

# Association of Texas Professional Educators

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## **San Antonio teacher wins \$1,000 grant from ATPE**

SAN ANTONIO— East Central Independent School District Dyslexia Specialist Lauri Peters was selected as the recipient of a \$1,000 Grant for Teaching Excellence award in the elementary category from the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE). Peters teaches at Pecan Valley Elementary School in San Antonio.

Peters' grant project will encourage students to read with their parents outside of school. She will host a reading event called a Reading Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 8 in her school cafeteria to allow families to read various books together in a restaurant-like setting.

"Many of our pre-K through third grade students lack the luxury of having parents read to them each and every night," Peters said.

During Peter's reading event, teachers will serve as waiters and waitresses. Instead of taking food orders, teachers will take book orders.

"At the end of the event, all students will receive free books to take home and enjoy with their family," Peters said.

The ATPE Grant for Teaching Excellence acknowledges outstanding and creative ATPE members who develop programs or proposals intended to improve the quality of education for the children in their classrooms. Two \$1,000 awards are presented each year, one to an elementary-level applicant and the other to a secondary -level applicant. Recipients are also honored during the ATPE Summit Awards Banquet, which takes place each summer in Austin.

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*With more than 100,000 members, the 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.*