



Association of Texas Professional Educators
305 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 300, Austin, TX 78752
(800) 777-ATPE • (512) 467-0071 • atpe.org

Media Advisory:
June 6, 2014

Media Contact:
Stephanie Jacksis
Office: 512-467-0071
Cell: 281-760-8697
sjacksis@atpe.org

Local journalist wins Alafair Hammett Media Award *ATPE selects Hollie O'Connor of the Waco Tribune*

WACO, Texas — The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) recently selected the *Waco Tribune's* Hollie O'Connor to receive an award for her excellent news coverage on public education.

O'Connor won the 2014 Alafair Hammett Media Award in the category for newspapers with circulations of 25,000-50,000 readers.

The award will be presented at a banquet July 10 at the Austin Convention Center. The banquet will take place during the 2014 ATPE Summit, an annual education conference that more than 1,100 educators are expected to attend.

The media award was established both to honor Alafair Hammett, ATPE's first state president, and to recognize media outlets for their outstanding support and coverage of public education.

Recipients are selected by a panel of seven volunteer educators from around the state who serve on the association's public information committee. The committee was impressed by O'Connor's reports on WISD approving pay increase for first-year teachers, as well as her reporting about two local students advancing to the national spelling bee.

###

The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) has been a strong voice for Texas educators since 1980. It is the leading educators' association in Texas with more than 100,000 members statewide. With its strong collaborative philosophy, ATPE speaks for classroom teachers, administrators, future, retired and para-educators and works to create better opportunities for 5 million public schoolchildren. ATPE is the ally and the voice of Texas public school educators.