

NETABSE NEWSLETTER

NORTHEAST TEXAS ALLIANCE OF BLACK SCHOOL EDUCATORS

July – September 2018

NETABSE—Fulfilling the Purpose and the Mission Scholarships, Achievements, and Recognitions



NETABSE's fulfilling its purpose and mission has been remarkably successful. As the Alliance continues endeavoring to realize all of its goals, the organization has demonstrated the commitment to providing "exceptional educational opportunities for all students".

While the NETABSE Middle School Conference is an extraordinary event that exposes Eighth Grade students to a greater understanding of the path to future career opportunities, particularly in the field of Education, our local Alliance has reached much further. During the spring of this year, in advance of the Conference, secondary school students were involved in a logo contest through which the winning entry would be used for all official NETABSE communications, as well as for the Middle School Conference t-shirts worn by every student attendee. NETABSE awarded the winner, Advanced Graphic Design student Maria (Isabel) Valerio, a certificate of recognition and a \$100.00 gift certificate for her winning logo. Maria is a student in the Texarkana Independent School District (TISD).

In addition to the aforementioned achievement, this spring NETABSE had the privilege of awarding a \$500.00 academic scholarship to one college-bound senior from each of our four area school districts. The awards were given in the honor of founding NETABSE member the late Mr. Dan Haskins. Professionally, he was an educator who became a principal in Texarkana Independent School District. After his retirement, Mr. Haskins served on the Liberty-Eylau ISD Board of Trustees. His

passion for education fortified his endless and tireless dedication and work to build and safeguard educational opportunities for students.

The NETABSE Scholarship Committee worked diligently to select exceptional and deserving recipients of the financial awards. Committee members are as follows: NETABSE President James Keeton and Scholarship Committee Chairman Paul Norton, Superintendent of Texarkana Independent School District (TISD); Alonza Mitchell; Dr. Donna McDaniel; and Shawna Watkins, all of Texarkana College; Phillip O'Donald and Brad Bailey of TISD and Jean Matlock, TISD affiliate; Brandi Burnett of Liberty-Eylau ISD; Dr. Brian Matthews, Cynthia Henderson, and Kashyra Thompson of Texas A&M University-Texarkana; Jesse Keeton of Texarkana Arkansas School District.

Recipients of the NETABSE Dan Haskins scholarships:

- **Gregory Jordan—Arkansas School District**
Gregory graduated from Arkansas High School in Texarkana and plans to attend Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He plans to major in Mathematics.
- **Myrona Ervin—Liberty-Eylau Independent School District**
Myrona is a graduate of Liberty Eylau Independent School District. She plans to attend Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas and major in Elementary Education.
- **Benjamin Awuah—Pleasant Grove Independent School District**
Benjamin is a graduate of Pleasant Grove High School and will pursue a degree in Chemistry at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri.
- **Khyla Lewis—Texarkana Independent School District**
Khyla graduated from Texas High School. She plans to attend Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge and major in Sports Commerce.

*"A good teacher can
inspire hope, ignite the
imagination, and instill a
love of learning."*

- Brad Henry

NETABSE wishes these young leaders much success. Applications and scholarships will be available to new candidates in the spring of 2019.



**Rashad Thrower, Aquonette Tyous and Michael Odom,
Arkansas High School's new principal**

Rashad Thrower, Aquonette Tyous and Michael Odom, Arkansas High School's new principal, performed at Lonoke Baptist Church singing "You Are My Hiding Place" by Selah

On Sunday, June 10, 2018, Rashad Thrower and Aquonette Tyous performed at Lonoke Baptist Church with Michael Odom, Arkansas High School's new principal. Singing "You Are My Hiding Place" by Selah, the trio exemplified Odom's commitment and emphasis to building strong relationships as a foundation to his work over the coming years. "I was honored to be asked to perform with Rashad and Aquonette. They are leaders at school, church and in the community. Rashad will be a freshman and Aquonette a sophomore at Arkansas High School next year," said Odom.

Rashad was selected for Talent Search at Texarkana College and honored as Student of the Year at North Heights Junior High School. While there, he was a member of the Leadership team, Fellowship of Christian Students, and Student Council. At Lonoke Baptist Church, he is in the junior and combined choir, a junior usher, and in 4-H club. Aquonette is an A-B Honor Roll student at Arkansas High while taking a rigorous course load of all advanced classes. She balances this with being a student athlete (volleyball and track) and playing clarinet in the band. She also attends Lonoke Baptist Church where she is in 4-H club.

As part of his focus on forging strong relationships with students, families and the community, Odom will be creating a student advisory group and hosting parent/community meetings. Beyond the school, Odom is seeking ways to become part of the fabric of Texarkana. Odom believes, "To affect positive change in Texarkana, I have to find ways to work outside of the walls of the school and demonstrate my commitment to this city." Before coming to Arkansas High School, Odom was an elementary principal in Stephens, AR., and the K-12 principal of Nevada Schools in Rosston, AR.

Editorial By: Rachel Scott



In Other School Districts News



**C.K. Bender Elementary
Grades 1-4 moves to
New Campus**
August 2018



**Texas Tigers Season
Ticket Renewals for
Previous Year Holders**
July 30 –August 3, 2018
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
PAC

Watermelon Supper
August 18, 2018
Tiger Center ♦ 6:00pm



PGISD Meet the Teacher
August 9, 2018

In Other Higher Education News



College 101 Student Orientation

August 17, 2018 (F)

College Closed (Labor Day)

September 3, 2018 (M)



Extended Hours Fall Registration

August 20-21, 2018 (M-T)
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

LATE Registration

August 22-23, 2018 (W-TH)



PATH (Personal Achievement Through Help)

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA PATH PROGRAM (P)ERSONAL (A)CHIEVEMENT (T)HROUGH (H)ELP

ENCOURAGING AND MENTORING AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND DEGREE ACHIEVEMENT AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA. BUILDING GREAT MEN FOR ALL OF OUR COMMUNITIES.

As African-American male students make the transition into higher education, they may struggle with personal obstacles while trying to maneuver through an area and a process that is unfamiliar to them. For them to be successful it is very important for the students to have someone that they can relate to. They need someone who knows how to make their experience through the university much smoother and productive, which in turn will make reaching their academic and personal development goals more attainable. The Texas Pioneer Foundation has provided funding to establish the PATH Program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana. The PATH Program is a program for African-American males that aims to strengthen the development of this traditionally under-represented group of students, and facilitates an easier transition into the intellectual, social, and cultural environment of the university. Our mission is to encourage, support, and guide students in developing academically, personally, and professionally so that they complete their degree and become successful community leaders.

The program benefits are:

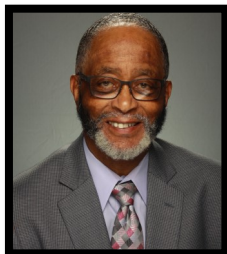
- An annual scholarship worth \$1,000
- Intensive and intrusive mentorship
- Academic guidance and support
- Career development and networking education
- Leadership and communication development

The program requirements are:

- Currently making satisfactory academic progress= 2.0 GPA
- Must attend weekly meetings with PATH Program mentors and staff
- Complete all required trainings as assigned
- And must attend all required campus and community events that may or may not involve the PATH Program

For more information, please contact Doneyne Smith (PATH Program Manager) at 903-344-6753 or PATH@tamut.edu. Also go to www.tamut.edu and search PATH for an application.

President Message



Greetings to All! The Northeast Texas Alliance of Black School Educators (NETABSE) is a vibrant organization that works to bring about positive growth for all students of Northeast Texas, with a focus on helping those that are educationally underserved. To a great extent, African-American students nation-wide categorically experience unnecessary and frequently unavoidable challenges to learning. Thus, the NETABSE's emphasis is on narrowing educational gaps and continuously raising the bar towards excellence for all learners. When students, impacted by the NETABSE, become academically and socially successful, we are truly able to claim

our success as educational leaders, having provided them some of the very tools they need in order to attain the highest levels of accomplishment. Moreover, quality educators with a passion for teaching, the best available curricula, accessible and modern equipment, mentors, as well as an environment conducive to learning are some of the tools that provide students a clear pathway to school success and a promising future. The NETABSE is comprised of members of the following four Northeast Texas Independent School Districts: Liberty-Eylau ISD, Texarkana Arkansas School District, Texarkana ISD, and Pleasant Grove ISD. Texarkana College and Texas A&M University-Texarkana are also members as well as sponsors. If you would like to become engaged in advancing scholarship among all students, please join our team! Particularly, needing a boost of encouragement are those students that are most academically vulnerable. As an organization devoted to overall student development, the NETABSE believes there is a role for every dedicated participant. The NETABSE welcomes mentors and supporters from various groups such as fraternities, sororities, religious entities, and other organizations. Your contribution to service will help to build a stronger community and cultivate connectivity between the NETABSE and other affiliates. To help foster educational goals and growth of the NETABSE, as with any organization, financial support is crucial. In the process of making a difference in the lives of others, our affiliate is grateful for partners who are willing to provide support towards aiding college-bound students that are in need of financial assistance. For further information on how you may help or become a member, please feel free to visit our website from where you may also contact any NETABSE officer or associate.

Best regards,

James G. Kerton

NETABSE Committees

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| 📖 BUDGET COMMITTEE | 📖 FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE |
| 📖 BYLAWS COMMITTEE | 📖 HONORING COMMITTEE |
| 📖 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/
HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE | 📖 MEMBERSHIP AND
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE |
| 📖 CONFERENCE PLANNING AND
PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE | 📖 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE |
| 📖 FAITH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE | 📖 SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE
COMMITTEE |

Contact Us

Contact us if you require additional information about NETABSE or if you are interested in joining.

NETABSE

P.O. Box 5653
Texarkana, Texas 75505

Visit Us on the Web at
www.netabse.org

Membership Dues

- 📖 Student—\$10
- 📖 Retired—\$10
- 📖 Individual—\$20
- 📖 Corporate—\$200

Membership/Newsletter Committee

- 📖 Barbara Adkins-Sears
- 📖 Brad Bailey
- 📖 Matt Fry
- 📖 Toney Favors
- 📖 Cynthia Henderson
- 📖 Ceretha Levingston
- 📖 Novella Medlock
- 📖 Chad Moore
- 📖 Pamela Thompson
- 📖 Lee Williams

NOTEWORTHY DATES/EVENTS

📖 **Liberty-Eylau
First Day of School**
August 13, 2018

📖 **Pleasant Grove
First Day of School**
August 13, 2018

📖 **Texarkana Arkansas
First Day of School**
August 15, 2018

📖 **Texas High
First Day of School**
August 15, 2018

📖 **Texarkana College
Classes Begins**
August 20, 2018

📖 **Texas A&M University-
Texarkana Classes Begins**
August 27, 2018

📖 **University of Arkansas at Hope-
Texarkana Classes Begins**
August 22, 2018