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**Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance  
7910 Cameron Road, Austin, Texas  
(512) 459-1299 Fax: (512) 459-1290**

**News Release**

***For additional information contact:***

**Dr. Diana Everett, CAE, Executive Director  
800.880-7300 Fax: (512) 459-1290**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Physically Fit Students Perform Better Academically**

Driven by a passion to continually reestablish their commitment to the health and wellbeing of their students, local educators were joined by more than 3,000 of their colleagues for three days of professional development activities at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, November 30 – December 3, 2011. This 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of over 200 programs was sponsored by the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (TAHPERD).

“With the crisis of childhood obesity impacting every school and every community, the teachers and administrators in the fields of health, physical education, recreation, and dance are dedicated to improving the quality of their students’ lives,” states Dr. Diana Everett, TAHPERD’s executive director. “Current research shows that the more physically fit a student is, the better he/she performs academically. The health and well being of Texas children is the life mission of our members.”

Presentations were provided by teachers representing kindergarten through college level instruction in the professions of health, physical education, recreation, and dance. TAHPERD members are making important contributions to the education and health of Texas children. These teachers are excited about the work they do and continue to make a difference in lives of their students and their communities.

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