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Association of Texas Professional Educators

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San Antonio school assistant wins Associate Educator of the Year Award

AUSTIN – Lackland Independent School District math and science assistant Mary H. Reyes was honored July 19 with the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Associate Educator of the Year Award. Reyes, a 22-year education veteran, was presented with the award plus a \$1,000 check at the 2013 ATPE Summit Awards Banquet held at the Austin Convention Center.

“My greatest contribution is working with students to achieve their goals and helping them feel good about themselves,” Reyes said. “They come to me and say, ‘I can’t do this work.’ My motto is, ‘Yes, you can do this and more.’ I tell them don’t give up.”

Nearly 1,000 people celebrated the achievements of public school educators at the banquet, at which numerous awards were presented to educators who demonstrate exceptional and innovative skills in their respective education fields.

Reyes, who has worked at Lackland Elementary School throughout her education career, was one of three finalists for the associate award. ATPE’s Educator of the Year Award Committee was impressed with Reyes’ commitment to her campus, her passion for helping students succeed and her effective communication skills.

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The Association of Texas Professional Educators is the preeminent educators’ association 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.