



TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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MIKE MOSES
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

June 25, 1998

To the Teacher Addressed:

During the 1997-98 school year and since its completion, Texas Education Agency staff has continued to develop materials that address issues related to the Professional Development Appraisal System (PDAS). Please be advised that no changes have been made to the (PDAS) as it was adopted. An evaluation of the system, which included responses from more than 1,000 administrators and teachers in Texas, has indicated that the first year of implementation of PDAS was positive. The Texas Education Agency appreciates the efforts of all educators that have been involved in the implementation the PDAS.

Attached please find the Teacher Renewal Packet that has been developed to assist teachers to better understand the expectations of PDAS. The packet contains four items.

1. Appraisal Period Timeline: addresses the order of events related to PDAS.
2. Scoring Continuum: discusses the percentages for each of the evaluation criteria for Quantity as it relates to an observation.
3. Scoring Criteria Guide: provides detailed descriptions of the expectations for each of the criteria in each of the domains.
4. Scoring Factors and Performance Level Standards: revised from the PDAS manual used for the 1997-98 school year; this attachment clarifies the area of Strength under the Quality dimension.

In addition, please be informed that software for developing the Teacher Self-Report is now available from your Education Service Center. Please contact the ESC of which your district is a member to obtain the software.

Hopefully, these four documents will address questions that you may have about PDAS and also clarify the goals and expectations of the appraisal system. In the event further information is necessary, please contact the Division of Educator Development Projects at the TEA website at www.tea.state.tx.us or by phone at (512) 475-1233.

Best wishes for a safe remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,

Pat Pringle, Associate Commissioner
School Support and Continuing Education