



# blooming in the Garden of Education



2026  
TEACH  
TOMORROW  
SUMMIT



**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS**  
February 26 - 28, 2026 | Hilton Anatole Dallas



## Collegiate High School, Corpus Christi

Well, Howdy, Future Educators!

Welcome to the beautiful garden we call the 2026 Teach Tomorrow Summit, right here at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, Texas. We are beyond excited to officially kick off this year's State Conference, because each of you is in for a truly special experience. Over the next three days, you'll have opportunities to make new friends, explore colleges, immerse yourself in the field of education, and—who knows—maybe even earn your chance to compete at Nationals in Portland, Oregon!

As your 2025–2026 State President, I have the absolute honor of reflecting on the year behind us while also looking ahead to the future before us. It is incredibly meaningful to share this journey with such a dedicated group of learners, leaders, and changemakers who are committed to making a difference in education and in the lives of young people. While many of our events may feel familiar from year to year, each year gives us a fresh opportunity to grow, evolve, and make this organization our own.

Throughout this year, every experience—from Officer Training Camp to Area Conferences to the Teacher Leader Workshop—served as a chance to learn more, build connections with future, current, and retired educators, and adopt new ideas that will help us succeed moving forward. These moments left lasting impacts not only on the officer team, but on every member who participated.

One of the biggest highlights for both myself and the officer team was the Educators Rising National Conference. It was amazing to meet students from across the nation who share the same passion and dedication to education. Seeing over 1,100 Texans coming together to represent the Lone Star State was a powerful reminder of the strength and unity of our organization.

Another especially meaningful experience was the Officer Training Workshop at the Highland Lakes Camp. Much like plants in a garden, we grew together in just a few short days—through leadership sessions, late-night conversations, time by the pool, and shared stories. Each moment held value, whether it was strengthening leadership or friendships, or simply laughing together.

Our Area Conferences were equally impactful. While the officer team couldn't attend every conference in person, we were always there in spirit. We heard incredible things about each event and are so proud of how you all embodied the purpose of these conferences. And to those we did get to see in person—it was truly a joy connecting with you.

As we move through these next few days, let's remember the power and potential each of us holds. Through education, we have the ability to change lives. Every lesson taught, every conversation shared, and every connection made helps shape the garden we are all growing in. Never forget that you are capable, resilient, and meant to make an impact.

That belief is exactly why this year's theme, "Blooming in the Garden of Education," means so much. It represents growth, patience, and care—qualities we demonstrated all year long. We showed purpose, passion, and love in everything we did for TAFE and its members.

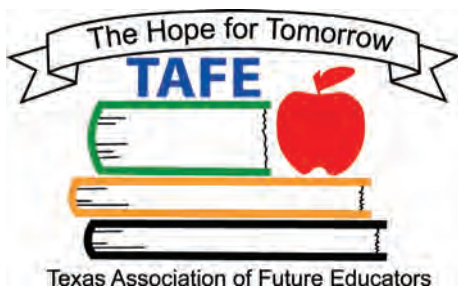


As we close this year and step into the next, let us reflect on everything we've experienced, the highs and the challenges alike. Each moment shaped us for a reason, preparing us to become the best versions of ourselves. Through laughter, the behind-the-scenes work, and the moments of celebration, thank you for an unforgettable year.

TAFE, we love you endlessly. Never forget—this organization will always be your home.

Signing Off,

~ Josiah Ponce, 2025-26 TAFE State President



# Texas Association of Future Educators

## TAFE Mission

TAFE encourages students to learn about careers in education and assists them in exploring the teaching profession while promoting character, service, and leadership skills necessary for becoming effective educators.

## *Welcome to the Teach Tomorrow Summit!*

The TAFE Board of Directors is delighted that you have chosen to join more than 3,400 other Future Educators for three days of learning, sharing, and fun! You have opportunities to hear exceptional keynote speakers and attend discussion group sessions presented by other TAFE Chapters with new ideas and strategies to help your chapter make a difference in your school and community.

**Student Behavior:** With the conference totaling more than 3,400 delegates, it is necessary that teacher leaders sit with their students during the general sessions and monitor the behavior of their students during the conference. Always treat speakers and presenters with courtesy and respect.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones, iPods, or other electronic devices are to have ringers turned off and are NOT to be used during any conference activity. We ask that both teacher leaders and students follow this guideline. Please be a model of consideration and respect for all who are attending conference sessions.

**Controlled Substances:** The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.

**NOTE:** For security reasons **ONLY REGISTERED PERSONS** can enter the General Sessions. No unregistered guests, judges, parents, etc., are allowed in the General Sessions, without a paid conference nametag.

## TAFE DRESS CODE:

### **STUDENT MANDATORY ATTIRE FOR GENERAL SESSIONS, RECOGNITIONS SESSIONS, EXHIBITS, WORKSHOPS, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, COMPETITIONS, LUNCHEONS**

- Area and State Officers cannot wear their royal blue blazers during competitions.
- TAFE black blazer is encouraged
- TAFE/EdRising patch placed on right lower pocket.
- Solid black blazers, cardigans or sweaters.
- Solid red, royal blue, white, or black polos or professional shirts- (long or short sleeves)
- Polos and professional shirts may have school logos or TAFE logos on the upper right or left-hand breast pocket.
- Dresses are NOT in this category
- Solid-Black, Navy or khaki bottom (slacks, skirts, dresses)
- Skirts and Dresses must be to the knee
- Solid red, black, white or royal blue bow ties, neck ties and suspenders may be worn.
- Dress shoes (black or brown preferred) (no athletic shoes including designer athletic, flip flops or sandals) (maximum 3" heel)
- Conference name badge worn for competition and awards
- *See Costume Section in the Competitive Events FAQ for dress code competitive event exception*

*NOTE: Students should be aware that when competing - points may be deducted for what the judge considers to be inappropriate or non-businesslike appearance and dress. (Examples of this may include visible tattoos, facial piercing, hair styles or colors, etc.)*

### **ALL TEACHER LEADERS/CHAPERONES/JUDGES/ GUESTS:**

- Business professional
- Jeans, t-shirts, athletic wear are NOT acceptable

## 2025-2026 State Officer Schools

### **PRESIDENT:**

**Collegiate High School, Corpus Christi**



Josiah Ponce, Collegiate High School  
Dr. Tracie Rodriguez, President Teacher Leader

### **VICE-PRESIDENT:**

**Alief Taylor High School**



Jasmon Sampy, Alief Taylor High School  
Denise Mora, Vice President Teacher Leader

### **SECRETARY:**

**Kingwood High School**



Peyton Stewart, Kingwood High School  
Monica Carnahan, Secretary Teacher Leader

### **HISTORIAN:**

**Silverton High School**



April Fernandez, Silverton High School  
Nikki Gamble, Historian Teacher Leader

## 2025-2026 Board of Directors

PAST STATE OFFICER TEACHER LEADER: Amber Crabill, Lockhart High School

ELECTED TEACHER LEADERS: Emily Buchtien, San Marcos High School  
Krista Scott, Andrews High School  
Erin Newman, Elsik High School

JR. HIGH REPRESENTATIVE: Amanda Weaver, Venus Middle School

HIGHER EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES: Dr. Crystal Rose, Tarleton State University, Teacher Leader  
Journey Harris, Tarleton State University, Chapter President

TASSP REPRESENTATIVES: TASSP President: Carlin Grammer, Principal, Copperas Cove HS  
TASSP First Vice President: Rachel Freeman, Principal, River Road MS  
TASSP Second Vice President: Alison Smith, Principal, Midway HS

TASSP/TAFE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dr. Billy Pringle

TAFE STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Monica Oliver



## Greetings from the State Office



**Monica Oliver**

State Program Director, TAFE



**Dr. Billy Pringle**

Executive Director, TASSP/TAFE



**Carlin Grammer**

President, TASSP

Principal, Copperas Cove High School  
TASSP is the Sponsor Organization of TAFE

### State Summit Committees

Appointed by the Vice-President and Secretary Schools

#### Credentials Committee

*Chairperson: State Vice President, Jasmon Sampy, Alief Taylor High School*

Committee Charge: To review the list of certified schools and to prepare a list of eligible candidate schools to be elected at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit. This committee is also responsible for upholding the TAFE Officer Election Campaign Rules and Regulations.

Abilene High School, Area 7  
Clark High School, Area 2  
Homer Hanna Early College High School, Area 1  
Rusk High School, Area 6

#### Tabulations Committee

*Chairperson: State Secretary, Peyton Stewart, Kingwood High School*

Committee Charge: To certify the results from ballots received from the state director and present them to the President prior to the last general session.

Abilene Wylie High School, Area 7  
Brennan High School Area 2  
Mabank High School, Area 11

## Wednesday, February 25, 2026

**NOTE: For security reasons, ONLY REGISTERED PERSONS can enter the General Sessions. NO unregistered guests, judges, parents, etc., are allowed in the General Sessions, without a paid conference nametag.**

3:00p - 4:30p ..... TAFE Board of Directors Meeting ..... Verandah: Shelbourne  
5:00p - 7:00p ..... **Registration Opens** ..... **Peacock Terrace Foyer (Tower Side)**  
7:00p - 9:00p ..... Competitive Events Team Meeting (*invite only*) ..... Peacock Terrace  
7:00p - 10:00p ..... State Officer Meeting and Rehearsal (*invite only*) ..... Trinity Ballroom

## Thursday, February 26, 2026

**ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY PAID REGISTRANTS CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSIONS**

7:30a - 8:45a ..... Breakfast Available ..... Concession Stands Open for Breakfast  
7:45a - 8:30a ..... Judges Check-in (*Adults Only*) ..... Peacock Terrace  
**8:00a - 12:00p ..... Registration Opens ..... Peacock Terrace Foyer (Tower Side)**  
**9:00a - 10:30a ..... OPENING GENERAL SESSION (*See box below*) ..... Trinity Ballroom**  
10:45a - 12:00p ..... Credentialing Committee Mtg (*State Candidate Schools*) ..... Peacock Terrace  
10:45a - 11:30a ..... Breakout Sessions - Set 1 ..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 10  
**10:45a - 12:00p ..... Competitive Events Begin ..... Check the App/pg 22**  
**10:30a - 5:00p ..... Exhibits Open ..... Trinity Pre-Function**  
**1:00p - 3:00p ..... Officer Campaigning (*Voting Delegate gets Card Stamped*) ..... Trinity Pre-Function**  
12:00p - 12:45p ..... Lunch Break (*Lunch provided for judges*) ..... Concession Stands Open  
1:00p - 5:00p ..... Registration Reopens ..... Peacock Terrace Foyer  
**1:00p - 6:00p ..... All Competitive Events Resume ..... Check the App/pg 22**  
1:00p - 1:45p ..... Breakout Sessions - Set 2 ..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 10  
2:00p - 2:45p ..... Breakout Sessions - Set 3 ..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 11  
3:00p - 3:45p ..... Breakout Sessions - Set 4 ..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 11  
4:00p - 4:45p ..... Breakout Sessions - Set 5 ..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 12  
6:00p - 6:45p ..... Dinner Break (*Dinner is provided for the judges working*) ..... Dinner on your own  
**7:00p - 9:00p ..... All Competitive Events Resume ..... Check the App/pg 22**

### Opening General Session | Thursday 9:00a

**ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY THOSE REGISTERED CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSION**

Welcome ..... TAFE President, Josiah Ponce, Collegiate High School  
Introduction of TAFE Officers ..... TAFE Vice President, Jasmon Sampy, Alief Taylor High School  
National Anthem ..... Sung by Phoebe So, Frisco CTE Center Signed by Reese Bryant, Sachse High School  
The Pledges\* of Allegiance ..... TAFE State Secretary, Peyton Stewart, Kingwood High School

*\* I pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands,  
one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

*\* Pledge to the Texas Flag: Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.*

TAFE Pledge ..... TAFE State Historian, April Fernandez, Silverton High School

*\*TAFE Pledge: As a TAFE member, I hereby pledge to promote positive attitudes regarding all noble aspects of education, to acknowledge the  
challenging role of the teaching profession, and to provide service and leadership within my school and community.*

Invocation ..... Jasmon Sampy

Introduction of TAFE Event Coordinators ..... April Fernandez

TAFE State Service Project ..... Peyton Stewart

Teacher Leader of the Year ..... Dr. Billy Pringle, Executive Director, TASSP/TAFE

Dr. Pat McLeod Scholarship ..... Monica Oliver, State Director, TAFE

Outstanding Chapter Awards ..... Jasmon Sampy

Keynote Speaker ..... Aric Bostick

Announcements ..... Jasmon Sampy and April Fernandez

Adjournment ..... Josiah Ponce

## Friday, February 27, 2026

**ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY PAID REGISTRANTS CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSIONS**

7:00a - 7:45a.....	Judges Check-in ( <i>Adults Only</i> ) .....	Peacock Terrace
7:30a - 8:45a.....	Breakfast Available .....	Concession Stands are Open
8:00a - 12:00p .....	TAFE Store Opens ( <i>Located at the Registration Desk</i> ) .....	Peacock Terrace Foyer
<b>8:00a - 12:00p .....</b>	<b>Competitive Events Resume .....</b>	<b>Check the App/pg 22</b>
<b>9:00a - 5:00p .....</b>	<b>Exhibits Open.....</b>	<b>Trinity Pre-Function</b>
<b>8:00a - 9:00a...</b>	<b>Political Rally (<i>See below. A voting delegate from each school must be present</i>) ...</b>	<b>Trinity Ballroom</b>
9:15a - 10:00a.....	Breakout Sessions - Set 6.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 12
10:15a - 11:00a .....	Breakout Sessions - Set 7.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 13
11:15a - 12:00p .....	Breakout Sessions - Set 8.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 13
12:00p - 12:45p .....	Teacher Leader and Student Lunch provided by TAFE.....	Lunch Tickets
	<i>Lunch provided for judges on duty</i>	
1:00p - 5:00p .....	TAFE Store Reopens.....	Peacock Terrace Foyer
<b>1:00p - 6:00p .....</b>	<b>All Competitive Events Resume .....</b>	<b>Check the App/pg 22</b>
1:00p - 1:45p .....	Breakout Sessions - Set 9.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 14
2:00p - 2:45p .....	Breakout Sessions - Set 10.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 15
3:00p - 3:45p .....	Breakout Sessions - Set 11.....	Check the App for Sessions/pg 15
<b>4:00p - 4:45p .....</b>	<b>Graduation Signing Event .....</b>	<b>Trinity Ballroom</b>
	<i>Event for Graduating seniors going into Education and FCS Education</i>	
	<i>(Student signers may wear a college shirt for their signing event, no jeans)</i>	
6:00p - 8:00p .....	Dinner Break .....	Dinner on Your Own
	<i>Dinner will be provided for judges who are still judging. Times may vary depending on the events schedule.</i>	
<b>8:00p - 10:30p .....</b>	<b>Dance: Wedgewood Ballroom / Games and Crafts: Senator Lecture Hall</b>	
	<i>(Teachers and Students must wear a TAFE conference, area or chapter t-shirt and jeans with no holes)</i>	

### Political Rally Session | Friday 8:00a | Bring Your Stamped Voting Card!

**ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY THOSE REGISTERED CAN ENTER THE SESSION**

Welcome .....	Josiah Ponce
Presiding.....	Master of Ceremonies, Jasmon Sampy
Officer Candidate Videos/Questions/Speeches .....	Jasmon Sampy
Time-Keeper .....	Peyton Stewart and April Fernandez

#### STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES:

Anne Frank Inspire Academy - Caney Creek High School - Cleburne High School - Denton High School - Dumas High School  
Forney OC - Lockhart High School - San Marcos High School - San Saba High School - Santa Fe High School

*Each candidate school will be called on by the Master of Ceremonies. Candidate's campaign video will play, then candidates will be called on to give their platform speech. After the speech is given, each candidate will be asked two questions. One question will be a TAFE fact question, and one will be a thought question.*

2026-2027 TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit Proposed Themes .....



- WHISKING UP WONDERS IN TEACHING
- NEXT EPISODE: EDUCATE THE FUTURE
- EXPLORING THE WILDERNESS OF TEACHING

*Each chapter is allowed a maximum of one voting delegate. The Credentials Committee, which is overseen by the Vice President school, will give balloting instructions.  
The Tabulations Committee, which is overseen by the Historian School, will certify the votes.*

Announcements / iPad Giveaway..... April Fernandez

*Saturday, February 28, 2026*

**NOTE: For security reasons, ONLY REGISTERED PERSONS can enter the General Sessions. NO unregistered guests, judges, parents, etc., are allowed in the General Sessions, without a paid conference nametag.**

9:00a - 11:00a..... Closing General Session..... Trinity Ballroom

### **Closing General Session | 9:00a**

**ALL MUST BE IN DRESS CODE | ONLY THOSE REGISTERED CAN ENTER THE GENERAL SESSION**

Presiding..... Josiah Ponce  
Recognition of Outgoing Officers ..... Monica Oliver  
Announcement of 2026-2027 Theme ..... Jasmon Sampy  
Installation of New Officers ..... State Officers  
Student of the Year Award Presentation ..... Dr. Billy Pringle  
Competitive Events Recognition..... State Officers

*PLEASE NOTE: The order of competitive events listed below is also the order of recognition.*

### **Competitive Events Recognition:**

#### **COMPETITIONS** (announced by school names)

Children's Literature Collegiate  
Children's Literature K-3  
Children's Literature K- 3 Spanish  
Children's Literature Pre-K  
Children's Literature Pre-K Spanish  
Creative Lecture  
Differentiated Lesson  
Educators Rising Leadership Award  
Educators Rising Moment  
Educators Rising Moment Spanish  
Ethical Dilemma  
Exploring Education Administration Careers  
Exploring Non-Core Teaching Subject Careers  
Exploring Support Services Careers  
Goal Setting  
Impromptu Lesson  
Impromptu Speaking  
Inside Our Schools  
Inside Our Schools Spanish  
Job Interview  
Lesson Planning & Delivery – Arts  
Lesson Planning & Delivery-- CDA  
Lesson Planning & Delivery - CTE



Lesson Planning & Delivery – Humanities  
Lesson Planning & Delivery—Professional Development  
Lesson Planning & Delivery – Spanish  
Lesson Planning & Delivery – STEM  
Public Service Announcement  
Public Speaking  
Researching Learning Challenges

#### **CONTESTS** (announced by school names)

Breakout Session Contest  
Chapter Yearbook  
Educational Leadership Fundamentals Test  
Interactive Bulletin Board  
Portfolio  
Project Visualize  
Teacher Created Materials

**NOTE:** No medals or certificates will be given out during the awards ceremony. All national qualifiers and State gold certificate winners will be recognized on stage. Award packets can be picked up at the CONCLUSION of the closing general session, at the registration desk. Please show courtesy and do not leave the Session early. All packets not picked up will be mailed, after postage has been paid.

Benediction ..... Jasmon Sampy  
Adjournment ..... Josiah Ponce

*Thank you for attending the Teach Tomorrow Summit!*





## Meet our Keynote Speaker



### Aric Bostick

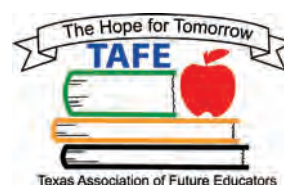
Aric Bostick is a nationally recognized keynote speaker and trainer who ignites school leaders, educators, students, parents and school communities to show up—with energy, connection, and purpose. Over 25+ years, he has inspired over half a million people across 500+ school districts and at major education conferences and events nationwide.

A former high-school teacher and coach, Aric founded a student leadership club that was featured on television for its impact. He went on to build a Student Leadership Camp, an online professional development course for educators, and a college-readiness program and curriculum for students. Aric's work is connection-based (attachment-informed, rooted in relational neuroscience) and translates the science of belonging into everyday practices school leaders and educators can use. He delivers leadership training for superintendents, principals, and executive directors; professional development for educators, counselors, and staff; and high-energy student programs that build resilience and relationship skills, and inspire academic and career success. Aric is the creator of the *Fired Up to Show Up* professional development program, the Year-Round Partnership model for sustained momentum, and a *Student Leadership Camp* (with Shaun Barrowes, Emmy-nominated artist and American Idol Top 30) that empowers young people to Live Their Dreams.

He is a proud first-generation graduate of Texas State University.



*Thanks!*  
**A Huge TAFE Hug!**



**Texas Association of Future Educators would like to extend special thanks and appreciation to the following people and organizations for helping to make this event a success:**

**Charles Butt Foundation**

**Texas Education Agency**

**The U.S. Army**

**Dr. Tracie Rodriguez, Denise Mora, Monica Carnahan,  
and Nikki Gamble for all my random tasks and things I needed answered.**

**Austin Ince, Cathy Ownby, Ann Grimes, Carrie Swisher, Connie Thornell,  
Joe Thornell, Leah Zavala, Amy Killian, and Susan Stevens for all they have  
done to make sure our events ran smoothly.**

**Amber Crabill, for being our State Officer Photographer!**

**State officer schools for donation of prizes.**

**Volunteer judges, timekeepers, door monitors and runners.**

**Presenters who gave their time to help develop future educators.**

**Our wonderful teacher leaders and student volunteers for your devoted  
time and active role in making the conference a success.**

**All of our exhibitors**

**The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals for its ongoing support  
with special thanks to Dr. Billy Pringle, TASSP/TAFE Executive Director.**

# Thursday Breakout Session Descriptions

**Set 1: Thu 10:45a - 11:30a | Set 2: Thu 1:00p - 1:45p**

Choose one session from each of the sets below. Please refer to the map on page 23 for the Locations.

## SET 1 - THURSDAY

### Fill Don't Spill: How To Be A Bucket Filler

*Maddie Harris, Lily McClinton, Sophia Moore: Georgetown HS*

**10:45-11:30 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Leadership**

Get ready to lift others up and spread kindness! In this fun interactive session, you'll learn what it truly means to be a bucket filler, someone who brightens others' days through encouragement, positivity, and support. Through engaging activities, reflection, and discussion, you'll discover how small actions can make a big impact in your school and community. Come join us to fill some buckets, share smiles, and leave feeling inspired to make the world a kinder place!

### Seeds of Knowledge, Gardens of Growth

*Jazmine Melendez, Cinthia Garcia, Roselyn Miramontes, Giovanni Turruhartes, Analitzia Munoz, Bailey Reed: New Tech Odessa*

**10:45-11:30 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

Today you will be in the garden of education and you will learn how to nurture your future students. Participants will plant their own flower. That delicate flower will represent their own future students. As a future teacher you will be responsible for your students growth and success.

### TAFE Takeoff!

*Jason Gonzalez-Buckner, Jackson Colburn, Emilia Sole, Lily Flores-Arevalo, Avarie Ennis, Kylar Lambert: Cy-Fair HS*

**10:45-11:30 • Comet 27th Fl • Leadership**

Get ready to blast off on a mission beyond the stars where you will need to survive an engine malfunction by focusing on communication and teamwork. With these attributes in mind, we guarantee you will survive. Just like astronauts who rely on communication to survive, classroom communities rely on communication to thrive! MAX 60.

### Rainbow Emotional Journal

*Kaelynne Durham, Hailey Williford, Tinsley Zemanek, Alyssa Resio: Skidmore-Tynan HS*

**10:45-11:30 • Westcott 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Create your own Rainbow Emotional Journal and bring your feelings to life with color! Track, explore, and express your emotions in a fun, creative way, while discovering new ways to understand yourself and build healthy coping skills. MAX 60.

### Teacher Recruitment and Development

*Krista Scott: Andrews ISD Teacher Academy*

**10:45-11:30 • Continental 27th Fl • Collaborative Learning**

Through innovative partnerships and planning, we offer multiple pathways for teacher certification including an approved Alternative Certification Program. Explore our program that starts with our Education and Training Program of Study and continues to support pre-service teachers through college graduation and teacher certification. In this session, you will not only learn about our program, we will also collaborate and share ways other districts are tackling teacher shortages through TAFE and Education and Training Programs of Study!

## SET 2 - THURSDAY

### Brush Rush

*Tammy Nguyen, Lola Hess, Sophia Ferrer: NYOS Charter School*

**1:00-1:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Educational Awareness**

Test your creativity and adaptability in this breakout session! Work in groups to make a collaborative art piece on a canvas with paint and fun. Through the focus of the "E" in TRAFLES, this session will help you explore educational awareness to strengthen your learning skills. MAX 100.

### Let Kindness Bloom: Supporting Mental Health and Each Other

*Nayeli Quintero, Ariadne Jimenez, Fernando Vela: Texas City HS*

**1:00-1:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Education Awareness**

Just like a flower needs sunlight and care to bloom, students need understanding and support to grow through the challenges they face. In this session, we'll open the conversation about the serious mental health struggles students experience throughout their school years.

### Sowing Seedlings of Appreciation

*Karina Nunez, Marley Perez, Triston Ramsey, Esmeralda Vidal Flores, Dominique Pineda Hernandez, Seidy Franco: Infinity EC HS*

**1:00-1:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Appreciation**

Embark on a creative journey where gratitude blossoms and appreciation takes root! In this make-and-take breakout session, participants will decorate mini flower pots, create long-lasting flowers out of pipe cleaners, and write thoughtful and encouraging messages to the teachers who have helped them blossom and grow. Each participant will leave with a thoughtful keepsake that will encapsulate the spirit of appreciation and the reminder that educators pour into others to make a difference and help us bloom. MAX 50

### The De-Stress Station

*Belinda Raymundo, Andrea Angeles, Kimberly Tercero, Melissa Araiza, Miley Arevalo and Leticia Mejia: Richardson HS*

**1:00-1:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Leadership**

Are you stressed out and don't know how to de-stress yourself? Come check out our breakout session today! We will show you different ways to manage your stress and have fun activities for you! MAX 50.

### 5R's of Effective Classroom Management

*Dr. Monte' L. Demars, Empowered to BE Edu. Consulting, LLC*

**1:00-1:45 • Continental 27th Fl • Skill Building**

Teaching is not a job--it's a calling! Extracted from his newly released book: *5Rs of Effective Classroom Management*, Dr. Demars empowers teachers to connect to their calling, confidently claim their space in the circle of education, and clearly communicate expectations to students. In this session, attendees will build their capacity by using the three pillars self-awareness, self-efficacy, and self-discipline to prepare them to make an impact on today's students. This session provides powerful classroom management strategies that propel teachers to walk in the room like they've been sent.

# Thursday Breakout Session Descriptions

**Set 3: Thu 2:00p - 2:45p | Set 4: Thu 3:00p - 3:45p**

Choose one session from each of the sets below. Please refer to the map on page 23 for the Locations.

## SET 3 - THURSDAY

### The Power of Showing Up; An Attachment-Informed Approach to Education

*Aric Bostick*

**2:00-2:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

Thank you for showing up for your students and colleagues every day. Your presence matters more than ever. In the middle of stress, behavior challenges, and burnout, even the best educators can struggle to show up the way they want to. Because great teaching isn't about more strategies—it's about your presence. When students feel safe and educators feel regulated, everything changes. In this interactive session, learn an attachment-informed approach to building trust, strengthening relationships, and protecting your energy so you can teach with clarity and impact all year long.

### Leading the Hive: The Buzz on Leadership

*Christina Iturralde, Jocelyn Renteria, Jimmy Rivera, Bertha Cisneros: Dayton HS*

**2:00-2:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Leadership**

In this bee-themed breakout session, students will learn about the different leadership styles: transformational, delegative, authoritative, transactional, participative and servant. Participants will use communication, strategic thinking and collaboration to figure out the best leadership styles for different scenarios through three different hands-on activities. Members will receive incentives based on their participation throughout the breakout session. TAFE members will be encouraged to find their own leadership style and have the opportunity to bring it back to their school. MAX 100.

### Sensory Sparks

*Ava Cooley, Liliana Perrin, Reagan Wilson, Kaylee Lascano: Birdville Center of Technology and Advanced Learning (BCTAL)*

**2:00-2:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Join us for an interactive session exploring the power of sensory engagement in the classroom. Participants will discover how sensory tools support focus, regulation, and inclusion for diverse learners. Attendees will design and create their own mini sensory bins using affordable, classroom-friendly materials while learning practical strategies to integrate sensory supports into everyday lessons and environments. MAX 50.

### Silent Showdown: The ABCs and Basic Signs

*Emily Cox, Mckenzi Reeves, Zoey Steffes: Dr. Gene Burton College and Career Academy*

**2:00-2:45 • Crosley 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Have you ever wanted to communicate silently? Attend the Silent Showdown and dive into the world of American Sign Language (ASL). This is a skill-building, interactive lesson that introduces participants to the ASL alphabet and basic conversational signs used in everyday communication. Participants will explore how to communicate — all without saying a word! The session emphasizes teamwork, inclusion, and the importance of nonverbal communication in both classroom and real-world settings. Participants will leave with a foundational understanding of ASL and a deeper appreciation for the Deaf community and the power of communication beyond words. MAX 50.

### The Power of Meditation in the Class Room

*Dominick Villarreynga, Taylor Hobbs and Audrey Marek: West HS*

**2:00-2:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Sometimes we encounter children in our classroom who have a little bit harder time trying to relax. Join us to learn ways to use the power of mental relaxation to engage students who are having troubled moments in class and are struggling to focus due to overstimulation. MAX 50.

## SET 4 - THURSDAY

### The Power of Showing Up; An Attachment-Informed Approach to Education

*Aric Bostick*

**3:00-3:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

Thank you for showing up for your students and colleagues every day. Your presence matters more than ever. In the middle of stress, behavior challenges, and burnout, even the best educators can struggle to show up the way they want to. Because great teaching isn't about more strategies—it's about your presence. When students feel safe and educators feel regulated, everything changes. In this interactive session, learn an attachment-informed approach to building trust, strengthening relationships, and protecting your energy so you can teach with clarity and impact all year long.

### Project with a Purpose: Turning Meetings into Meaningful Moments

*Alysa Patel, Emily Buck, Haylee Diez, Zoe Rodriguez: Central HS*

**3:00-3:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Service**

Looking for ways to turn your TAFE meetings into something meaningful and fun? In this session, we'll show you how we turned a simple community service idea into a hands-on project that built team spirit and made a real difference. You'll even get to help us create linen gift bags for hygiene kits we're collecting for CASA kids, something special they can keep. Leave with ideas, a project template, and a plan to bring it back to your chapter!

### What's the Water Cycle?

*Grace Giglio, Lauren Tinsley, Brooke Rhoades, Annabelle Russell: Aledo HS*

**3:00-3:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Today we're going to discover the exciting journey water takes through our planet! Join us for learning about the water cycle and how it affects our day to day life!! MAX 50.

### Marshmallow Towers

*Juliet Salinas, Justin Catapang, Nevaeh Gould, Alexandria Villalobos: Collegiate HS*

**3:00-3:45 • Continental 27th Fl • Recreation**

The Towers of 'Mellos is a fun and hands on challenge where participants will get to use their creativity and problem solving skills. In 15 minutes, they'll work to design and build a free standing tower using marshmallows and spaghetti. The goal is to create a structure that can hold as much weight as possible via marbles. It's all about experimenting, trying different ideas, and figuring out what works best. At the end, we'll test the strength of each tower and see whose design holds up the most. It's a great way to learn and have fun! Students should come ready to build, think outside the box, and see how strong their ideas can be! MAX 40.

### The Teacher's Design Lab

*Claire Gonzalez, Keiry Guadarrama: Sachse HS*

**3:00-3:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Step into The Teacher's Design Lab, where creativity and teaching collide. In this hands-on session, you'll design your own notepad using washi tape, sharpies, and stickers while exploring how to adapt and improvise when plans don't go as expected. Learn how visual design can spark innovation, encourage flexible thinking, and inspire creative approaches to the classroom. MAX 60.

**Set 5: Thu 4:00p - 4:45p | Set 6: Fri 9:15a - 10:00a**

## SET 5 - THURSDAY

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# Friday Breakout Session Descriptions

**Set 7: Fri 10:15a - 11:00a | Set 8: Fri 11:15a - 12:00p**

Choose one session from each of the sets below. Please refer to the map on page 23 for the Locations.

## SET 7 - FRIDAY

### Blooming Through Activity-Based Learning: Cultivating Engagement and Growth in Every Classroom

*Dalaina Castillo, Romantic Early, Angela Garcia, Natalie Matute, Kirston Williams; Elsie High School*

**10:15-11:00 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

In this interactive session, participants will explore how Activity-Based Learning (ABL) serves as fertile ground for student engagement, creativity, and deeper understanding. Just as flowers bloom when nurtured in the right environment, students thrive when learning is hands-on, student-centered, and rooted in real-world application. Using the theme "Blooming in Education," this session will showcase practical strategies, classroom examples, and collaborative activities that empower educators to transform traditional instruction into dynamic, experiential learning. Attendees will leave with ideas and inspiration to help their students blossom academically and personally.

### Rooted in Purpose: The Layers of a Great Teacher

*Jaide Crawford, Kaitlyn Lewis, Ashley Martinez, and Destiny Rodriguez; Rosie Sorells School of Education and Social Services at Townview Magnet*

**10:15-11:00 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

In this interactive session, participants will explore the layers that make a teacher truly great through a hands-on planting activity. We'll begin by reflecting on the "seed," the passion and purpose that first inspired us to teach, and identify what drives us as educators. As we plant real seeds, we'll connect each stage of growth; roots, stem, leaves, and bloom, to the qualities that help teachers thrive: strong values, continuous growth, creativity, and lasting impact. To close, participants will take their planted seed home as a living reminder that great teaching, like a growing plant, requires care, patience, and nourishment. Together, we'll leave inspired to keep cultivating growth in ourselves and in our future students. MAX 100.

### Planting the Seeds of Self-Care

*Krislynn Adams, Paisley Huddleston, Alexa Janney, Zane Lozano, Elizabeth Marchan, Maddie Mounce; Clark High School*

**10:15-11:00 • Comet 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Join us for an inspiring and practical session focused on nurturing the well-being of our educators. Teaching is one of the most rewarding and most demanding professions, and too often teachers put their own needs last. In this session, we'll explore why self-care isn't a luxury but a necessity for teachers to truly flourish. Participants will plant the seeds of self-care through simple, realistic strategies designed to help educators reconnect with their purpose, reduce burnout, and nurture their mental and emotional health. You'll also leave with your own beautifully decorated flower pot, a lasting reminder to water your own growth one day at a time. MAX 50.

### Mini Garden Master Class

*Desiree Linsley, Kaylea Puckett, Lily Srncik, Austyn Leewright, Juliet White; Timber Creek High School*

**10:15-11:00 • Westcott 27th Fl • Recreation**

Students will learn about the ecosystem and create a mini ecosystem in a jar. MAX 50.

## 5Rs of Effective Classroom Management

*Dr. Monte' L. Demars, Empowered to BE Edu. Consulting, LLC*

**10:15-11:00 • Continental 27th Fl • Skill Building**

Teaching is not a job--it's a calling! Extracted from his newly released book: *5Rs of Effective Classroom Management*, Dr. Demars empowers teachers to connect to their calling, confidently claim their space in the circle of education, and clearly communicate expectations to students. In this session, attendees will build their capacity by using the three pillars self-awareness, self-efficacy, and self-discipline to prepare them to make an impact on today's students. This session provides powerful classroom management strategies that propel teachers to walk in the room like they've been sent.

## SET 8 - FRIDAY

### TRAFLES Jeopardy

*Hailie Sauro, Grace Miller; Jack C. Hays High School*

**11:15-12:00 • Governor's Lecture Hall • TRAFLES**

Our presentation will include a game of jeopardy with topics related to each letter of TRAFLES.

### DIY Dollars: Simple, Smart Fundraisers for TAFE

*Aliyah Carrasco, Alana Carrasco, Avralynn Sosa, Beatriz Castenada,*

*Breahna Perales, Ashley Castaneda; Lake View High School*

**11:15-12:00 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Fundraising**

Need fresh ideas to fund your next TAFE adventure? Come see what's worked for us, get inspired by easy, creative fundraisers, and walk away with plug-and-play templates you can use right away. We'll share tips, tricks, and a handy guide to help your chapter raise money without the stress. Whether you're new or just need new ideas, this breakout's for you!

### Building TAFE and Blossoming Connections

*Zanaya Peterson, Hector Vasquez, Kellyne'cole Whatley; Bryan HS*

**11:15-12:00 • Comet 27th Fl • Leadership**

Participants will work together to strengthen communication and leadership skills through a fun, hands-on bridge-building challenge. Social skills will blossom and leaders will step up to represent their group. MAX 50.

### Future Educators, Future Leaders:

### Launching Your College Journey

*Joselinn Perez & Nayeli Cordova; Our Lady of the Lake University*

**11:15-12:00 • Westcott 27th Fl • Make-and-Take**

Presented by current OLLU Charles Butt Scholars, this session offers attendees an honest, empowering look at how to choose the right college and thrive once you arrive. Speakers will share practical strategies for preparing academically and socially, identifying what to look for in a college that fits your goals and values, and building habits for success during the first semester and beyond. Participants will engage in a guided, hands-on activity to create a personalized The Future Educator Launch Kit, a reflective take-home tool that captures your goals, priorities, and support system, designed to help you navigate your college journey with confidence and purpose.

*Continued next page...*

# Friday Breakout Session Descriptions

## Set 9: Fri 1:00p - 1:45p

Choose one session from each of the sets below. Please refer to the map on page 23 for the Locations.

### 5Rs of Effective Classroom Management

*Dr. Monte' L. Demars: Empowered to BE Edu. Consulting, LLC*

**11:15-12:00 • Continental 27th Fl • Skill Building**

Teaching is not a job—it's a calling! Extracted from his newly released book: *5Rs of Effective Classroom Management*, Dr. Demars empowers teachers to connect to their calling, confidently claim their space in the circle of education, and clearly communicate expectations to students. In this session, attendees will build their capacity by using the three pillars self-awareness, self-efficacy, and self-discipline to prepare them to make an impact on today's students. This session provides powerful classroom management strategies that propel teachers to walk in the room like they've been sent.



## SET 9 - FRIDAY

### Reaching and Teaching Adolescents: Bridging the Gap Between Education and Real-World Success

*Anthony Dodson, Family is forever, LLC*

**1:00-2:00 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Skill Building**

Discover how to bridge the gap between education and real-world success in this empowering session for future educators. Learn practical strategies to build student connections, foster emotional intelligence, and inspire growth through mentorship, resilience, and financial literacy.

### FIRE UP to Connect: Become the Teacher Who Changes Lives

*Aric Bostick*

**1:00-1:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

Great classrooms are built on trust and connection. In this interactive workshop, future educators will practice team-building activities, meaningful questioning, and active listening strategies they can use to create safe, supportive, and thriving learning environments. Aric will model what it feels like to be part of a secure classroom community, equipping students with practical tools to build strong relationships and help their future students live their dreams. Each participant will also receive a FIRE UP Classroom Connection Toolkit with ready-to-use activities and strategies to carry into their future classrooms.

### Shaving Foam Fun: Easy Lessons for Early Childhood Teachers

*Elayna Kutev, Margaret Wildersmith: Denton High School*

**1:00-1:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Teaching & Training**

Want a fun, easy, interactive lesson for your young learners? Come to this breakout session to find out how shaving foam can teach both SEL and English! MAX 50.

### After the Lines: A Real Talk on Life Beyond Graduation

*Journey Harris, Molly Muldowney, and Noelia Martinez: Tarleton State University*

**1:00-1:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Educational Awareness, Service**

We will kick things off with something simple: coloring. But as the colors start to blend, the conversation will shift to what happens after the tassel turns. College and life beyond don't come with clear outlines or step-by-step directions, and that's the beauty (and challenge) of it. Join us for an open, down-to-earth discussion about finding your rhythm, shaping your path, and learning that sometimes, the best things happen when you stop worrying about staying inside the lines.

### Resilient Leadership in Education: Thriving Through Change

*Heart Led Awakening, Debi Lynn*

**1:00-1:45 • Crosley 27th Fl • Collaborative Learning**

Teaching is more than a career—it's a calling. Yet future educators face unique challenges: stress, burnout, and self-doubt. In this interactive session, Debi Lynn introduces the Business CPR™ Method—Passion, Power, Purpose—to help students build resilience, confidence, and leadership skills. Through reflection prompts, small-group discussions, and engaging activities, participants will explore how to turn setbacks into strengths, lead with empathy, and thrive in both school and future classrooms. Students will leave with practical tools to stay motivated, focused, and ready to inspire their future students.

### 5Rs of Effective Classroom Management

*Dr. Monte' L. Demars, Empowered to BE Edu. Consulting, LLC*

**1:00-1:45 • Continental 27th Fl • Skill Building**

Teaching is not a job—it's a calling! Extracted from his newly released book: *5Rs of Effective Classroom Management*, Dr. Demars empowers teachers to connect to their calling, confidently claim their space in the circle of education, and clearly communicate expectations to students. In this session, attendees will build their capacity by using the three pillars self-awareness, self-efficacy, and self-discipline to prepare them to make an impact on today's students. This session provides powerful classroom management strategies that propel teachers to walk in the room like they've been sent.

### Notes:

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# Friday Breakout Session Descriptions

**Set 10: Fri 2:00p - 2:45p | Set 11: Fri 3:00p - 3:45p**

Choose one session from each of the sets below. Please refer to the map on page 23 for the Locations.

## SET 10 - FRIDAY

### **FIRED UP to Connect: Become the Teacher Who Changes Lives**

*Aric Bostick*

**2:00-2:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Teaching & Training**

Great classrooms are built on trust and connection. In this interactive workshop, future educators will practice team-building activities, meaningful questioning, and active listening strategies they can use to create safe, supportive, and thriving learning environments. Aric will model what it feels like to be part of a secure classroom community, equipping students with practical tools to build strong relationships and help their future students live their dreams. Each participant will also receive a FIRED UP Classroom Connection Toolkit with ready-to-use activities and strategies to carry into their future classrooms.

### **The Burnout Files: A Burnout Breakout**

*Alexia Vega & Mikaela Houston: Springtown High School*

**2:00-2:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Leadership**

Learning self-care is crucial for leaders because it prevents burnout, improves mental and physical health, and allows you to lead more effectively by setting a positive example for your organization. This escape room style breakout will allow you to solve puzzles and learn more about the symptoms and causes of burnout, as well as how to cope and balance your life to beat burnout. MAX 50.

### **Motivational Mindset Bracelets**

*Jacklyn Amador, Shayla Fowler, Abbigail Ramos, Erika Faz, Monica Vega, Lucy Meldrum: Veterans Memorial High School*

**2:00-2:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Educational Awareness**

Participants will understand how words can be empowering and leave lasting impressions on others. Participants will create friendship bonds, and boost confidence by giving handmade tokens of appreciation. We will make a bracelet for a friend or loved one to raise awareness for mental health. MAX 50.

### **Practical not Perfect Classroom Management Tips for All Educators**

*Arnessa Dotson, The Curriculum Center for Family and Consumer Sciences*

**2:00-2:45 • Continental 27th Fl • Skill Building**

This presentation will provide practical classroom management strategies through essential tips, real-world scenarios, and interactive class discussion. Participants will leave with actionable resources to foster a positive learning environment and effectively address common classroom challenges.

## SET 11 - FRIDAY

### **Careers in the Military**

*John Turks, Tracy Rodney and Andrea Slater-Williams, The US Army*

**3:00-3:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Educational Awareness**

This presentation introduces high school students to the wide range of career opportunities available through military service. Students will learn how different military career fields connect to real-world jobs in areas such as technology, healthcare, aviation, engineering, leadership, and skilled trades. The session will also explain how students can gain hands-on experience, industry-recognized certifications, and professional training while serving.

### **Classroom Chaos**

*Journey Harris, Tarleton State University*

**3:00-3:45 • Senator's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Collaborative Learning**

Think teaching is easy? Think again. In this fast-paced, laugh-out-loud breakout, YOU become the teacher, with zero warning and a whole lot of chaos. You'll work in teams to plan a mini-lesson, face surprise classroom curveballs, and manage students who definitely have opinions. From class clowns to unexpected interruptions, anything can happen, and you'll have to think on your feet just like real educators do every day. This session is competitive, interactive, and totally unpredictable. No lectures. No sitting quietly. Just teamwork, creativity, and the chance to prove you've got what it takes to run a classroom. Come ready to move, laugh, and lead because class is officially in session.

### **Teacher Recruitment and Development**

*Krista Scott: Andrews ISD Teacher Academy*

**3:00-3:45 • Westcott 27th Fl • Collaborative Learning**

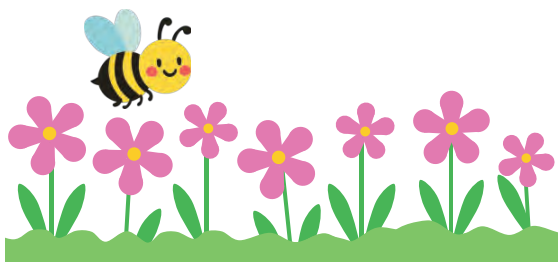
Andrews ISD Teacher Academy was started in 2019 as a way to approach and help with the teacher shortage in Texas. Through innovative partnerships and planning, we now offer multiple pathways for teacher certification including an approved Alternative Certification Program. Come explore our program that starts with our Education and Training Program of Study and continues to support pre-service teachers through college graduation and teacher certification. In this session, you will not only learn about our program, we will also collaborate and share ways other districts are tackling teacher shortages through TAFE and Education and Training Programs of Study!

### **More than a Character: Do These Stories Get it Right?**

*Dr. Ashleigh Maldonado: Hill College*

**3:00-3:45 • Comet 27th Fl • Collaborative Learning**

How can representation in media influence the way we think about real people? In this session, we will use children's literature to explore how representation is shaped through literary characters. Students will work in small groups to analyze selected stories for stereotypes, oversimplified portrayals, medical and social constructs, as well as conflict and theme. By the end of the session, students will evaluate whether a text offers meaningful, respectful representation and determine if it would be a valuable addition to a classroom library.



## Special Thanks to Our Exhibitors!

Please visit our exhibitors on Thursday and Friday at the Convention Center.  
Check the TAFE TTS App for more information and contact links to our Exhibitors.



[www.charlesbuttdfn.org](http://www.charlesbuttdfn.org)



**U.S. ARMY**

[www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com)

### American College of Education

[ace.edu](http://ace.edu) • [claudia.barros@ace.edu](mailto:claudia.barros@ace.edu)

American College of Education (ACE) is an accredited, fully online school based in Indianapolis. Ranked 3rd nationally for master's in education, ACE offers affordable, high-quality bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and certificate programs for adults. ACE is also a Certified B Corporation.

### Breakthrough Houston

[breakthroughhouston.org](http://breakthroughhouston.org)

Breakthrough Collaborative works with highly motivated, traditionally underrepresented students to achieve post-secondary success and empowers aspiring leaders to become the next generation of educators and advocates.

### Dallas Baptist University

[karla@dbu.edu](mailto:karla@dbu.edu)

The DBU College of Education has been offering fully accredited educator preparation programs since 1966. Our program provides students with rich, field-based experiences, preparation for your certification exams and support in the field upon graduation. We celebrate a 100% placement rate and your influence as a missionary in education.

### East Texas A&M University

[www.etamu.edu](http://www.etamu.edu) • [carol.revelle@etamu.edu](mailto:carol.revelle@etamu.edu)

Whether just starting out or looking to advance your career, you will develop the tools to feel confident in the classroom. Our undergraduate programs encompass early childhood, elementary, and secondary content areas. Our online or hybrid MED/MS programs offer areas of emphases. We also offer a doctorate in Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction.

### Hill College

[www.hillcollege.edu](http://www.hillcollege.edu) • [amaldonado@hillcollege.edu](mailto:amaldonado@hillcollege.edu)

Hill College is a community college whose mission is to empower student learning and community enrichment through quality education. We offer an associate of arts in teaching that transfers in its entirety to public universities in the state of Texas as well as an associate of applied science degree in child development/early childhood education.

### Lamar University

[lamar.edu](http://lamar.edu) • [lblack10@lamar.edu](mailto:lblack10@lamar.edu)

Public University with a collegiate Aspiring Educators collegiate chapter

### Midwestern State University

[www.msutexas.edu](http://www.msutexas.edu) • [kayla.meaders@msutexas.edu](mailto:kayla.meaders@msutexas.edu)

Midwestern State University (MSU Texas) in Wichita Falls, TX, offers a values-based, student-focused education with small classes and a 16:1 student-to-faculty ratio. With 75+ programs across multiple fields, MSU Texas blends liberal arts excellence, affordability, and a community-centered campus culture.

### Our Lady of the Lake University

[www.ollusa.edu](http://www.ollusa.edu) • [mycastillo@ollusa.edu](mailto:mycastillo@ollusa.edu)

OLLU's Education Department is built on over 130 years of experience preparing undergraduate students to become classroom teachers. Students who pursue a graduate degree in education serve in related education roles such as reading specialists, school counselors, and instructional leaders.

### Sam Houston State University College of Education

[www.shsu.edu](http://www.shsu.edu) • [dcd024@shsu.edu](mailto:dcd024@shsu.edu)

Our specialized programs are accredited, recognized and award winning at the state and national level. The college is home to four departments; Counselor Education, Educational Leadership, Library Science & Technology, and the School of Teaching and Learning; multiple service and research centers and a charter school.



## Special Thanks to Our Exhibitors!

Please visit our exhibitors on Thursday and Friday at the Convention Center.  
Check the TAFE TTS App for more information and contact links to our Exhibitors.

### Stephen F. Austin State University

[sfasu.edu](http://sfasu.edu) • [Jannah.nerren@sfasu.edu](mailto:Jannah.nerren@sfasu.edu)

4-year university with an Educator Preparation Program.

### Steve's cool stuff /christi's

[Christisvip@facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Christisvip) • [Stevethepurseman@hotmail.com](mailto:Stevethepurseman@hotmail.com)

Setup pop up stores at events for over 30 years selling jewelry and accessories

### Tarleton State University Teacher Preparation Program

[www.tarleton.edu](http://www.tarleton.edu) • [asams@tarleton.edu](mailto:asams@tarleton.edu)

The mission of the Department of Curriculum & Instruction is to prepare individuals to become self-directed professionals who have a systemic understanding of education in America and specifically Texas and to provide leadership through scholarship, and service to the extended community and professionals.

### Texas A&M University - School of Education and Human Development

[education.tamu.edu](http://education.tamu.edu) • [Istanley@tamu.edu](mailto:Istanley@tamu.edu)

Throughout our history we have been charged with transforming and enriching lives. Created as a college for teachers, we are now a college for leaders. Whatever the industry, our graduates are game-changers. Our graduates transform lives.

### Texas Christian University College of Education

[www.coe.tcu.edu](http://www.coe.tcu.edu) • [r.griffith@tcu.edu](mailto:r.griffith@tcu.edu)

TCU's College of Education prepares exemplary leaders for diverse educational settings. With two nationally recognized laboratory schools for children with special needs, an internationally recognized early childhood teacher education program, and a nationally recognized middle/secondary program, we are leaders in and out of the classroom.

### Texas Tech University- College of Education

[www.ttu.edu](http://www.ttu.edu) • [bri.solis@ttu.edu](mailto:bri.solis@ttu.edu)

Texas Tech College of Education supports future Educators with our many programs, including TechTeach, TechTeach Across Texas, and Raider Teach.

### Texas Workforce Commission

[twc.texas.gov](http://twc.texas.gov) • [jonathan.butler@twc.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.butler@twc.texas.gov)

Texas Workforce Commission assists job seekers and educators with providing free tools and resources for students in career exploration, planning, and implementation within the state of Texas.

### The Curriculum Center for Family and Consumer Sciences at Texas Tech University

[ardotson@ttu.edu](mailto:ardotson@ttu.edu)

The mission of The Curriculum Center for Family and Consumer Sciences is to produce and disseminate instructional materials that support family and consumer sciences programs and to provide related pre-service and in-service professional development to educators and administrators within those program areas.

### Tutt & Daggs

[tuttdaggs.com](http://tuttdaggs.com)

Student, faculty and staff training

### University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

[www.umhb.edu](http://www.umhb.edu) • [craig.hammonds@umhb.edu](mailto:craig.hammonds@umhb.edu)

Since 1845, UMHB has been committed to preparing future educators. Our programs equip students with the knowledge, skills, and real-world experience needed to fulfill their purpose. Whether you're drawn to early childhood education, special education or secondary teaching, we offer a wide range of pathways and programs to help you reach your goals.

### UT Austin: Texas Association of Future Educators - Aspiring Educators

[Imv433@eid.utexas.edu](mailto:Imv433@eid.utexas.edu)

TAFE-AE at The University of Texas strives for excellence by providing members with tools to succeed through guest speakers, professional development, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities. The organization encourages exploration of careers in education while promoting character, service, and leadership.

*Don't Miss it!*



## IN THE SCHOOL PACKET: THE EXHIBITOR DOOR PRIZE CARD!

Visit at least 16 Exhibitor booths and get your card stamped for a chance at awesome door prizes! Don't forget to add your name and school and turn it in at TAFE registration.

# Area Teacher Leaders of the Year

2025-2026



**KATIE YEAGER**  
Mary Carroll High School  
Area 1



**MARICELLA FLORES**  
Brennan High School  
Area 2



**AMBER BEASLEY**  
Weiss High School  
Area 3



**MONICA CARNAHAN**  
Kingwood High School  
Area 4



**KIM GORMAN**  
Caney Creek High School  
Area 5



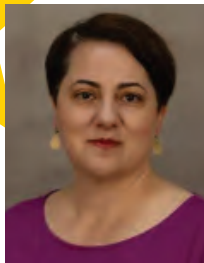
**KATHERINE BELEW**  
Mount Vernon High School  
Area 6



**SANDY BRYANT**  
San Saba High School  
Area 7



**SHERRI BARTON**  
Midland High School  
Area 8



**MARIE FRASSA**  
Jefferson/Silva High School  
Area 9



**VANESSA BUTTLER**  
Cleburne High School  
Area 10



**ROBIN PETERSON**  
Dr. Gene Burton College and  
Career Academy | Area 11

## Past State Teacher Leaders of the Year

2013-14 Tonya Monden, Lake Dallas High School

2014-15 Angela Hollier, Aldine High School

2015-16 Karen Kallas, Birdville Center of Technology and Advanced Learning

2016-17 Bobette Vroon, Crowley High School

2017-18 Leah Zavala, Advanced Technology Complex

2018-19 Nekeida Pierce, NYOS Charter School

2019-20 Kimberly Smith, Timber Creek High School

2020-21 Claudia Bell, Flower Mound High School

2021-22 Shellie Massengale, Kaufman High School

2022-23 Andrea Lotsu, Alief Taylor High School

2023-24 Carrie Swisher, John B. Connally High School

2024-25 Erin Newman, Elsie High School



**YAY FOR  
Y'ALL!**



## Past TAFE President Schools

1984-85 Gladewater High School, Gladewater  
 1985-86 Lanier High School, Austin  
 1986-87 Irving High School, Irving  
 1987-88 Clear Creek High School, League City  
 1988-89 Estacado High School, Lubbock  
 1989-90 L.D. Bell High School, Hurst  
 1990-91 Canyon High School, New Braunfels  
 1991-92 Slaton High School, Slaton  
 1992-93 Katy High School, Katy  
 1993-94 Mansfield High School, Mansfield  
 1994-95 Lamar High School, Arlington  
 1995-96 Lufkin High School, Lufkin  
 1996-97 Nimitz High School, Houston  
 1997-98 Royse City High School, Royse City  
 1998-99 Lubbock High School, Lubbock  
 1999-00 Gainesville High School, Gainesville  
 2000-01 Lubbock High School, Lubbock  
 2001-02 Mansfield High School, Mansfield  
 2002-03 Gilmer High School, Gilmer  
 2003-04 Haltom High School, Haltom  
 2004-05 Palo Duro High School, Amarillo

2005-06 Columbus High School, Columbus  
 2006-07 Killeen High School, Killeen  
 2007-08 Southwest High School, San Antonio  
 2008-09 Canutillo High School, El Paso  
 2009-10 DeSoto High School / Memorial High School,  
 Port Arthur (TFTA / TAFE Merger)  
 2010-11 Eisenhower High School, Houston  
 2011-12 Connally High School, Pflugerville  
 2012-13 Southwest High School, San Antonio  
 2013-14 Lake Dallas High School, Corinth  
 2014-15 BCTAL – Birdville-Haltom HS, North Richland Hills  
 2015-16 Marcus High School, Flower Mound  
 2016-17 Homer Hanna Early College HS, Brownsville  
 2017-18 Denison High School, Denison  
 2018-19 Brownwood High School, Brownwood  
 2019-20 NYOS Charter School, Austin  
 2020-21 Springtown High School, Springtown  
 2020-22 Alief Taylor High School, Houston  
 2022-23 Paris High School, Paris  
 2023-24 Alief Taylor High School, Houston  
 2024-25 Alief Taylor High School, Houston



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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.





## Attention: TAFE VOTING DELEGATE Passport Card Requirements

- Find the **Voting Delegate Ribbon** and **Voting Passport Card** in your packet.
- Each voting delegate student needs to wear the delegate ribbon on their conference name badge and fill in the school name on the voting passport card.
- The delegate is to **visit EACH campaign** booth during campaigning on Thursday from 1:00-3:00p. Upon visiting with the candidate, the delegate will **get a stamp** on the Voting Passport Card. **DON'T LOSE THE CARD.**
- The Voting Delegate will attend the Friday morning Political Rally at 8:00a to watch candidate presentations. Upon entering, take the stamped voting passport card to the voting check-in table. **Exchange the Voting Passport Card for their school's unique VOTING CODE.**
- This voting code is required to cast your school's ballot online!

*In the Teacher Leader Packet!*

Do not confuse this with the Exhibitor Door Prize stamp cards!

The voting code will only be given to schools who turn in a completed Voting Passport Card showing they have visited with each candidate at their campaign booth and therefore making an informed vote!

**An APPLE IPAD will be given away to one lucky Voting Delegate at the end of the Rally!**

**Must be present to win!**

**VOTING DELEGATE PASSPORT CARD**  
*Meet your TAFE State Officer Candidates  
Visit the Campaign Booths Thursday 1:00p - 3:00p  
and have an Officer Candidate stamp a Flower!*

School names in flower shapes:  
Anne Frank Inspire Academy, Caney Creek HS, Cleburne HS, Denton HS, Dumas HS, Forney OC, Lockhart HS, San Marcos HS, San Saba HS, Santa Fe HS.

My School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Each Voting Delegate MUST:**

1. Wear their delegate ribbon on their conference name badge.
2. Visit the campaign booths Thursday 1:00p - 3:00p and visit with each candidate and get this Passport Card stamped.
3. The Voting Delegate will take this stamped card with them to the political rally at 8:00a Friday and exchange this Passport Card for their school's unique voting code from the check-in table located at the political rally.
4. Make an informed vote!

## *Competitive Events Locations*

### What do I do if I have a conflict with my Competitive Events schedule?

Go to your competitive event room location and speak with a TAFE CE Coordinator (wearing a neon shirt) and they can help you reschedule. **They can help you with most issues!**

EVENT	LOCATION	NOTE
Chapter Yearbook	TRINITY EXHIBIT HALL - Lobby Level	
Children's Literature (Collegiate)	CORTEZ B1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature K-3 (English) MS & JV	CORTEZ B2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature K-3 (English) V	CORTEZ A1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature K-3 (Spanish) MS & JV	CORTEZ C2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature K-3 (Spanish) V	CORTEZ D1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature Pre-K (English) MS & JV	CORTEZ B1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature Pre-K (English) V	CORTEZ A2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature Pre-K (Spanish) MS & JV	CORTEZ C2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Children's Literature Pre-K (Spanish) V	CORTEZ D2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Creative Lecture JV & C	CORONADO B1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Creative Lecture V	CORONADO B2 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Differentiated Lesson Plan	MING - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Educators Rising Leadership Award	MANCHESTER B - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Educators Rising Moment (English) MS, JV, & C	MANCHESTER A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Educators Rising Moment (English) V	MANCHESTER B - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Educators Rising Moment (Spanish) MS, JV, C	MADRID A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Educators Rising Moment (Spanish) V	MANCHESTER A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
ELF Essay Testing	SAPPHIRE - Lower Level Tower Side	
Ethical Dilemma MS, JV, C	MONET A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Ethical Dilemma V	MONET B - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Exploring Education Administration Careers	MIRO - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers MS & JV	METROPOLITAN A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers V	METROPOLITAN B - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Exploring Support Service Careers	MOROCCO - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Impromptu Lesson JV & C	MADRID A - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Impromptu Lesson V	MADRID B - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Impromptu Speaking	MILAN - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Inside Our Schools (English)	CORONADO C - Lobby Level West Wing	
Inside Our Schools (Spanish)	CORONADO D - Lobby Level West Wing	
Interactive Bulletin Board	TRINITY EXHIBIT HALL - Lobby Level	
Job Interview	DE LA SALLE - Lobby Level West Wing	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - ARTS	DARDENELLES - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - CDA	EDELWEISS - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - CTE	EDELWEISS - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Humanities	FLEUR DE LIS A - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Professional Development	FLEUR DE LIS A - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - Spanish	FLEUR DE LIS B - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Lesson Planning & Delivery - STEM	INVERNESS - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Planning Room	MONTE CARLO - Mezz Level Tower Side	
Portfolio	TRINITY EXHIBIT HALL - Lobby Level	
Project Visualize	TRINITY EXHIBIT HALL - Lobby Level	
Public Service Announcement	CORONADO A - Lobby Level West Wing	
Public Speaking MS & JV	DESOTO A - Lobby Level West Wing	
Public Speaking V & C	DESOTO B - Lobby Level West Wing	
Researching Learning Challenges MS & JV	FLEUR DE LIS B - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Researching Learning Challenges V	LALIQUE - Mezz Level Atrium Side	
Student of the Year	CORTEZ C1 - Lobby Level West Wing	
Teacher Created Materials	TRINITY EXHIBIT HALL - Lobby Level	

# 42nd Annual Teach Tomorrow Summit

February 26 - 28, 2026 | Hilton Anatole Dallas







## 2026

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