



**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE EDUCATORS**  
**TEACHER LEADER'S WORKSHOP**  
**JULY 14-15, 2025 | RENAISSANCE DALLAS ADDISON HOTEL**

# MONDAY, JULY 14

ALL SESSIONS ARE IN THE LE GALA ROOM

9:00a-11:00a ..... REGISTRATION

10:00a-11:45a ..... NEW TEACHER LEADER ORIENTATION PART 1

This session is for new advisors and will answer the basic questions about setting up your chapter, charging dues, developing a constitution, electing officers, and defining your role in the school community. Part 2 on Tuesday morning

12:00p-1:15p ..... LUNCHEON/FIRST GENERAL SESSION

Lunch / Welcome / Introductions / Officers / TAFE Updates

1:30p-2:30p .....BREAKOUT SESSION 1

• **Planting the Seeds of Future Educators - TAFE State Officers**

Step into a vibrant garden of inspiration in this interactive session honoring the heart of teaching. Explore why educators teach, how they grow, and the power of mutual support—while gathering fresh ideas for meetings and chapter projects that will make your own TAFE garden thrive.

2:45p-3:45p .....BREAKOUT SESSION 2

• **Cultivating Your TAFE Chapter to Blossom - Connie Thornell, Area Coordinator**

Cultivating your TAFE Chapter to Blossom- this session will share activities to do with your TAFE Chapter throughout the year. Participants will learn how to incorporate the TRAFLES into a TAFE meeting. Teacher Leaders will also see how a TAFE Chapter helped influence the employment application for Conroe ISD.

4:00p-5:00p .....BREAKOUT SESSION 3

• **Pass the Baton - Sachse High School TAFE Chapter**

Discover how the Sachse TAFE chapter unleashes student leadership to drive a successful year of chapter programming. Learn practical strategies and real examples of how giving students’ ownership can transform your chapter’s impact.

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# TUESDAY, JULY 15

ALL SESSIONS ARE IN THE LE GALA ROOM

8:00a-8:45a ..... NEW TEACHER LEADER ORIENTATION, PART 2

This session is designed to help new teacher leaders by providing methods and tools for conducting meetings and events including agendas and planners; membership recruitment, marketing, and recognition; utilizing competitive events; as well as online resources and device apps.

9:00a-9:45a .....BREAKOUT SESSION 4

• **Guiding the Way: Coach Rich’s Tips for New TAFE Teacher Leaders - Mike Richardson, Rusk HS**

Join Coach Rich as he shares practical advice and tools to help ease your transition into a confident, empowered TAFE Teacher Leader. Whether you’re brand new or looking for a refresher, this session offers insights that make the journey smoother and more successful.

10:00a-11:00a .....BREAKOUT SESSION 5

• **Christmas in July - Connie Thornell, Area Coordinator**

Christmas in July- join Tinzie Jo, the Model T, and Brindley, the Boston Terrier, as they bring Christmas to the conference. Teacher Leaders will learn how to use the activities shared as a community service project or as a fundraiser. Participants get ready for some fun and games along the way. OOGAH! OOGAH! WOOF! WOOF!

11:15a-12:00p ..... BREAKOUT SESSION 6

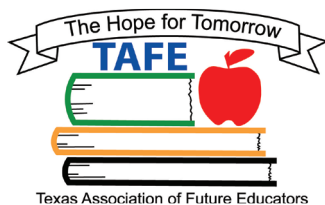
• **Piecing it Together: Preparing Students for Life After the Classroom - Journey Harris, Tarleton State University, Chapter President**

Graduation is often seen as the finish line—but for many students, it’s where the real puzzle begins. In this interactive session, educators will experience the post-graduation uncertainty students face when they leave school without the tools to navigate college, careers, and real-world responsibilities. Using puzzle pieces as a metaphor, we’ll explore how to equip students with the skills, connections, and confidence to make their next moves with purpose. Come ready to reflect, collaborate, and leave with actionable strategies to help your students piece it all together.

12:00p-2:30p ..... LUNCHEON/THIRD GENERAL SESSION

State Officer Activity /Wrap-up / Q & A

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## Texas Association of Future Educators

### 2025-2026 AREA CONFERENCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

AREA - PRESIDENT / SCHOOL	PRESIDENT TEACHER LEADER	DATE / LOCATION	AREA COORDINATOR / EMAIL
1 - Annie Armendariz / Veterans Memorial HS	Natalie Gomez	Dec. 6 / Texas A&M University Kingsville	Claudia Bell / ckbell1986@gmail.com
2 - Maya Martinez / CAST Teach High School	Kimberly Olivarez	Nov. 8 / UTSA	Claudia Bell / ckbell1986@gmail.com
3 - Georgia Recio / San Marcos High School	Emily Buchtien	Dec. 2 / Mary Hardin Baylor	Carrie Swisher / tafeswisher3@gmail.com
4 - Rebecca Reyes / Pasadena Memorial HS	Krista Brizeno	Nov. 14 / Lone Star College University Park	Connie Thornell / cthornel@yahoo.com
5 - Audrey Moody / Hardin Jefferson High School	Melinda Fortenberry	Nov. 3 / Sam Houston State University	Connie Thornell / cthornel@yahoo.com
6 - Callie Robertson / Rusk High School	Mike Richardson	Nov. 14 / Stephen F. Austin State University	Ann Grimes / grimesae81@gmail.com
7 - Ethan Barriga / Abilene High School	Shea Roberson	Nov. 18 / Angelo State University	Jerri Cox / jerri.cox@att.net
8 - Tatum Holley / Andrews High School	Heather Fullen	Nov. 8 / South Plains College	Carrie Swisher / tafeswisher3@gmail.com
9 - Gabriel Alvarado / Bowie High School	Lexly Davis	Dec. 6 / Bowie High School	Connie Thornell / cthornel@yahoo.com
10 - Sydney Powell / Timber Creek High School	Emily Boehringer	Nov. 15 / Tarleton State U. Ft. Worth Campus	Jerri Cox / jerri.cox@att.net
11 - Reese Byrant / Sachse High School	Lisa Sanborn	Dec. 5 / Dallas College at Brookhaven	Ann Grimes / grimesae81@gmail.com

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

- Teacher Leader Workshop | July 14-15 | Renaissance Addison Dallas Hotel
- FCSTAT Conference | July 14-17 | Renaissance Addison Dallas Hotel
- Area Conference Registration | October 1-15
- Deadline for State and National Affiliation | November 1
- 42nd Teach Tomorrow Summit Registration:  
Early Bird Registration: December 10 - January 23  
Late Registration: January 24 - February 20

- State Officer and Board of Director Applications Due | January 12 @ 5pm CST
- Deadline for Submitting Pre-Scored Materials | January 30 @ 5pm CST
- Competition Time Sign Up | January 26-30
- 42nd Teach Tomorrow Summit | February 26-28 | Hilton Anatole Dallas
- EdRising Conference | June 20-23 | Portland, Oregon

# ***A BIG TAFE THANK YOU!***

## **Presenters:**

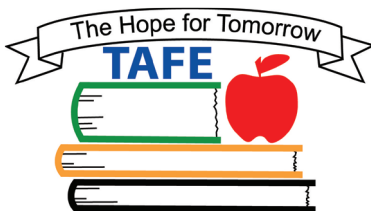
Journey Harris  
Sachse High School TAFE Chapter  
Mike Richardson  
Connie Thornell

## **TAFE Area Coordinators**

Claudia Bell  
Jerri Cox  
Ann Grimes  
Connie Thornell  
Carrie Swisher

## **TAFE State Officers and Teacher Leaders:**

Josiah Ponce, Collegiate HS  
Tracie Rodriguez, Collegiate HS  
Jasmon Sampy, Alief Taylor HS  
Denise Mora, Alief Taylor HS  
Peyton Stewart, Kingwood HS  
Monica Carnahan, Kingwood HS  
April Fernandez, Silverton HS  
Nikki Gamble, Silverton HS



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