



High School teachers,

**Have you ever considered teaching in a blended learning classroom?**

Here is what Ross Garison from the Instructional Technology department says about our Blended Learning Program:

*Denton ISD is in the middle of the first year of its **Blended Learning Program**. Students that participate in a blended learning course are provided with more options over the time, place, path, and pace of their learning than they would have if they were in a traditional classroom environment.*

*The program is currently operating in four social studies classes and leverages a blend of online and face-to-face learning experiences to support students in their journey toward mastery. Students work through online course material Monday through Wednesday before coming together in-person for application and assessment activities each Thursday. Fridays are focused on providing additional targeted support to struggling students.*

*The program will expand into more classes district-wide in the Fall—not just social studies. Excitement is growing, however, as students experience the benefits of learning at their own pace, while still finding themselves challenged by rigorous coursework.*

This opportunity is being supported by the Department of Instructional Technology in cooperation with the Department of Secondary C & I. If this has interest for you, reach out to Ross Garison [rgarison@dentonisd.org](mailto:rgarison@dentonisd.org), Dwight Goodwin [dgoodwin@dentonisd.org](mailto:dgoodwin@dentonisd.org) or Dan Ford [dford@dentonisd.org](mailto:dford@dentonisd.org) to discuss the possibilities.

Best,

Mike Mattingly  
Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

**Getting to know PDC paraprofessionals...**



**Casey McKinney** is secretary to special education supervisors Darby Ahlfinger, Dr. Rebecca Julius and Kristi Roberts. Hometown is Krum, TX where she graduated from high school. She is married to her best friend Duane and they have two beautiful children, Noah, 9 and Alayna, 5. Pet children are Malfoy, a

black cat and Magnum, an 18-year-old corn snake. Casey loves spending time with family and friends, enjoys softball, swimming and relaxing with a good book. She also collects baseball cards and is a fan of NHRA drag racing. Casey’s favorite movies include Gone with the Wind, Harry Potter and Goodfellas. She enjoys 1960-2005 music, such as The Doors, Tom Petty, Journey, Reba, Elton John, Jewel and Pink. Casey says she is one lucky girl to have an amazing husband, kids, friends, family and a job she loves going to every day! You can reach Casey at **Ext. 0163**.

**Mary Davis** serves as Denton ISD’s technology support technician for Central Services, the Giese Support Services building and the PDC.



Mary was raised in Wichita Falls, TX and graduated from Hirschi High school located there. People might be surprised to know that she is shy and almost joined the Air Force, but most know that her family is very important to her. She and Tom, her husband of 29 years, have two children: Matthew, who has a degree in pastoral counseling and is married to Kaylee, and Abigail, who will graduate with a degree in HFSA and will marry Casey in May of this year. Pets in the family are Bentley, a 5 lb. Yorkie and Vincent, a 25 lb. cat. Her first-choice past-times are reading and going to the beach; *Same Kind of Difference as Me* is her favorite book.

You can reach Mary at **Ext. 3483**.

# Bilingual/ESL

## Bilingual/ESL departments hosts parent meetings

On December 4, the Bilingual/ESL department hosted four parent meetings designed to help the parents of Bilingual/ESL students become more familiar with Bilingual/ESL programs and services in Denton ISD.

**Teresa Taylor**, director of Bilingual/DLE/ESL, is shown here addressing parents at the meeting.



## ESL ELAR teachers prepare for TELPAS

In December, the secondary ESL department worked with ESL ELAR teachers to become more familiar with the new on-line TELPAS listening and speaking test.

ESL ELAR teachers received class sets of headphones and shared ideas on how to help their students prepare for this assessment.

## Dual Language collaboration between Strickland and Myers

**Emmanuel Ordóñez** welcomed new Dual Language team member **Karen Huertas**. Emmanuel shared Dual Language learning strategies and content objectives. His expertise has helped Karen in her new position at Myers Middle School.



# Bilingual/ESL



## Jan. 7th Dual Language Program Essentials Training with Dr. Medina and Irán Tovar at Hodge Elementary

Dual Language administrators, teachers, and staff engaged in a small group discussion with Dr. José Medina. The day's professional development focused on ways of creating access to grade level standards through language and biliteracy instructional strategies.



March 6	Secondary ESL Math PLC to visit classrooms	12:30 – 3:30
April 26	Elementary ESL Support Teacher PLC	
April 26	Elementary BE/ESL Support Teacher PLC	
April 18	Secondary ESL PLC / PDC	8:30 – 11:30
April 23	Secondary Dual Lang Essay Scoring / PDC	8:30 – 3:30
April 23-24	Campus Administrators EOY LPAC / SSB	
April 24	Bilingual Aides Academy / PDC	8:30 – 3:30

## Elementary ESL specialists meet for PLC

During the January 9th PLC, ESL specialists met to revisit the purpose and function of the Professional Learning Community (PLC).

The dialogue revolved around our vision of quality programs for ELs, our role as instructional leaders and our commitment to student centered instruction.



## Future PD Opportunities for Teachers Supporting English Learners (Dual Language/ESL)

Date	Professional Development	Location
July 19-20, 2019	<p><b>DL Summer Institute K-5</b>            Special guest speaker Dr. Lidia Morris leads K-5 Dual language teachers in a session focused on grammar and orthography concepts authentic to Spanish. BE/ESL department dedicates second half of the day to learning how to implement the Units of Study in Reading and Writing through best practices and English learners supports.</p>	<p>Hodge Elementary            8:00 AM-3:00 PM            K-5 Grades</p>
September 12, 2019	<p><b>Implementing Units of Study in Reading and Writing K-5</b>            In this session, teachers will have opportunities to adapt units of study sessions to meet their students' needs and differentiate instruction.</p>	<p>TBD            8:00-11:00 AM session K-2            12:00-3:00 PM session 3-5</p>
October 18, 2019	<p><b>The Power and Risks of Scaffolding in Reading Units of Study-</b>            Participants learn how to best support English learners in Dual language and mainstream classrooms through the best use of scaffolds.</p>	<p>TBD            12:00-3:00 PM Grade 2-3</p>
October 22, 2019	<p><b>The Power and Risks of Scaffolding in Reading Units of Study</b>            Participants learn how to best support English learners in Dual language and mainstream classrooms through the correct use of scaffolds.</p>	<p>TBD            8:00-11:00 AM Grade K-1            12:00-3:00 PM Grade 4-5</p>

# Data and Assessment

## Assessment conference held for district and campus testing coordinators

On January 22, 2019, Regions 10 & 11 offered a first-ever Assessment Conference for District and Campus Testing Coordinators. It was an opportunity to learn from experienced assessment practitioners, engage in best practices, and enjoy the opportunity to network and connect with others in the field.



**Back row** (l to r): Toni Goodman, Shelly Panter, Emily Manning, Pamela Tutt, Jesus Lujan, Maranda Matheson, Divya Ryan, Jeff Panter, Rebecca Falola, Karen Guenther, Lacey Wells and Sarah Critton.

**Front row** (l to r): Becky Lloyd, Djenane Bolton and Barbara Kinast.

**Shanna Mikolajchak** – PEIMS Coordinator

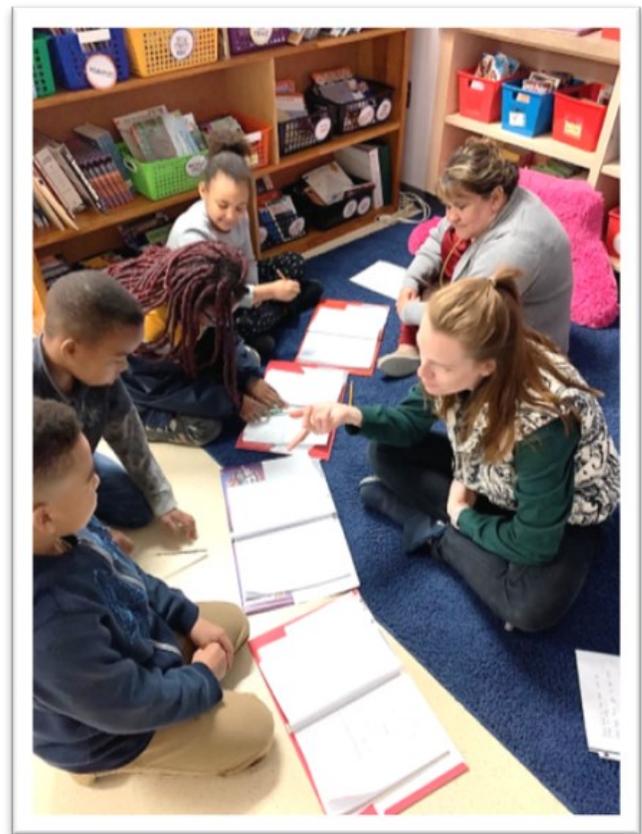
**Becky Lloyd** (elementary), **Maranda Matheson** (secondary) – District Testing Coordinators

**All Things Assessment:** <https://www.smores.com/73jcm-all-things-assessment>

# Elementary Curriculum



Math and literacy labs are in progress across the District. Reach out to your district coaches if you want to learn more!



## Elementary Curriculum Professional Development Days

Summer Seminar	May 28/29	Guyer HS
Assessment for Learning	May 30/31	Guyer HS
Reading Homegrown	June 10-14	Guyer HS
ELAR Curriculum Updates	August 7	TBD

# Elementary Curriculum



Ginnings Elementary



Wilson Elementary

## STEM Cohort Deliveries



Newton Rayzor Elementary

# Secondary Curriculum

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELAR

SPRING SEMESTER 2019

## Workshop PD Sessions



By request

### MegaLabs



Personalized

### On-Campus PD



Listed Below

### District PD

#### SESSIONS OFFERED:

Full Day: 8:30-3:30pm PDC Pecans.  
**Thurs., Mar. 7th**

#### Session: The Lucy Calkins Workshop Model of Instruction

*For ELAR, Special Education and ESL Teachers who are not familiar with this model.*

Teachers will learn the philosophy behind this model of instruction, hear from the authors, experience a lesson in this structure and make connections to best instructional practices they are already implementing. While learning the components of this model, teachers will become familiar with the verbiage.

#### SESSIONS OFFERED:

After School: **Mon., Mar. 4th (Part 1)**  
4:15-5:30pm PDC Redbuds  
After School: **Wed., Mar. 6th (Part 2)**  
4:15-5:30pm PDC Redbuds

Full Day: 8:30-3:30pm PDC Pecans.  
**Mon., Mar. 25th OR Mon., Apr. 29th**

#### Session: Understanding Writers Workshop

*For all ELAR, Special Education and ESL Teachers*

This session will focus on the writing process as it differs in this model, the structure of class and units, and one writing Unit of Study. Teachers can bring any writing Unit of Study to explore at the training.

\*After-school session Part 1 will focus on the writing process and structure of the Units of Study; Part 2 will focus on the content of one Unit of Study (of choice). The full day will immerse learners in Writers Workshop.

#### SESSIONS OFFERED:

After School: **Wed., Apr. 3rd (Part 1)**  
4:15-5:30pm PDC Redbuds  
After School: **Thurs., Apr 4th (Part 2)**  
4:15-5:30pm PDC Redbuds

Full Day: 8:30-3:30pm PDC Pecans  
**Wed., Apr. 24th**

#### Session: Guided Team Planning: Quarter 1 Unit of Study for '19-'20

*For all ELAR, Special Education and ESL Teachers who want to plan ahead!*

Grade level teams will be walked through the lesson plans in a reading or writing Unit of Study. Through this guided experience, teachers will see lessons brought to life, have ample time to breakdown lessons in teams, and explore the differentiation within small groups and conferring.

\*Each after school sessions will only focus on planning one "bend".

# Secondary Curriculum

By request  
**MegaLabs**

MegaLabs are on-site, live “labs” by instructional coaches. This happens on your campus, by principal request, and will be structured to fulfill one of the following purposes:

- 1) Expose teachers to the Lucy Calkins Workshop Model of Instruction (to get buy-in, to experience the structure, to see the benefits of the model).
- 2) Help teachers perfect a component of workshop (example: a focus on small group instruction, one-on-one conferences, master the parts of a mini-lesson, etc.).

Notes: Teachers can **a)** participate in a MegaLab during 2-3 class(es), interact with students during workshop, return to class and do the lesson that was just modeled, or **b)** observe a class using a checklist, listen to voiceovers while observing, and debrief after (beginner phase).

Personalized  
**On-Campus PD**

ELAR Teams can request ON-CAMPUS PD via a Google survey. These surveys trigger on-campus support. All on-campus support is catered to teachers’ needs.

To view the request for current/new workshop schools, click here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/hgmdRwvpRZBXeksy2>

To view the request for campuses who are NEW to workshop and need help navigating the **Units of Study**, click here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Ojl582FwLPNO9Ue52>

Surveys will be sent to department heads (once principals have agreed to on-campus PD) and are intended to be filled out by grade level teams.

Teachers College  
Reading & Writing Project  
**District & TCRWP  
PD**

Summer Professional Development for ELAR WORKSHOP TEACHERS  
*We will continue to communicate about the May/June opportunities via email!*

- Summer Seminar: Workshop Sessions
- AFL Speaker: *Lucy Calkins* (author of ELAR resources and founder of TCRWP)
- AFL Workshop Breakout Sessions
- Homegrown Institute (by TCRWP) week of June 10th
- Teachers College Institutes in NYC (Summer Opportunities)

# Secondary Curriculum

## E L A R – Spring 2019 Professional Development

March 29, 2019 8:30 am–3:30 pm	Carl Anderson Training	Hurst Convention Ctr
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## Math – Spring 2019 Professional Development

March 19, 2019	DTEK Training	Denton High School
March 26, 2019	DTEK Training	Ryan High School
April 2, 2019	6th Grade Data Day	SSB
April 4, 2019	7th Grade Data Day	PDC
April 11, 2019	DTEK Training	Braswell High School
April 18, 2019	DTEK Training	Guyer High School

## Social Studies – Spring 2019 Professional Development

March 20, 2019	APHG Redesign	PDC
March 27, 2019	UbD PLC	PDC
April 3, 2019	Blended PLC	PDC
April 23, 2019	AP Gov Redesign	PDC
April 23, 2019	WH PLC	PDC
April 24, 2019	WG PLC	PDC
April 30, 2019	HWG PLC	PDC
May 20 & 29, 2019	Afl Preconference Workshops	PDC
June 11 & 12, 2019	Teaching American History Institute – 2-day professional learning for social studies educators	PDC

# Special Education

## Special Education teacher PLCs

On January 7, 2019, PPCD teachers and elementary AFS and FLS teachers met at GSYC for a productive, rich PLC opportunity during the afternoon. The focus was on learning targets and connected learning activities.

Each teacher brought examples of how they are making learning targets and activities accessible for our students with special needs. The special education teachers provided each other with valuable feedback and input during the afternoon session. The teachers have shared how much they appreciate having the time scheduled during the day to learn together as a professional community.



## SPECTR ...What?

In special education, we love acronyms, so we are excited to share a new one with you! SPECTR stands for Special Education Campus Teacher Representative and is the title of a meeting being held each quarter with special education teachers from across the district.

Each campus has designated one teacher to attend the meetings, and then, that teacher takes the information back to their campus to be shared with the rest of their team. Topics for these meetings have included basic ARD preparation and discussions of how to propose minutes and determine least restrictive environment. The January meeting focused on planning for transition ARDs this spring.

We want to thank all the teachers for faithfully attending and a special thank you to the campuses who have hosted us this year: Strickland Middle School, W. S. Ryan Elementary and McMath Middle School. Contact **Angie Fox** at **Ext. 4096** for more information.

## Reading and Writing Project

**Laura Davis** and **Darby Ahlfinger** had the privilege of attending Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University to learn about supporting students in the units of study who have IEPs. It was fantastic learning that Laura and Darby are excited to bring back to the special education teacher in our district.



The **Exceptional Student of the Month** for November is from Bettye Myers Middle School. **Joshua De La Cruz** was honored and in attendance with him was his mother and his teacher, **Ticarra Cassel**.

# Special Education



HELP SUPPORT

## DENTON ISD SPECIAL OLYMPICS

**WHERE** 1601 Brinker Rd, Denton, TX 76208

**WHEN** Thurs, Mar 7th

**FROM** 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.\*

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\*Gift card purchases and catering orders are excluded and will not count toward the event. Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

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# DENTON ISD

*Come show your support!*



#DareToBeEPIC

## Special Education Athletes Track and Field Meet

**April 13, 2019**

**Bill Carrico Athletic Complex  
Braswell High School  
26750 E. University | Aubrey, TX 76227**

Opening Ceremony at 9:30 am  
Events begin at 10:00 am

Cash only concession will be available  
Benefitting the Special Education Athletes

*Be a Fan and Fill the Stands*

Please direct any questions  
to the  
Head of Delegation:  
Sandra Hensley  
940-369-4084

**Special Olympics**  
Texas



For information regarding  
sponsorship or donation  
opportunities contact:  
Heather Wilkins  
940-369-0681