

Rachel E. Jones, Ph.D.

Adjunct Faculty
Texas A&M University- Central Texas
College of Education and Human Development
rachel.jones@tamuct.edu

Areas of Interest:

I desire to improve educational opportunities for students at all levels by training the next generation of leaders to design organizational systems, develop functional policies, build professional capacity, deploy educational innovations, and promote positive learning environments for all students.

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, University of Texas at Arlington
Doctoral coursework in Educational Leadership: Lamar University
Master of Educational Leadership: Dallas Baptist University,
Graduate coursework at Baylor College of Medicine, Cell and Molecular Biology Program
Bachelor of Science, Biology and Psychology: University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Certifications

Texas Superintendent Certification
Texas Principal Certification
Texas Teacher Certification in Science 4-8 and Life Sciences 8-12
T-PESS Appraiser certified
T-TESS teacher appraiser
Development Dimensions International (DDI) certified trainer in leadership curriculum

Professional Affiliations

Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA)
Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT)
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Data Fellow

Employment and Experience

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Burnet CISD (2019 - present)

Duties include

- Serve alongside the Superintendent to provide districtwide leadership
- Supervise campus principals and provide leadership for principals and assistant principals
- Lead academic departments; supervise Curriculum and Special Programs staff
- Facilitate and promote partnerships and joint programs with Institutions of Higher Education
- Direct policy development and procedural refinements
- Secure or develop quality trainings to leaders, administrators, teachers, or other staff as needed to ensure ongoing improvement in the instructional program
- Oversee state and federal programs, including management of grant programs
- Provide leadership and change management for new initiatives
- Interface with the community in a variety of formal and informal settings

Honors and substantial experiences

- Invitation and acceptance to the statewide District Coordinator of School Improvement Leadership Cohort, 2021-2022
- Participation in a successful school bond election process and subsequent project planning, 2021

Executive Director of Secondary Learning (2017-2019)

Director of Curriculum and Instruction (2012-2017), Red Oak ISD

Duties included

- Coach and advise campus administrators, direct the Instructional Coach program
- Lead the refinement and/or improvement of the district's instructional program
- Supervise Curriculum Coordinators; ensure that support and program alignment is achieved in academic areas and instructional technology integration
- Oversee the coordination of special programs including Bilingual/ESL, Gifted and Talented, Dyslexia intervention, and summer intervention/enrichment programs
- Use student achievement data from multiple sources to inform decision-making; lead departmental team members to understand and use quantitative measures
- Contribute to partnership development and joint programs with Institutions of Higher Education
- Serve on the Superintendent's Cabinet

Honors and substantial experiences

- Recognition for Leadership in Program Development, Hawk Scholars Academy; dual credit program partnership between ROISD, Navarro College, and UT Arlington
- Research and contribution to blended learning frameworks; collaboration on the operation of a fully-virtual campus
- Participate in support activities with campuses identified for School Improvement until they exited.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Cedar Hill ISD, 2011-2012

Instructional Coordinator, Cedar Hill ISD, 2010-2011

Duties included

- Coordinate various programs and initiatives by leading frequent collaboration with Chiefs, Directors, Instructional Coordinators, and Principals.
- Manage grant budgets and activities for NCLB funds; maintain necessary documentation and develop needed procedures in conjunction with the business office
- Provide or procure a variety of professional development opportunities for teachers and administrators based upon student data, teacher feedback, and emerging needs
- Oversee the Teacher Induction Program for Success
- Facilitate summer school programs and budgets
- Serve as the lead for initial implementation of a managed curriculum, write science assessments

Honors and substantial experiences

- District achieved the first year of a "Recognized" academic rating from the Texas Education Agency
- Successfully navigated three desk audits of federal/state program compliance
- Represented the region as a member of the TEKS Resource System state advisory group
- Facilitated the implementation of new state science standards

Assistant Principal, Life School Oak Cliff Elementary, 2008-2010

Duties included

- Assist the campus Principal in supervision and staff development of teachers
- Monitor progress and manage instructional, behavioral, and character programs of the campus
- Supervise operations including textbook inventories, safety drills, food service, and dismissal

Director, Travis Oaks Baptist Preschool & Mother's Day Out, Lago Vista, TX: 2006-2007

- Created systems for teacher evaluation, balanced a budget in crisis, and selected curriculum
- Voted a "best of" North Lake Travis area childcare options by the *North Lake Travis* LOG in 2007

Teacher, Life School Oak Cliff, Dallas, TX: 2000-2004, 2007-2008

- Teach a variety of middle school and high school Science courses
- Teacher of the Year award, 2003-2004
- Served as K-12 science coordinator during the addition of campuses to the district; facilitated vertical alignment, procured resources, and researched facilities needs

Presentations and Publications

Leadership Growth Project. Presentation for the Texas Education Agency District Coordinator for School Improvement Leadership Cohort, Austin, TX, April 26, 2022

Languages of Appreciation. Training series based upon The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace by Chapman & White, presented at Burnet CISD Leadership Team meetings, July, 2021 - May, 2022.

Burnet CISD Grading Committee. Presentation of grading practice research and facilitation of feedback from Burnet CISD Teachers, multi-day series, Feb - May, 2021

The Best of Both Worlds: Exploring a Comprehensive High School Associate Degree Program. Paper presented at the annual Conference on Academic Research in Education, Las Vegas, NV, February 26, 2019

Presentation, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Data Fellows Workshop, May 17, 2018

A Fork in the Road to College Acceleration: Comparing Advanced Placement and Dual Credit. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA, February 15, 2018

College Credit at Red Oak High School. Presentation for the Red Oak ISD School District Board of Trustees, Red Oak TX, January 22, 2018

Hawk Scholars Academy. Presentation for the Red Oak ISD Board of Trustees, Red Oak, TX, January 22, 2018

Unpacking the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Presentation in the Red Oak ISD New Teacher Academy, Red Oak, TX, August 9, 2017

Personal Empowerment: Taking Initiative. Presentation in the Red Oak ISD Leadership Academy, Red Oak, TX, July 16, 2016

Digital Natives: Not Yet Fluent. Presentation at the annual Lead4Ward Think! Conference, Houston, TX, December 11, 2015

How Will You Level Up? Presentation at the annual Lead4Ward Think! Conference, Houston, TX, December 11, 2015

Accelerating Business Decisions. Presentation in the Red Oak ISD Leadership Academy (multiple dates)

Instructional Program Research. Presentation for the Red Oak ISD Growth Management Committee, Red Oak, TX, May, 2013

STAAR Informational Session. Presentation to the Cedar Hill ISD Board of Trustees, Cedar Hill, TX, May 9, 2012

Beyond STAAR-ready. Presentation for principals and central administration of the Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, December 15, 2011

NCLB Waiver Update. Presentation for principals and central administration of the Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, October 18, 2011

"LOL:" Learn Out Loud. Presentation for secondary Science teachers in Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, December 7, 2010

"Labs" is not a four-letter word. Presentation for secondary Science teachers in Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, August 17, 2010

Science Nerds, Unite! Presentation for secondary Science teachers in Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, August 11, 2010

Connecting Students, Teachers, and Standards. Presentation for secondary Science teachers in Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, August 9, 2010

Professional Development Appraisal System New Teacher Overview. Presentation at New Teacher Academy, Cedar Hill ISD, Cedar Hill, TX, August 4, 2010

Significant Trainings

Texas Education Agency's District Coordinators of School Improvement inaugural leadership academy
Texas Association of Supervisors of Curriculum Development (ASCD) Curriculum Management Institute
Aspiring Superintendents Academy, Texas Association of School Administrators
Solution Tree Institute for Professional Learning Communities at Work, Response to Intervention Institute
Texas Association of School Administrators Transformational Leadership Academy
Jim Knight Instructional Coaching Institute
Philip Schlechty Working on the Work Institute
New Federal Programs Director Boot Camp, Association for Compensatory Educators of Texas

Hobbies and Other Interests

Hiking, singing, cooking, church ministry, traveling with family