



Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering  
The University of Texas at Austin  
10100 Burnet Road, R9200  
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[www.tame.org](http://www.tame.org)  
(512) 471-6100



**Report:**  
**TAME Trailblazer– Dunbar Jr. High, Lubbock**  
**August 29-Sept 2, 2005**  
*Sponsored by Texas Tech University*



On Monday, August 29, 2005, the TAME Trailblazer arrived at Dunbar Junior High in Lubbock and helped kick-off the school year at their Open House. During the week-long visit, **over 550 participants** toured the trailer, engaging in science and engineering hands-on exhibits. Students laughed and learned as they explored the exhibits and interacted with one or more of our Texas Tech University student volunteers. Thanks to Dean Fontenot and John Chandler for obtaining sponsorship and for providing such wonderful, engaging volunteers!



As an outreach tool, it is important that we measure our effect to determine whether or not we are having a positive impact on those we reach. Therefore, evaluation forms are distributed to the teachers and students who tour the trailer. During the week, we received 171 completed responses.

- 1) Participants are asked to respond to both: “BEFORE visiting the Trailblazer, I liked science and engineering...”, and “AFTER visiting the Trailblazer, I liked science and engineering...”. More than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the respondents had a more positive opinion of science and engineering *after* experiencing the TAME Trailblazer (they answered either “pretty much” or “absolutely” after having responded with something less positive to the “Before” question).
- 2) Over 90% of those who responded felt they learned something new while inside the trailer.
- 3) Over 82% of those who responded would like to visit the trailer again (an excellent number since many of these students had already toured the trailer during the 2003-2004 Dunbar Jr High tour that took place at this time last year!).

Additional comments provided by the students include:



- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because science rocks!”
- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because it is fun and is also a fun way to learn. I love the TAME Trailblazer.”
- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because I did all kinds of neat things. It was fun to explore.”
- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because it was very interesting and I got to see new things like the Van de Graf and we got to shock one another.”
- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because it had all kinds of things like magnets, lasers, static and many more things. It’s a fun way to learn science.”





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- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because it had lots of things that were neat. The Trailblazer also had things I never saw in science.”
- ◆ “I enjoyed visiting the TAME Trailblazer because it was different than any other things and they had a lot of hands on projects, not the ones you have to write on paper. So, that’s why it was so exciting.”



TAME’s Trailblazer program\* continues to prove to be an important outreach tool. Encouraging young people to equate science with fun is quite an undertaking. Evidenced by the positive responses and the smiling faces, and with the support from partners such as Texas Tech University, I have no doubt we are making a difference.



Thank you for your continued support of our programs!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shari Getz".

Shari Getz  
Executive Director

*\*The Trailblazer program is made possible in part by a grant from the Texas Education Agency and is supported by additional funding received from Dow, Shell, the University of Texas at Austin, and ConocoPhillips.*