

Association of Texas Professional Educators

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Special education teacher is new ATPE state president



AUSTIN – The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) recently elected longtime member Ginger Franks as the association’s state president for the 2013-14 school year. Franks, a special education teacher in the Martinsville Independent School District, will represent the association and about 100,000 Texas public school educators who are members.

An ATPE member for 27 years, Franks has served the association as state vice president, secretary and treasurer. The education veteran has also volunteered on numerous ATPE state committees and was a former director of ATPE Region 7.

She is a member of the Texas Teaching Commission, and she has served on many campus- and district-level committees as well as the Region 7 Education Service Center Texas Teacher of the Year Selection Committee. Franks—a two-time Golden Apple Award recipient and H-E-B Excellence in Education Award nominee—has also been a PTA officer and UIL and cheerleading coach.

“One of my goals is to help build more awareness for the association,” Franks said. “We provide a variety of professional opportunities and resources for new and veteran teachers. Becoming involved in ATPE has made me a stronger leader and a better classroom teacher.”

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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.