

## TAVAC Board Members 2017-2018

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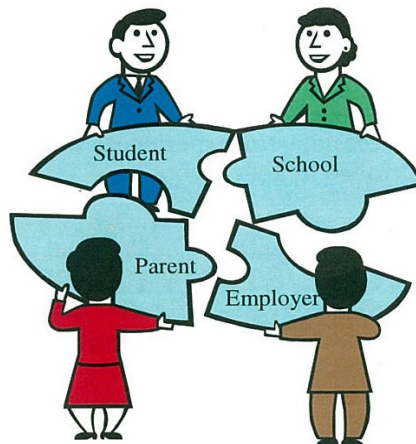
## Why Join TAVAC?

- Annual Conferences that provide education, motivation and training for TAVAC members.
- VAC Certification Program which promotes professional growth.
- TAVAC Handbook to ensure school/district programs are effective and comply with state and federal requirements.
- TAVAC Website is online with membership only access to the most valuable resources such as the TAVAC Handbook and Conference Materials.
- Network of Professionals state-wide for collaboration, training and support.



## What Can TAVAC Do For You?

### TAVAC Supports:



**TAVAC** is dedicated to help VAC's and other transition professionals better serve their students by providing the necessary training, support and other resources to guide them through the transition process.

## WHAT IS A VAC?

A VAC is a Vocational Adjustment Coordinator, a teacher who helps students develop and practice vocational readiness skills. The VAC's goal is to maximize each student's self confidence, self advocacy ability and capacity to think and work independently. This allows the student to reach their fullest potential in the workplace.

## TAVAC HISTORY

TAVAC was established in 1966 as a professional organization to train and support VAC's, Transition Specialists, Job Coaches, Vocational Counselors, and others tasked with helping students with disabilities transition from high school to a fulfilling work experience. Through annual conferences, TAVAC has played an increasingly effective role in providing professional development to those involved in the vocational training and transition of students with disabilities.

## TAVAC PURPOSE

- To aid in promoting the total development of students with special needs.
- To promote professional growth through state wide conferences and local meetings.
- To enhance communication.
- To promote a synergized effort in support of students with special needs.
- To provide policies which affect educators, students and their programs in general.
- To establish a statewide organization to provide a unified voice supporting the transition of disabled students.

## VAC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

TAVAC offers the state's only certification program for VAC's. This is earned by attaining 60 hours of in-service training in areas such as Job Development, Student Placement, Job-site Training and Vocational Assessment.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1979, the TAVAC Scholarship program was initiated to assist special education students participating in a vocational program with the cost of continuing their education or career training. Annually, TAVAC awards numerous scholarships totaling thousands of dollars to deserving transition students throughout the state.

### TAVAC Website: [tavac.org](http://tavac.org)

- ◆ TAVAC Handbook, various forms and other support material
- ◆ TAVAC Constitution & Bi-Laws
- ◆ Contact Information for TAVAC Board members
- ◆ Presenter notes and handouts from past TAVAC Conferences
- ◆ TAVAC Newsletters
- ◆ Guidelines for VAC Certification Program
- ◆ Membership Directory
- ◆ Student Scholarships: Guidelines and Application Information
- ◆ Links to valuable Texas Workforce Commission resources
- ◆ Links to Federal & State Labor Laws
- ◆ Links to other websites with current transition information

## Various TAVAC Conference Topics:

- Legal Updates Related to Transition
- Roles & Responsibilities of the VAC
- Back to the Basics: Job Coaching 101
- Post Secondary Options for all Students
- Work to 18+ and Post School Success
- SSI/Work Incentive
- Functional Vocational Assessments
- Developing the Self-Determined Child; Ideas for Parents
- Texas Workforce Commission-Resource Showcase
- It Really Does Take a Village
- Developing Work Skills Through Community Volunteerism
- Student Led ARD's
- Preparing Students for Independent Living
- Compliant Transcripts and Coding
- Sharpen Your Employment Soft Skills
- A Taste of Technology
- Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
- The Ultimate Goal: Employment
- Aligning the Transition Paperwork to the Transition Plan
- And many, many more!