BEST PRACTICES CRITERIA — ARE YOU READY?	3
ADJUSTMENT OF STEPFATHERS TO MOTHER-LED FAMILIES	4
2008-2009 TAPE BOARD MEMBERS	4
TAPE MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2009-2010	5

Helping Parents Return to School by Providing Help with Child Care By Sandra Renick, MS

Have you considered that you would go back to school if you had a help with child care? Or do you know someone who plans to attend UNT and meet the requirements below?

Child Care Access Means Parents In School (CCAMPIS) is authorized by the Higher Education Act and administered by the U.S. Department of Education. CCAMPIS provides child care subsidies to low-income parents to increase their likelihood of graduating from college. The University of North Texas received this highly competitive four-year grant in 2005. Dr. Carol Hagen is the Principal Investigator and Sandy Renick is the Program Manager (940-891-6943).

Eligibility factors for the UNT CCAMPIS program include number of children, children's ages, number of semester credit hours, and recipient of other child care subsidies. Students are also encouraged to apply for child care financial assistance through the Texas Workforce Commission. The UNT CCAMPIS programs provide parent education workshops each semester to student parents receiving the subsidy.

CCAMPIS not only benefits student parents it also benefits their children and our nation. For student parents, the child care subsidy helps them enroll and remain in college, increase the chances of graduating more quickly, find employment, and thereby earn more in their lifetime. For their children, the subsidy assists in providing high-quality child care that increases the likelihood of success in school, the need for few services, and the ability to earn more in their lifetime. Our nation benefits because the success of parents and their children makes our nation strong, economically and socially.

CCAMPIS is a Win, Win for all!

Parenting the Second Time Around: Current State of Affairs

Dr. Sadguna Anasuri, Asst. Professor UW-Stout

Grandparents raising grandchildren has become "an increasingly prevalent family constellation." The main reason identified for this situation has been "population aging," caused by the advancement in medical technology, longer lifespan, and declining birthrates. The second set of reasons has included multiple and interrelated societal issues concerning families such as parental death, divorce, incarceration, substance or physical abuse, child abuse and neglect, psychiatric disorders, homicide, natural disasters, abandonment, military conditions, or any other long-distance parenting contexts. These two reasons together are resulting in growing numbers of grandparents raising grandchildren.

Such conditions revamp the lives of older and younger generations equally. The older generation is often considered the rescuers of the family who step in during times of need. Some, however, feel the resentment for being burdened with additional responsibility in their later years of life. They now need to acquaint themselves with current styles of parenting. The younger generation on the other hand, has to learn to live in a new family type, different from that with their parents; sometimes losing friends and having to move to a different town. This emerging family setting calls for assistance to both the generations – the old and the young. Direct instruction at school, home, religious institutions, community facilities, intergenerational programs, and role-modeling might help children learn to adopt positive attitudes about their new living situation.

Grandparents need special skills, new knowledge, and additional resources to fulfill their role of parenting. They can be helped via education, training, and networking. Parenting education can include critical topics like legal issues related to adoption, temporary or joint custody, and guardianship. Positive guidance and discipline, communication skills, setting daily routines, consistent rules, engaging in outdoor/indoor activities, keeping update in literacy and computer skills need to be emphasized. Providing knowledge about self-help strategies, stress management techniques, school systems, available community resources, medical and financial assistance, solution of housing issues, and formation of local support groups enables parenting the second time around even more rewarding!

Check out these resources:

AARP Grandparenting Resources

http://www.aarp.org/families/grandparents/raising_grandchild/

Generations United Child Welfare Information Gateway

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/supporting/resources/grandparents.cfm>

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Texas Information

http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/032608_Grandparents_Brochure.pdf

National Center on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

<http://chhs.gsu.edu/nationalcenter/>

Raising Your Grandchildren web site

<http://www.raisingyourgrandchildren.com/Index.htm>

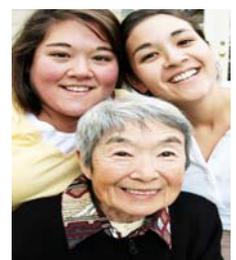
The Foundation for Grandparenting

<http://www.grandparenting.org/>

U.S. Government Official web portal

<http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Grandparents.shtml>

Sadguna Anasuri, Ph.D., CFLE ((anasuris@uwstout.edu))



On the Cutting Edge: Career Guidance in Parent Education By Starrla Penick, MS



Plano's Family Education and Guidance Services falls under the leadership of the department of Student and Family Services. We are always looking for careers in Development and Family Studies to share with students and colleagues. I'd love to share with you one such career exemplified in Plano Independent School District.

We host services for students, families and campuses in our building as well as at the schools, including parent education classes; family literacy; social and counseling services; adult education, including GED, financial information, and literacy; court compliance programs like For Kids' Sake, Back to Basics, and Truancy Prevention Boot Camp.

My new role as Family Education and Guidance Services Specialist is to provide training and awareness to the guidance counselors of the district, i.e. anti-victimization, bullying, and parent education training. I keep an Elementary Guidance Counselors' library, coordinating a myriad of resources available to the counselors and staying up to date with current research on the resource topics. Also, several Parent Educators on staff and I are available to go to any district school that contacts us to teach a parent education class (or series) at the school.

We also teach classes at our building on an on-going basis. Finally, with a new service called Parent Partnering, I stay available to meet parents at their child's school regarding specific issues with their children in a one-on-one psycho-educational approach. This model could easily be replicated in other districts with a vision and a realization that helping parents helps children!

Starrla Penick, M.S.
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Announcement!

Practical Parent Education, LLC, is excited to announce new research efforts targeted at elevating the PPE program from its current "research based" designation to "evidence based." Amherst H. Wilder Foundation is under contract to direct this extensive three year project. If anyone is interested in being a part of this exciting family education research, please contact Lucy Long at lucy.long@practicalparent.org or call 972-423.6363.

Get a jump start on 2010 — Get your Parenting Program ready to apply for a Best Practices Award!

Go to www.unt.edu/cpe and click on Texas Association of Parent Educators and then click on Recognition of Best Practices to get all the information you need to submit your application.

WANTED

TAPE members who like to write and would LOVE to see their name in print in THIS newsletter.

Send short articles (200-400 words) and issues in parent education or child development to Nerissa Gillum at ngillum@mail.twu.edu



Blending of Stepfathers into Mother-led Families

Jay Huddleston, MS, Texas Woman's University

Families that include stepfathers have increased in number in America based on statistics that 33% of first marriages end in separation or divorce after 10 years (U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, 2004) and that 75% of divorced women will remarry within ten years. In 2002 it was reported that 15% of all children in the United States lived with a mother and stepfather and one-third of children will have lived in a stepfamily situation by the time they reach adulthood (Fields, 2004).

A stepfather can have trouble adjusting to how to divide his resources between the new family and his biological children from a former relationship. Lamb (2007) found that when comparing stepfathers with children to those without, that stepfathers with children of their own spent more time with their stepchildren. Lamb also found that if the stepfather pays child support he does not spend as much time with his stepchildren. Lamb stated that fathers reported that they were "more affectionate toward nonresident biological children than stepchildren, but they give more of their money and time to stepchildren, despite wanting to share resources equally" (p.1167).

Hofferth and Anderson (2003) reported, based on their research that this is because the financial tie to biological children carries more obligation than the bonding with their new partner's children. These authors stated that "because the father is already investing in [his biological] children" stepfathers may not be as willing to fully invest their time and attention in the stepchildren (p.230).

A common expectation that often causes problems is the belief that because the spouses love each other, the children will love their new stepsiblings and their stepfather and vice versa — they will all become the "perfect" family of husband, wife and children (Coleman & Ganong, 1997). A stepfamily can be a new opportunity for growth and development, as all members are provided with a "variety of life styles, opinions, feelings, and enriching relationships" (Crohn et al., 1982, p.162).

Research indicates that the most effective way that a stepfamily can avoid many of the pitfalls of stepfamily living is to educate themselves prior to entering into the union. Studies show that by offering stepfamilies psycho-education on common issues within their remarried family, they can be more prepared to deal with them in a healthy manner (Adler-Baeder & Higginbotham, 2004). Educators and therapists can help children and parents work through changes and cope with "transitions, providing [non-blaming] explanations, minimizing other changes and maximizing the intervals between family transitions, dispelling myths about stepfamily life, and learning about successful strategies [which] all increase the probability of recovery and well-being" (Bernstein, 2006, p.71).

TAPE Board Members

MEMBERSHIP in TAPE is open to all professionals, students, and groups who share our mission. TAPE Board Members include a variety of dedicated professionals: students, teachers, trainers, Extension agents, and agency directors:

- **President:** Linda Ladd
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- **Vice President Programs:**
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- **Vice President Credentials:**
Beth Thompson,
ethompson@hcde-texas.org
- **Secretary:** Stephanie Besier
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- **Members at Large:**
Starrla Penick (2008-2010)
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Employment Opportunities

We will post your job!



Texas Association of Parent Educators (TAPE)
Annual Renewal: March 1, 2009
MEMBERSHIP FORM 2009-2010
<http://www.cpe.unt.edu/tape.php>

The purpose of TAPE is to promote parenting education, parent involvement, and family support in the schools, communities, and the state as well as create opportunities to increase member knowledge and skills in these fields as well.

Name _____

Organization _____ Your Role _____

Preferred mailing address _____

City/State/zip code _____

Preferred Phone _____ FAX _____

Email Address _____

Include my demographic information in the Texas Registry of Parent Educator Resources on-line data base _____ Yes _____ No

Circle areas below -- if you can share some professional time with TAPE!

TAPE Leadership	Newsletter	Membership
Training activities	Professional Development Recognition System	
Organizing a local affiliate	Other _____	

Select the membership level that best fits your professional needs:

- _____ \$15 Student Membership: Member receives all TAPE communications and has voting rights. Must enclose a copy of their student ID.
- _____ \$50 Professional Membership: Member works in the field of parenting education, family support, or parent involvement. Receives all TAPE communications and has voting rights.
- _____ \$100 Supporting Organization Membership: Non-voting membership in TAPE. The organization receives, through a single point of contact, all TAPE communications, including newsletters.
- _____ \$150 Practitioner Organization Membership. Organizations with five or more TAPE members may purchase a Practitioner Organization Membership. Each individual member receives all TAPE communications, including newsletters and pays dues at a reduced rate. If the organization falls below five TAPE members, its participating members would become Individual members with the next membership renewal.

Send completed form and membership dues to:

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