

Association of Texas Professional Educators

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ninth-grade teacher named Secondary Educator of the Year

AUSTIN – Hanna High School ninth-grade teacher Scott Sherman of Brownsville, Texas, was honored as the Secondary Educator of the Year July 21 by the state’s largest educators group. Sherman, who has 20 years of teaching experience, was presented with the honor during the 2011 ATPE Summit Awards Banquet hosted by the Association of Texas Professional Educators at the Austin Convention Center.

“There are thousands of dedicated teachers in ATPE all over Texas and to have been recognized by my peers is something I will treasure for the rest of my life,” Sherman said. “I didn’t think I had a serious chance (of winning) being from South Texas. I felt this award really put Brownsville on the ATPE map.”

Sherman teaches world geography to students enrolled in the pre-AP and gifted and talented course as part of his school’s technology medical magnet program. Sherman said he and his fellow delegates at the summit, which included his wife, Irma, were proud to represent Brownsville at the summit.

“I still can’t believe I won the award,” Sherman said. “It is such an honor. I thank ATPE for this honor and hope to continue being an effective educator.”

Sherman of Brownsville ISD was one of three finalists for the award. Judith Gonzales, an algebra teacher at Boerne High School in Boerne ISD, and Linda Nash Pearce, an ESL teacher at Dorie Miller Intermediate School in Ennis ISD, were the other finalists.

Nearly 1,000 people celebrated the achievements of public school educators at the banquet where awards were presented to educators in administrator, associate, elementary and secondary teacher, and special services categories.

Attendees at the four-day ATPE Summit also had the opportunity to attend professional development workshops, participate in the organization’s annual governance meeting, the ATPE House of Delegates, and new state officers for 2011-12.

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The 116,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators is the largest educators' group in Texas and the largest nonunion educators' group nationwide. Its membership consists of classroom teachers, para-educators, administrators, college students and retired educators. ATPE is committed to advocating for better benefits for all educators, promoting a collaborative work environment and the right of educators to choose the association they feel represents their interests, and providing the best education possible for all Texas school children.