



WHY does TALE exist?

Mission

To promote literacy that will enhance the lives of all Texas citizens personally, socially, and economically.

Vision

We envision an education system that:

- Promotes a positive literacy identity for all students;
- Values children for their diverse interests, perspectives, linguistic capabilities, cultural identities and personal goals;
- Creates a curriculum that is flexible and responsive to individual interests and goals;
- Motivates learners through meaningful and joyful learning activities;
- Connects individuals, the schools and the community for the purpose of using literacy for personal and social good

Core Values

Literacy professionals are committed to serving the learners in this state:

- By drawing on their deep understanding of the principles of language and literacy learning to guide their practice;
- Through the utilization of evidence-based teaching practices in designing and offering instruction;
- By thoughtfully adapting instruction to individuals and contexts as needed;
- Through conscious attention to ethical principles that respect the rights and dignity of the learner at all times;
- By continued study of teaching through personal professional development;
- Through leadership in the design of programs and in support of preservice and in-service teachers, other literacy leaders, and teacher educators (higher education); By advocating with parents, community, media, local councils and policymakers to promote literacy for social justice.

WHO are we?

TALE is an affiliate of the International Literacy Association.

TALE members include:

- ★ Public and private school Prek-12 educators
- ★ Higher education faculty
- ★ Undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students
- ★ Community members

WHEN can I join?

Right now!

Annual membership is just \$10!

Join now at

<http://www.texasreaders.org>

WHERE can I find

TALE?

- Website: www.texasreaders.com
- Facebook: [@texasreaders.org](https://www.facebook.com/texasreaders.org)
- Twitter: [@TXLiteracyEd](https://twitter.com/TXLiteracyEd)

WHAT can TALE do for me?

- ★ **Advocacy-** Over the past 2 years, TALE has been involved in a state-wide literacy coalition working to advocate and provide feedback for the revisions of the ELAR TEKS. As Past Presidents, Patricia Durham and Roberta Raymond have testified to the Texas State Board of Education at nearly every board meeting. Testimony has included sharing the voices of TALE membership regarding opinions of the current TEKS as well as thoughts on needed revisions. When the new ELAR TEKS are rolled out, TALE members can feel proud that these standards were crafted in good conscience by the writing committees and included TALE members' voices.
- ★ **Conference-** An annual event that brings supporters of literacy together for mutual support, education, and inspiration. Each year, the TALE conference offers educators access to distinguished speakers and authors as well as opportunities to attend workshops, sessions, and other presentation formats put on by literacy professionals from around the state. This event is open to all literacy professionals with focus in the areas of Preschool/Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, Adult/College, and Preservice Teachers. The call for conference proposals opens in the spring and registration begins in the fall of each year.
- ★ **Publications-**
 - **Texas Journal of Literacy Education:** Official peer-reviewed journal that publishes research and practical articles bi-annually. ISSN: 2374-7404.
 - **Newsletter:** Book reviews, technology pieces, and innovative literacy teaching pieces published in the Spring, Summer, and Fall of each year
 - **Yearbook:** Follows the annual conference and is a compilation of some of the presentations with an aim to widely share these advances in literacy research and practice with inter/national audiences.

HOW can I get involved?

Join a Committee!

- **Advocacy Development**
 - Educates about, advocates for, and supports the importance of lifelong literacy learning in and through education by building alliances and creating a network among literacy educators and other educational stakeholders.
- **Community Involvement**
 - Organizes and supports projects that create and sustain partnerships with individuals, professionals, and organizations who are interested in promoting activities that support literacy advancement in Texas.
- **Educator Empowerment**
 - Empowers TALE members in ways that develop voice, ownership, and leadership of their professional literacy landscape
- **Membership Development**
 - Creates and implements a plan to retain and recruit TALE members
- **Communication**
 - Promotes communication among TALE membership through a variety of print, electronic, and social mediums.