

Some readers see this part of your email after the subject line in the inbox. Write something brief and catchy, compelling them to open the email.



Upcoming Changes at TAGE

Dear Geography Educators,

This summer the National Geographic Society announced a reorganization which moves its educator network model away from a state-based model to a regional, multi-state model. (Read [NGS message](#).) One result of this change is the dissolution of the NGS Alliance Network at the end of the 2018. The Texas Alliance for Geographic Education (TAGE) and the Department of Geography at Texas State University remain dedicated to supporting geography education across Texas.

The Department of Geography and TAGE are re-organizing to ensure a continuity of service and support for our Texas teachers. A few immediate changes are taking place.

Dr. Ron Hagelman has stepped down from the Alliance Coordinator position. The department chair, Dr. Alberto Giordano, will serve as the account manager.

Maggie Hutchins will serve as the program director of TAGE. She will report directly to Dr. Giordano and is assisted by two graduate students and two undergraduate students with support by the department.

For 2018, one of our goals is to offer online PD to supplement our face-to-face workshops. We are also working with our partners to stay aware of the TEKS Social Studies Streamlining process, and are developing new resource materials to assist with the instruction of geography in the classroom. Please consider sharing your thoughts with us about your needs in the [Educator Survey](#).

As always, we welcome your thoughts, comments, and concerns. We will all work together through this change, as we have in the past, to support geography education for our students.



Teachers Helping Teachers - Harvey Relief

In response to the needs of our fellow teachers, Texas geography educators across the state are organizing a school materials drive to help teachers affected by Harvey.

For those teachers affected by Hurricane Harvey, as you are able to get back into your classrooms, please let us know what materials you need.

For those teachers who want to assist, please let us know what materials you have to donate.

As we continue to assess and respond to the need, we will provide additional information. In the meantime, please let us know how you can help or how we can help you at the link below.

[**Materials/Supplies Drive**](#)

Social Studies TEKS Streamlining Process

From TEA:

This fall, the State Board of Education (SBOE) will begin the process to streamline the social studies TEKS for kindergarten-grade 8 and the following high school courses: U.S. History Studies Since 1877, World History Studies, World Geography Studies, U.S. Government, and Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits. SBOE members will nominate educators, parents, business and industry representatives, and employers to serve on the TEKS streamlining work groups. Information related to the social studies TEKS streamlining will be made available throughout the process on the [Social Studies TEKS Streamlining webpage](#). Questions regarding social studies streamlining may be sent to the Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division at TEKS@tea.texas.gov.

Social Studies TEKS Streamlining Survey

As a part of the SBOE's social studies TEKS streamlining process, The Texas Education

Agency (TEA) is conducting a survey of educators regarding the scope of the social studies TEKS. The results of the survey will inform the recommendations of the social studies TEKS work groups. Social studies educators are encouraged to complete a survey.

To provide feedback regarding the social studies TEKS for kindergarten-grade 5, submit the Elementary Social Studies TEKS Streamlining Survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/streamliningsurvey-elementary>.

To provide feedback regarding the social studies TEKS for grades 6-8 and high school U.S. History Studies Since 1877, World History Studies, World Geography Studies, U.S. Government, and Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, please submit the Secondary Social Studies TEKS Streamlining Survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/streamliningsurvey-secondary>

Resource Highlight: *How to Think Like a Geographer*

Edward Kinman, professor of geography at Longwood University, and Megan Webster, Social Studies Department Chair at J.J. Pearce High School in Richardson and TAGE Steering Committee member, are participants in a new educational initiative from the National Humanities Center, [Humanities in Class: A Guide to Thinking and Learning in the Humanities](#), which seeks to highlight the processes of discovery, analysis, and teaching specific to different humanities disciplines.



Listen to their [podcast](#) in which they discuss the ways that geography helps students understand interconnected system, issues of scale, and relationships between local and global.

Registration for the 2018 National Geographic Bee is Now Open!

[The Nat Geo Bee](#) is an annual geography competition for students at the school, state, and national levels where students in grades 4-8 compete for a chance to win up to \$50,000 in college scholarships. While students study for the Bee, they learn about the world, its people, and important historical events.

[Register your school today](#) and check out our [Kahoot! quizzes](#) to get your class excited for the challenge.



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