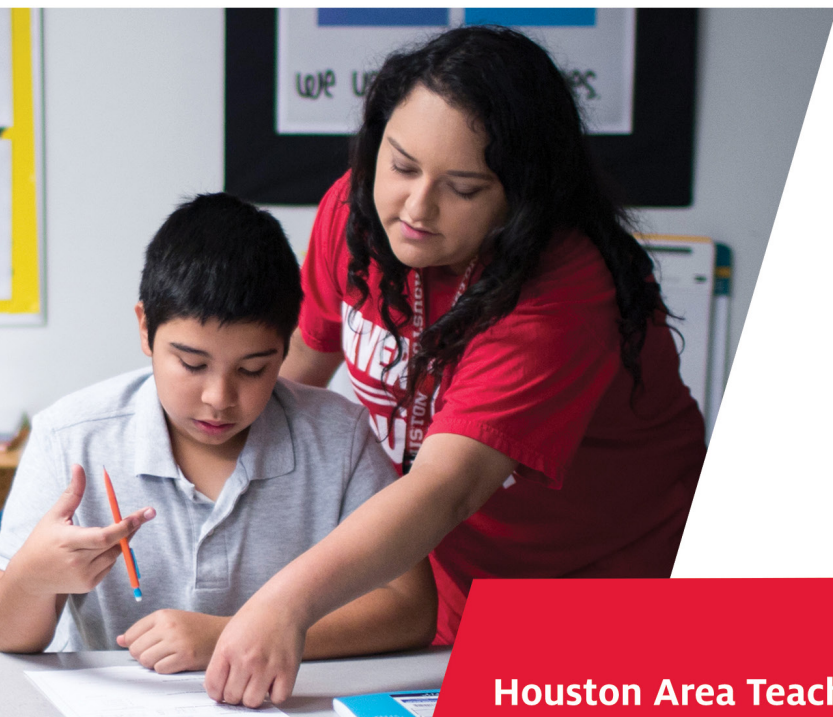


# TEACH!



**Houston Area Teacher Center**  
Conference and  
Student Teacher Job Fair  
Nov. 8, 2019

#HATC

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**  
COLLEGE of EDUCATION

“Education is the  
**gatekeeper to success**,  
and all kids deserve  
to pass through the gate.”

— Shea Culpepper  
Director of Teacher Education  
University of Houston

**STUDENTS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:** Please  
complete [this online form](#) to let us know which HATC sessions  
you attended and share feedback about your experience.

University of Houston  
College of Education  
Farish Hall  
3657 Cullen Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77204

Hilton University of Houston  
4450 University Drive  
Houston, TX 77204

uh.edu/education  
713-743-5000

Follow us on social media and tag your  
photos and posts with #HATC!



## HATC Conference and Student Teacher Job Fair

8:00 – 8:45 a.m.

MORNING REGISTRATION  
Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Hilton UH

8:45 – 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION  
Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Hilton UH

WELCOME & OVERVIEW

**Shea Culpepper**  
University of Houston

PANEL DISCUSSANT

**Amber Thompson**  
University of Houston

PANEL PRESENTATION

**Karen Cossey**  
Teacher Recruiter  
Spring Branch ISD

**Kay Kerr**  
Human Resources Director  
Channelview ISD

**Michelle Martin**  
Human Resources Assistant Director  
Professional Staffing  
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

**Martin Moffett**  
Human Resources Coordinator  
Pasadena ISD

**Janie Ruiz**  
General Manager for Talent Acquisition  
Houston ISD

**Robin Williams**  
Executive Director of Employee Quality  
Aldine ISD

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

CONFERENCE SESSION 1  
Farish Hall

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE SESSION 2  
Farish Hall

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. (December graduates only) JOB FAIR

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. (Open to all attendees) Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Hilton UH



# Session 1

## 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

### **Expectations of a First-Year Teacher**

Our workshop will focus on transitioning to the professional environment, the “science” of teaching and the “art” of teaching. This interactive session will give you the necessary skill set to effectively navigate your first year and allow you to be a change agent and difference maker. You can do more than just survive your first year — you can thrive!

Presented by: Juan Santos, Tomball ISD; Michelle Martin, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

**Room: 101** (capacity 161)

### **These Kids Don’t Remember Anything: Using Your Student’s Brain to Your Advantage**

By understanding how the brain works, teachers can unlock the mystery of why students can’t remember what they were taught. Participants in this workshop will learn how the brain learns and strategies to ensure that their students retain and recall information.

Presented by: Kent Divoll, University of Houston–Clear Lake

**Room: 130** (capacity 50)

### **Special Education Teachers — Tips for Success**

This workshop will provide effective strategies for the aspiring special education teacher. We will discuss how to interact appropriately with students in each of the 13 categories of disability and how to be an effective case manager. From the interview to the classroom, these are the topics that will make you a shining star.

Presented by: Gloria Roach, Channelview ISD

**Room: 213** (capacity 50)

### **Educator Boundaries and Social Media**

This presentation addresses what a teacher needs to know to build appropriate educator/student relationships. It addresses the boundaries between students and teachers in communication and legal issues teachers face with social media.

Presented by: Kim Alvarez, Alvin ISD; Melba Morales, Alvin ISD

**Room: 215** (capacity 50)

## **What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do: Ethical Decision-Making for Teachers**

From grades and testing to parent interactions and social media, teachers face difficult situations in which they must make ethical decisions. What do you do when you don't know what to do? Use an ethical decision-making model as a framework for gathering information, documenting your decision-making process and implementing a plan of action. Come learn about ethical decision-making models and practice applying them in educational dilemmas.

Presented by: John T. Spoede, Houston Baptist University; Polly Trevino, Houston Baptist University

**Room: 217** (capacity 50)

## **The Stories Behind Your Students: How Empathy Impacts A Classroom**

Every student that walks through your classroom door will have a story that shapes and impacts how he/she approaches learning. A teacher has the power and privilege to influence students' perceptions of both themselves and the learning process. Educators are entrusted with the task of preparing students to navigate an increasingly complex world, and empathy may be the most powerful skill set for educators as they begin to make connections with their students. Come to this session to discover how looking through an empathic lens will help you to build relationships and understand the story behind each of your students. You will leave knowing more about the students in our schools today and with concrete activities that you can use as you begin your adventure in your own classroom.

Presented by: Debra Campbell, Houston ISD; Michael McDonough, Houston ISD

**Room: 218** (capacity 50)

## **Influence Over Authority: Building Relationships Beyond the Classroom**

There are multiple ways to foster positive relationships with students within a school setting. This session discusses ways of getting involved in your school campus in order to create connections with students by valuing their identities, interests and abilities.

Presented by: Alan Thompson, Houston ISD

**Room: 219** (capacity 50)

## **Strategies for Getting Your First Secondary Teaching Job**

An interactive workshop designed to help you land your first job. Strategies include proper etiquette and how to answer interview questions that put you on the top of every principal's list. **(For fall 2019 graduates ONLY)**

Presented by: Robert Laird, Channelview ISD; Cynthia Benitez, Channelview ISD

**Room: 222A** (capacity 50)

### **Interviewing Like a Champ**

This session will cover interview and job fair tips as well as an opportunity to participate in mock interviews.

Presented by: Denise Hooker-Ware, Houston ISD; Adam Harrer, Houston ISD; Alex Gonzalez, Houston ISD

**Room: 232** (capacity 70)

### **Strategies for Getting Your First Elementary Teaching Job**

An interactive workshop designed to help you land your first job. Strategies include proper etiquette and how to answer and ask the “hooking questions” that put you on the top of every principal’s list.

Presented by: Nathan Boughton, Cleveland ISD; Maria Silva, Cleveland ISD

**Room: 302** (capacity 50)

### **Finding the Right Fit (For a Job at Any Level)**

What is the key to having a successful start in your profession? One of the most important things when considering whether to accept a position in a district and at a school is to ask: Is this a perfect fit for me? Attend this session if you want to learn some factors to consider when making your final decision to accept a position.

Presented by: Karen Cossey, Spring Branch ISD; Martin Moffett, Pasadena ISD

**Room: 307** (capacity 50)

# Session 2

## 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### **Expectations of a First-Year Teacher**

Our workshop will focus on transitioning to the professional environment, the “science” of teaching and the “art” of teaching. This interactive session will give you the necessary skill set to effectively navigate your first year and allow you to be a change agent and difference maker. You can do more than just survive your first year — you can thrive!

Presented by: Juan Santos, Tomball ISD; Michelle Martin, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

**Room: 101** (capacity 161)

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Presented by: Alan Thompson, Houston ISD

**Room: 219** (capacity 50)

### **The Power of One: Embarking on Your First Year of Teaching**

This session will discuss the importance of a teacher's impact in the classroom and how one person can make an enormous impact on the lives of the students they teach.

Presented by: Keena Bradley, Aldine ISD; Robin Williams, Aldine ISD

**Room: 222A** (capacity 50)

### **Interviewing Like a Champ**

This session will cover interview and job fair tips as well as an opportunity to participate in mock interviews.

Presented by: Denise Hooker-Ware, Houston ISD; Adam Harrer, Houston ISD; Alex Gonzalez, Houston ISD

**Room: 232** (capacity 70)

### **Making Learning Fun**

Participants in this workshop will learn meaningful classroom-specific strategies to plan and transition curriculum guided by the goals, purposes and definitions of a differentiated learning environment.

Presented by: Kent Divoll, University of Houston–Clear Lake

**Room: 302** (capacity 50)

### **From Problem to Partnership: Practical Strategies for Difficult Conversations**

Tips and tricks for navigating difficult conversations with parents, colleagues, school leaders and members of the school community. In this session, there will be discussions about implementing strategies that will take situations that are normally categorized as problematic and turning them into partnerships that will yield academic success for the students in your classroom.

Presented by: Tyrone Sylvester, Goose Creek ISD; Ron Wyatt, Goose Creek ISD; Lisa Steele, Goose Creek ISD

**Room: 307** (capacity 50)

### **Enhance Your Interview and Hiring Potential With an Electronic Portfolio**

Increase your hiring potential with a showcase portfolio. This presentation will show you samples of an exemplary portfolio to give you ideas.

Presented by: Hsin-Hui Lin, University of Houston–Victoria; Lynn Freeman, University of Houston–Victoria

**Room: 328** (capacity 20)

# Panelists

## **Karen Cossey, Teacher Recruiter, Spring Branch ISD**

Cossey oversees student teaching placements as well as recruiting and marketing efforts for highly qualified teaching personnel for Spring Branch ISD. She also serves as a liaison between human resources and universities and is instrumental in organizing screening events and job fairs for the district. Her career in Spring Branch ISD has spanned 31 years. She served as an elementary teacher before assuming her current role in 2008.

## **Kay Kerr, Human Resources Director, Channelview ISD**

Kerr is a proud alumna of University of Houston–Clear Lake with bachelor's and master's degrees. She has served students as a teacher, librarian and an administrator. She has been in human resources for the last 22 years staffing schools and has also served as a former president of the Houston Area Teacher Center.

## **Michelle Martin, Human Resources Assistant Director/Professional Staffing, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD**

Martin earned a bachelor's from Stephen F. Austin University and a master's from Sam Houston State University. She has been an educator for 29 years and has served as a middle school teacher, elementary school teacher and instructional specialist. Most recently, Martin served as an assistant principal at a local elementary school for eight years before transitioning to her current role in 2017.

## **Martin Moffet, Human Resources Coordinator, Pasadena ISD**

Moffett is serving his 36th year in education. He served as a teacher, basketball and football coach, assistant principal, principal and now as a human resources coordinator for Pasadena ISD. He completed his M.S. at the University of Houston–Clear Lake.

**Janie Ruiz, General Manager for Talent Acquisition, Houston ISD**

Ruiz oversees teacher and leadership recruitment, new employee onboarding and the processing of all new hires in Houston ISD. During her 25 years in education, Ruiz has served in several roles, starting as an instructional paraprofessional, bilingual teacher, instructional specialist and later moving into administrative roles. She then moved into human resources as senior manager for teacher recruitment, assisting the district in hiring over 2,000 teachers each year.

**Robin M. Williams, Executive Director of Employee Quality, Aldine ISD**

Williams has 27 years of experience in the field of education with 25 of those years in Aldine ISD. She received her doctorate in professional leadership from the University of Houston in 2011. She has served as an assistant principal, principal and director of human resources. In her present role, she recruits teachers to Aldine, leads the Mentor Program to ensure all first-year teachers have a qualified mentor and works collaboratively to develop teachers and staff seeking leadership opportunities in the district.

# Job Fair Participants

Aldine ISD  
Alief ISD  
Alvin ISD  
Ambassadors Preparatory Academy  
Archdiocese of Galveston – Houston  
Brazosport ISD  
Bryan ISD  
Channelview ISD  
Clear Creek ISD  
Cleveland ISD  
Conroe ISD  
Crowley ISD  
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD  
Denton ISD  
Dickinson ISD  
Fort Bend ISD  
Galena Park ISD  
Galveston ISD  
Goose Creek CISD  
Harmony Public Schools  
Harris County Department of Education

Houston Baptist University  
Houston ISD  
Humble ISD  
Huntsville ISD  
Katy ISD  
KIPP Texas Public Schools  
La Porte ISD  
Lamar CISD  
Lufkin ISD  
Mesquite ISD  
New Caney ISD  
Pasadena ISD  
Pearland ISD  
Richardson ISD  
Shelby County Schools  
Spring Branch ISD  
Texas City ISD  
Tomball ISD  
YES Prep Public Schools  
Westside High School

# Conference Planning Team

**Amber Thompson**, University of Houston

**Paula Canada**, University of Houston

## About the Hosts

The **Houston Area Teacher Center (HATC)** is a cooperative effort of the University of Houston College of Education and Houston-area school districts whose major purpose is to improve students' education through strong preparation of educators working in preK – 20 schools. Founded in 1970, HATC includes roughly three dozen districts and is believed to be the nation's oldest and largest teacher center.

The **University of Houston College of Education** merges research and real-world experience to train teachers, principals, counselors, psychologists, health educators and other academic leaders. The college serves more than 3,000 students. In 2018, the College won the Distinguished Teacher Education Program Award from the Association of Teacher Educators.

## Participating Universities

Houston Baptist University  
Texas Southern University  
University of Houston  
University of Houston–Clear Lake  
University of Houston–Victoria  
University of St. Thomas

# Special Thanks

*All panelists, presenters and session chairs*

## **Association of Texas Professional Educators Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union Texas State Teachers Association**

**Julia Arceneaux**, Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union

**Erika Bleed**, University of Houston

**Kasi Bundoc**, University of Houston–Downtown

**Lizbeth Casiano**, University of Houston

**Ron Coleman**, University of Houston

**Shea Culpepper**, University of Houston

**Delilah Davis**, Texas Southern University

**Sascha Holmes**, Hilton University of Houston

**Miranda Jasso**, University of Houston

**Jean Kiekel**, University of St. Thomas

**Syed Masood**, University of Houston

**Ava Mathis**, Houston Baptist University

**Ericka Mellon**, University of Houston

**Luke McGinty**, Kidventure

**Sylvia Molina**, Hilton University of Houston

**Kelly Moore**, University of Houston–Clear Lake

**Kathleen Patnaude**, University of Houston

**Kevin Pham**, University of Houston

**Daniel Pineda**, University of Houston

**Jaime Questell**, University of Houston

**Beverly Roberts**, Prairie View A&M University

**Tim Rosas**, University of Houston

**Lacey Bracken**, Alonti Catering

**Frances Smith**, Texas State Teachers Association

**Natalie Thayer**, University of Houston

**Daniella Valadez**, University of Houston

**Jeylan Yassin**, University of Houston

**Aimee Young**, University of Houston

# Special Thanks

## **Volunteers**

Azka Ahmed  
Karla Alas  
Lisbet Alvarez  
Adrian Bell  
Lauryn Bellow  
Estefania Castillo  
Spencer Comeaux  
Lauren Connelly  
Bodacius Falls  
Bosedé Familuyi  
Maria Flores  
Valentina Gamez  
Zurissaddai Garcia  
Anjelica Hix  
Sara Howell  
Israel Medina  
Emily Mello  
Jessica Morales  
Sarah Smith  
Brenda Villafuerte  
Tiffany Vu

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