

East Texas Distict Minutes
November 17,2022

The ETD met at Kilgore College for the famous taco soup and to surface ideas for coming meetings.

Scholarships: Nominations are needed for potential recipients of a scholarship for one student in each of the PTA programs in the district. Polly Maness-Bowers will be consulted about the Maness scholarship. Nominations will be due at end of January. The faculty of each program will ask for letters from the students about their plans and select the student most deserving. The winners of the scholarships will be announced at the February meeting.

Financials are okay, and are affected by the use of monthly national dues versus annual dues.

Membership is down.

Legislative day will be February 28 in Austin, with several bills of interest to physical therapy.

Annual Conference 2022 update: We did not meet quorum for the Texas Assembly, although ETD met our quorum. There were no hot topics brought forward. There were breakout sessions at the tables to discuss topics such as increased direct referral, diversity, utilization of PTA, standard, not specialists copay with language that includes both PTs and PTAs.

Elections: Carla Holmen, PTA was re-elected as Vice chair: Ann Huffstetter, PTA as secretary. Both officers were sworn in.

Topics of interest: continue with a hybrid Zoom-in person meetings, equestrian therapy at Star Bright, hand surgeon with an invitation to hand specialists in the area (PTs, OTs), functional medicine by Laurie Hurst, opening meetings to the entire state via Zoom for increased participation, Kinesiotaping and dry needling, pelvic health, lymphatic massage, vestibular, animal therapy. A QR code was posted for members present to respond to a survey about topics of interest.

Annual Conference next year will be in Round Rock, October 26-28, 2023. The location was determined when we negotiated a less expensive cancellation of Annual Conference in 2021.

Meeting frequency will remain quarterly with the addition of two social events: one in October and one in March. The summer will be used for planning by the executive board.

The secretary of the PTA SIG is a graduate of the TJC PTA program and will give an update of SIG activities at the February district meeting.

The next meeting will be February 16, 2023 via Zoom with Shaunda Kwiatek presenting about the utilization of the PTA. Shaunda obtained more information about getting our meetings posted on the TPTA website in timely manner.

Respectfully,
Ann Huffstetter
District Secretary