



blooming in the Garden of Education



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.

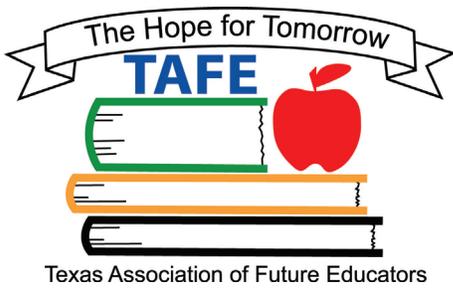
That belief is exactly why this year's theme, "Blooming in the Garden of Education," means so much. It represents growth, patience, and care—qualities we demonstrated all year long. We showed purpose, passion, and love in everything we did for TAFE and its members.



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, Elsie 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 (<i>Adults Only</i>) | Peacock Terrace |
| 8:00a - 12:00p | Registration Opens | Peacock Terrace Foyer (Tower Side) |
| 9:00a - 10:30a | OPENING GENERAL SESSION (<i>See box below</i>) | Trinity Ballroom |
| 10:45a - 12:00p | Credentialing Committee Mtg (<i>State Candidate Schools</i>) | 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 (<i>Voting Delegate gets Card Stamped</i>) | Trinity Pre-Function |
| 12:00p - 12:45p | Lunch Break (<i>Lunch provided for judges</i>) | 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 (<i>Dinner is provided for the judges working</i>) | 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 |
| <i>*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.</i> | |
| 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 |

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.

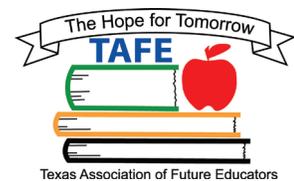
A former high-school teacher and coach, Aric founded a student leadership club that was featured on television for its impact. He went on to build a Student Leadership Camp, an online professional development course for educators, and a college-readiness program and curriculum for students. Aric's work 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 Turrubiarartes, 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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!

Squeezed, Stretched, Stronger: The Needoh Model of Leadership

Journey Harris, Tarleton State University

10:45-11:30 • Cardinal A • Leadership

Leadership growth isn't comfortable. It stretches, challenges, and refines you. In this interactive breakout, participants will explore the "Needoh Model of Leadership," using elasticity as a metaphor for resilience, emotional regulation, and sustainable growth. Through reflection and discussion, emerging educators will examine how pressure builds capacity and how intentional recovery prevents burnout. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for leading with confidence and strength under pressure.

SET 2 - THURSDAY

Brush Rush

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

1:00-1:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall 1st Fl • Edu 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 • Edu 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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.

Powered by Purpose + Pedagogy

Vanessa Buttler and Journey Harris, Cleburne/Tarleton State University

1:00-1:45 • Cardinal A • Teaching & Training

When purpose meets preparation, powerful teaching happens. Join Mrs. Buttler and Journey Harris as they demonstrate how intentional creativity, strong content knowledge, and meaningful relationships she effective classrooms. Through interactive design challenges and reflection, participants will discover how to pair rigor with relevance and engagement because the most impactful educators teach with both strategy and heart.

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 Eduction

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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal A-Mezz Level • 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 Villarreyna, Taylor Hobbs and Audrey Marek: West HS

2:00-2:45 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 Eduction

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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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.

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 • 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 • 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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.

Pause. Reset. Lead.

Canady Hannon, Cleburne High School

10:15-11:00 • Cardinal A-Mezz Level • Teaching & Training

Teaching is so powerful, but it can also be really stressful. In this interactive session, future educators will learn how managing their own stress directly impacts classroom climate and even student success. Participants will leave with a simple, practical "Reset Toolkit" they can use during practicum, student teaching, and beyond because calm teachers lead stronger classrooms.

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 Castaneda, 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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.

Combatting Burnout and Reigniting Passion

Anthony Dodson, Family is forever, LLC

11:15-12:00 • Cardinal A-Mezz Level • Skill Building

Practical tools to recognize burnout, restore purpose, and implement sustainable strategies for long-term well-being and productivity.



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 • 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Cardinal A-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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: _____

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

FIRE 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 FIRE 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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, Abigail Ramos, Erika Faz, Monica Vega, Lucy Meldrum: Veterans Memorial High School

2:00-2:45 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik B-Mezz Level • 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.

TAFE Teacher Leader Meeting

2:00-2:45 • Governor's Lecture Hall

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 • Cardinal B-Mezz Level • 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 • Batik A-Mezz Level • 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



U.S. ARMY

www.goarmy.com

American College of Education

ace.edu • 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

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

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 • 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 • 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 • lblack10@lamar.edu

Public University with a collegiate Aspiring Educators collegiate chapter

Midwestern State University

www.msutexas.edu • 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 • 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 • 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 • 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
Setup pop up stores at events for over 30 years selling jewelry and accessories

Tarleton State University Teacher Preparation Program

www.tarleton.edu • 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 • 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 • 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 • 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 • 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
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
Student, faculty and staff training

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

www.umhb.edu • 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
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, Elsik High School



Past TAFE President Schools

| | |
|--|--|
| 1984-85 Gladewater High School, Gladewater | 2005-06 Columbus High School, Columbus |
| 1985-86 Lanier High School, Austin | 2006-07 Killeen High School, Killeen |
| 1986-87 Irving High School, Irving | 2007-08 Southwest High School, San Antonio |
| 1987-88 Clear Creek High School, League City | 2008-09 Canutillo High School, El Paso |
| 1988-89 Estacado High School, Lubbock | 2009-10 DeSoto High School / Memorial High School, Port Arthur (TFTA / TAFE Merger) |
| 1989-90 L.D. Bell High School, Hurst | 2010-11 Eisenhower High School, Houston |
| 1990-91 Canyon High School, New Braunfels | 2011-12 Connally High School, Pflugerville |
| 1991-92 Slaton High School, Slaton | 2012-13 Southwest High School, San Antonio |
| 1992-93 Katy High School, Katy | 2013-14 Lake Dallas High School, Corinth |
| 1993-94 Mansfield High School, Mansfield | 2014-15 BCTAL – Birdville-Haltom HS, North Richland Hills |
| 1994-95 Lamar High School, Arlington | 2015-16 Marcus High School, Flower Mound |
| 1995-96 Lufkin High School, Lufkin | 2016-17 Homer Hanna Early College HS, Brownsville |
| 1996-97 Nimitz High School, Houston | 2017-18 Denison High School, Denison |
| 1997-98 Royse City High School, Royse City | 2018-19 Brownwood High School, Brownwood |
| 1998-99 Lubbock High School, Lubbock | 2019-20 NYOS Charter School, Austin |
| 1999-00 Gainesville High School, Gainesville | 2020-21 Springtown High School, Springtown |
| 2000-01 Lubbock High School, Lubbock | 2020-22 Alief Taylor High School, Houston |
| 2001-02 Mansfield High School, Mansfield | 2022-23 Paris High School, Paris |
| 2002-03 Gilmer High School, Gilmer | 2023-24 Alief Taylor High School, Houston |
| 2003-04 Haltom High School, Haltom | 2024-25 Alief Taylor High School, Houston |
| 2004-05 Palo Duro High School, Amarillo | |





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!

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 | |

Thursday, February 26, 2026

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

7:30a - 8:45a..... Breakfast AvailableConcession 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 Trinity Ballroom
 10:45a - 11:30aBreakout 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 Campaigns (*Voting Delegate gets Card Stamped*)..... Trinity Pre-Function
 12:00p - 12:45pLunch Break (*Lunch provided for judges*) Concession Stands Open
1:00p - 6:00p All Competitive Events Resume Check the App/pg 22
 1:00p - 1:45pBreakout Sessions - Set 2..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 10
 2:00p - 2:45pBreakout Sessions - Set 3..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 11
 3:00p - 3:45pBreakout Sessions - Set 4..... Check the App for Sessions/pg11
 4:00p - 4:45pBreakout Sessions - Set 5..... Check the App for Sessions/pg 12
 6:00p - 6:45pDinner 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

Friday, February 27, 2026

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

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

Award packets can be picked up AFTER the closing general session, at TAFE Registration. Please show courtesy and do not leave the Session early. All packets not picked up will be mailed, after postage has been paid.