



TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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January 14, 2004

Information Only

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day (TODASTWD)

The Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (TODASTWD) program is promoted annually nationwide by the Ms. Foundation for Women. The day provides an opportunity for districts to extend plans for career investigation activities. Nationally, the TODASTWD is the fourth Thursday in April each year (April 22, 2004). However, many superintendents have expressed an interest in participating in the TODASTWD at a different time than the national event due to state and locally established activities. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to advise school district superintendents about scheduling possibilities and regional coordination of activities related to the TODASTWD. Guidelines and suggestions are offered below.

1. While the Texas Education Agency encourages career investigation and community partnership programs, district officials should not consider participation in the TODASTWD as a mandate.
2. School officials are encouraged to involve parents and business leaders in their respective districts to determine the level of involvement in this effort by the local district. Districts may also want to consider having career orientation activities on campus prior to the date selected for participation in the TODASTWD. By incorporating the TODASTWD into the curriculum, participation in the TODASTWD will not be an isolated activity.
3. Districts choosing to participate in the TODASTWD may select any date **between April 22nd and June 11th**. This extended time frame will allow for maximum flexibility in scheduling activities. It will also accommodate those districts that have year-round calendars.
4. Districts are encouraged to coordinate with other districts both in and outside the region, so that employers in the surrounding area will not have multiple days in which children are brought to the workplace. To coordinate participation, superintendents are encouraged to contact the executive director of their regional education service center who may facilitate selection of a regional or metropolitan-wide date.
5. Superintendents are encouraged to consult with employers as soon as possible to discuss district and regional plans so that employers may coordinate the TODASTWD activities with the district.