



Welcome to the

**Science Leadership
Network (SLN)**

December 2, 2025

Welcome



Dr. Edrice Bell
*Director, Science/Social Studies
and MTSS*



Hanna Roach
*Assistant Director, CTE, Science,
and STEM
Elementary Science*



Kayla Hall
*Office Assistant, Science/Social
Studies and MTSS*



Dodie Resendez
*Regional Coordinator
Middle School Science*



Jennifer Wellman
*Regional Coordinator
Science and STEM*



Lindsey Curiel
*Regional Coordinator
High School Science*

Meeting Resources

Meeting Agenda

 Science Leadership Network Meeting December 2, 2025			
Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
8:30-8:50	Welcome and Introductions	Region 4 Science Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Edrice Bell, Director • Hanna Roach, K-5 • Dodie Resendez, 6-8 • Lindsey Curiel, 9-12 • Jen Wellman, STEM and Science 	2025-2026 Science Leadership Network – Collaborative Tool https://bit.ly/25-26SLNTool  Region 4 LN Protocols
8:50-9:30	Region 4 Has Your Back!	Region 4 Science Team	Region 4 Professional Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25-26 PD dates • Science Academy on Feb. 17 • Science Institute on June 17-18 • Science Speaker Series • Technical Assistance • New Science Teacher Cohort • Coaching Packages Science Conference: Debrief Upcoming Region 4 Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conferences • K-5 Computer Science Training • JASON Learning Opportunity Region 4 Products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the shelf: <i>Warm Up to Science for Grade 5</i>, <i>Warm Up to Biology</i> • Coming Soon: <i>Warm Up to IPC</i> and <i>Warm Up to Science for Grade 6</i>
9:30-9:50	Professional Organizations	Region 4 Science Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSELA – Upcoming meeting dates and locations • CAST 2025: Debrief
9:50-10:00	Break		

Collaborative Tool



<https://bit.ly/25-26SLNTool>

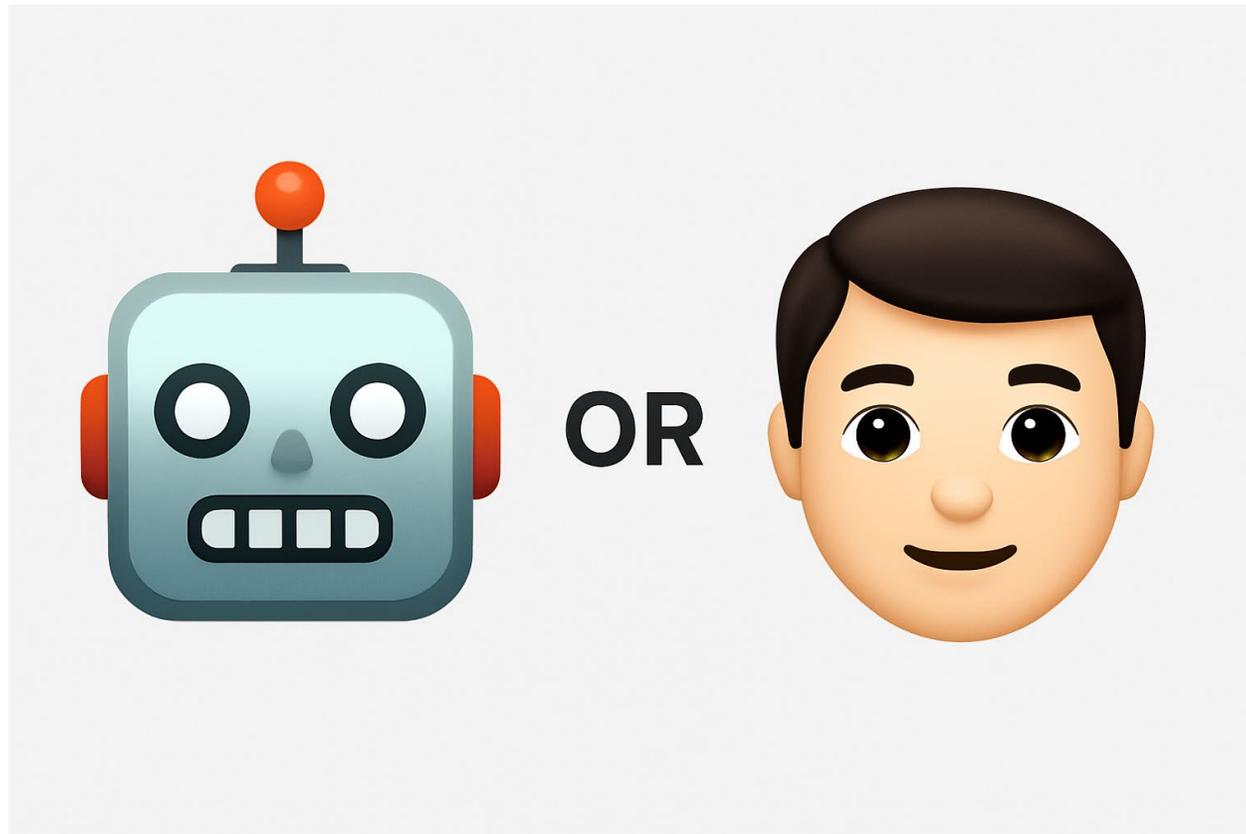
Science Leadership
Network

Agenda

December 2, 2025

- Welcome & Icebreaker
- About Region 4 and Purpose of the SLN
- Region 4 Has Your Back!
- Professional Organizations
- TEA STEM and Science Updates
- Legislative Updates
- District Spotlight
- Learning for Leaders: Using AI as a Thought Partner and for Support
- Evaluating Assessment Questions for SEPs and RTCs
- Writing Cluster Sets
- Closing

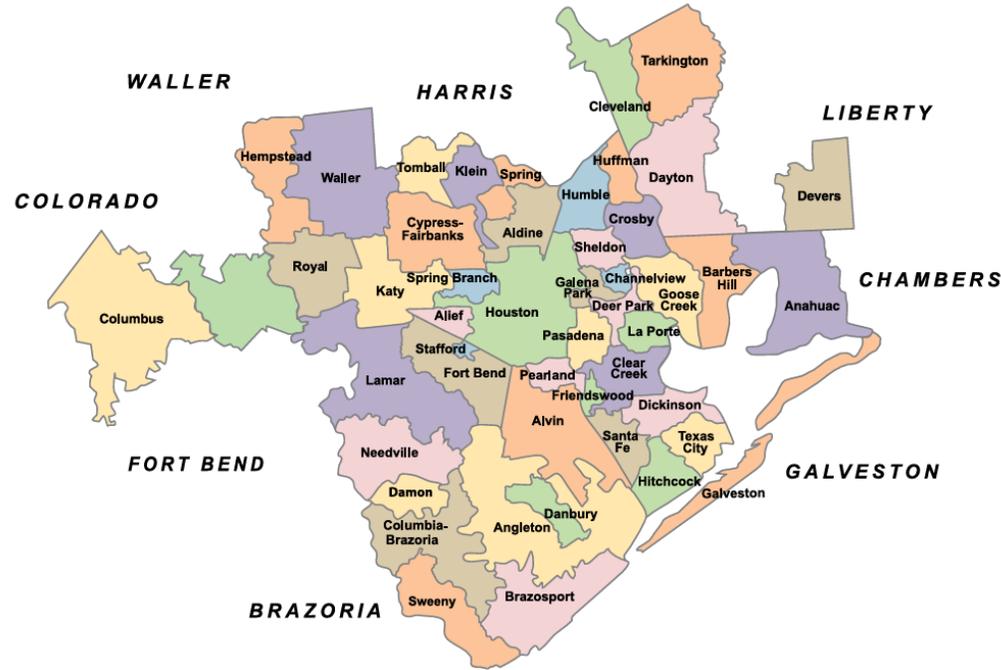
AI or Human?



About Region 4

<https://esc4.net/>

REGION 4 DISTRICT MAP



MORE THAN



Contacts

REGION 4
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER

Discuss current state and local information and issues in science

Network with other professionals across Region 4

Build Capacity

Provide feedback on the services Region 4 provides and the additional needed support

What is the purpose of our network?

Norms and Expectations

- Be present and engaged.
- Listen and contribute.
- Network and collaborate.

Region 4 Leadership Networks Protocol

*Add hroach@esc4.net to
your email safe list!*

Members are district and charter school leaders who have been appointed by their superintendents. When personnel changes, please follow these steps:

1. Contact your superintendent's office and request that a new person or people be added as Science Leadership Network designee(s).
2. If approved, ask the superintendent's office to contact Amanda Galvan, Division Secretary for Strategic Communication and Engagement via email at amanda.galvan@esc4.net or by phone at 713.744.6541. Amanda will then add the name(s) to the Region 4 Leadership Network list.
3. At that time, I would be able to include new people in communication and meeting invites. In the meantime, please do not forward registration and meeting links to people who are not in this LN.

SLN Meeting 2: Exit Ticket



bit.ly/SLN2ExitTicket

**Region 4
has your
back!**

*Supporting
Three-Dimensional
Science*

Professional Learning

2025-2026 Region 4 Science and STEM Professional Learning							REGION 4
Session ID	Date(s)	Time	Title	Format	Audience	Credit Hours	Fee
December 2025							
1934169	12/4/25	9:00-10:30	Adventure Awaits: Unleashing the Power of SIRS Discoverer in Your Classroom! (Virtual)	Virtual	K-12; Librarians	2	FREE
1904425	12/4/25	4:30-5:30	Science TEKS Talk Power Hour: Middle School Strand 9 *\$25 with promo code	Virtual	6-8	1	\$45.00
1904247	12/5/25	8:30-11:30	Designing STEM Professional Development: Empowering Adult Learners	F2F	Leaders; STEM	3	\$70.00
1916635	12/9/25	8:30-11:30	Water Matters: Revealing Recurring Themes and Concepts Through Real-World Connections	F2F	6-8; STEM	3	\$100.00
1916613	12/9/25	12:30-3:30	Energy Capital: Revealing Recurring Themes and Concepts Through Real-World Connections	F2F	6-8; STEM	3	\$100.00



<https://esc4.net/service/science/>

Region 4 Science Academy

Tuesday, February 17

Experience Tier 1 instructional strategies that promote active student engagement through questioning, writing, discussion, and reflection. Explore ways to build a collaborative classroom community where students make sense of science content through scientific and engineering practices and recurring themes and concepts. Consider how intentional planning supports deeper understanding, long-term retention, and overall student success.

Region 4 Science Institute

June 17-18

Join us for a one-day collaborative institute to engage in hands-on experiences and examine best practices that enrich and support TEKS-aligned tier-one science instruction across all grade levels.

Day 1: 3D Science Learning Experience

Day 2: 3D Science Lesson Internalization and Facilitation

Professional Learning

Science Speaker Series

- **Paul Andersen**
 - January 23: What's Your Evidence? Arguing with Evidence in the Science Classroom
 - May 7: Building the Story: Supporting Students Through Immersive Science Storylines
- **Page Keeley**
 - January 29: Uncovering Student Ideas in Science
 - March 3: Developing Misconception-Oriented Formative Assessment Probes

Technical Assistance

- **What is it?** *Support provided by Region 4 to LEAs by phone, email, video conferencing, or in person.*
- **Examples include:**
 - Answering questions and providing guidance
 - Thought partners
 - Data review and reflection
 - Product assistance
 - Planning or instructional questions
- **Who is it for?** *ANYONE*

Targeted Technical Assistance

- Dec 5 - after LN
- Jan 16
- Feb 27 - after LN
- Mar 27
- April 10
- May 15 - after LN

- Virtual 1-hour Q&A sessions to address needs and answer questions for charters and districts
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Laying the Groundwork: A Cohort for New and Early-Career Science Teachers

Includes:

- Three (3) Full-Day In-Person PD Sessions, including the R4 Digital Learning or STEM Conference (6 hours each = 18 hours)
- Three (3) Virtual After-School Workshops (1.5 hours each = 4.5 hours)
- Three (3) Coaching Meetings (0.5 hour each = 1.5 hours)
- R4 Science Product (print/digital combination) with asynchronous training (6 hours)
- R4 Printed Resource with Digital Access
- A complete set of K-12 Science TEKS Charts

TOTAL = 30 CPE

**Additional Day 1
scheduled on Dec. 11**

Coaching Packages

REGION Science Coaching Packages

Package 1: Foundations of Best Practice (5 half days)

Purpose: A focused entry-level package to establish alignment and coaching support.

Components:

- ½-day PD (customized based on learning target)
- 4 half-days of coaching (teacher planning, co-teaching, feedback)
- 1 virtual follow-up meeting (leadership debrief)

Full Value: \$4,000
Discounted Rate: \$3,700

Package 2: Building Teacher Capacity (1 full day; 5 half days)

Purpose: Balanced PD and coaching cycles to strengthen instructional practice.

Components:

- 1 full-day PD (customized based on learning target)
- 5 half-days of coaching (coaching cycles with 2-4 teachers per day)
- 1 virtual follow-up meeting (leadership debrief)

Full Value: \$5,350
Discounted Rate: \$4,950

Package 3: Comprehensive Support (1 full day; 7 half days)

Purpose: Extended PD + robust coaching cycles to build teacher and leader capacity.

Components:

- 1 full day of PD (customized based on learning target)
- 7 half-days of coaching (teacher planning, modeling, co-teaching, feedback cycles)
- 2 virtual follow-up meetings (leadership reflection, planning, and/or coaching conversations)

Full Value: \$6,950
Discounted Rate: \$6,430

Package 4: District Partnership (3 full days; 7 half days)

Purpose: A year-long, high-impact partnership with leadership and teacher coaching.

Components:

- 1 full day PD (customized based on learning target)
- 2 full days of coaching (intensive cycles with targeted teachers, including PLC facilitation)
- 1 half day follow-up and reinforcement PD
- 6 half-days of coaching (support across multiple teams)
- 2 virtual follow-up meetings (virtual coaching conversations)

Full Value: \$9,650
Discounted Rate: \$8,925

- Choose from 4 different packages
- Includes a combination of professional development and instructional coaching on campus or in district
- Discounts range from \$300-725

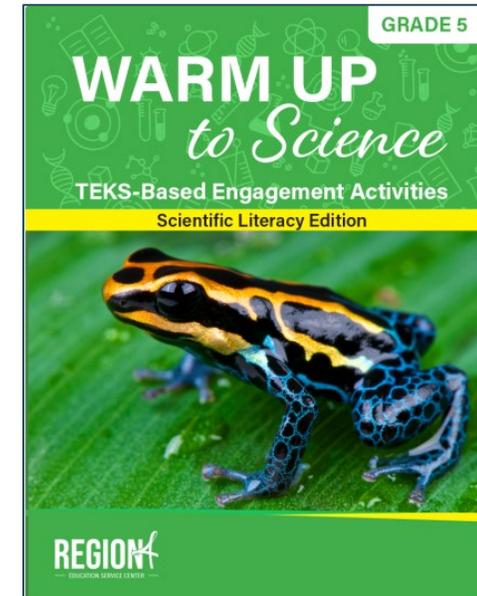
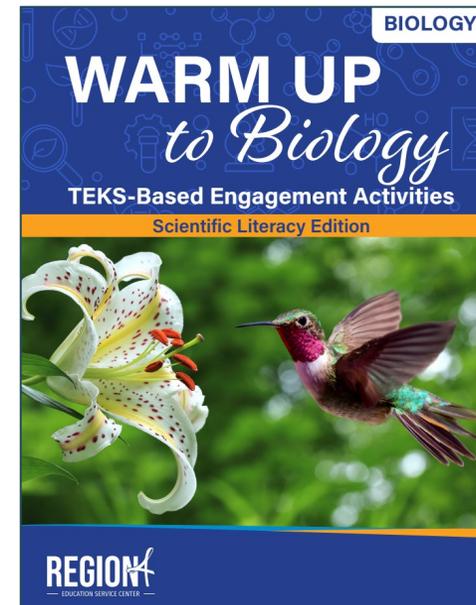
Product Updates

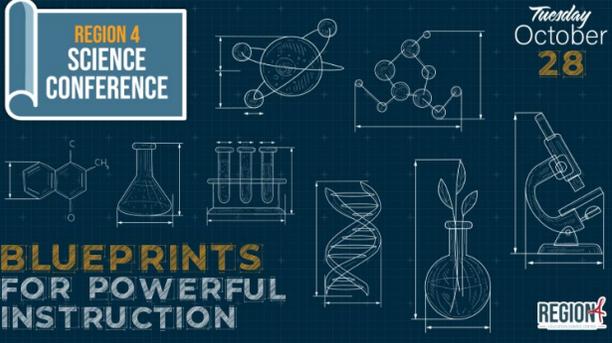
On the Shelf:

- *Warm Up to Science for Grade 5*
- *Warm Up to Biology*

Coming Soon!

- *Warm Up to Integrated Physics and Chemistry*
- *Warm Up to Science for Grade 8*





Region 4 Science Conference

Over 35 breakout sessions!

- Alief ISD
- Alvin ISD
- Brazosport ISD
- Channelview ISD
- Conroe ISD
- Crosby ISD
- Cypress Fairbanks ISD
- Harmony Public Schools
- Klein ISD
- Leander ISD
- New Caney ISD
- The Rhodes School
- YES Prep Schools



20+ Exhibitors!

Sponsor	Vendors				
VIP	Executive	Elite	Premiere	Non-Profit	
 SUMMIT K12	 EDUCATION	 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING	 CENGAGE	 GF Educators <small>STEP UP TO THE TEKS</small>	 Houston Christian UNIVERSITY <small>ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES</small>
 HMH	 Gulf Coast Educators <small>FEDERAL CREDIT UNION</small>	 TEXAS MUSEUMS 360	 H₂O LAB!	 HOUSTON MUSEUM of NATURAL SCIENCE	
 LOWMAN EDUCATION	 LEGENDS OF LEARNING	 Shell Science Lab <small>REGIONAL CHALLENGE</small>	 LEARN LAB	 GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY	
 JASON Learning	 Vernier <small>SCIENCE EDUCATION</small>	 RPA TREKSSM science <small>Proven Solution for Practice, Intervention and STAAR[®] Prep</small>	 TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	 RICE UNIVERSITY Office of STEM Engagement	



UPCOMING Events

DEC
3
WED

REGION 4 SOCIAL STUDIES & FINE ARTS CONFERENCE

DEC
11
THUR

REGION 4 BILINGUAL CONFERENCE

MAR
5
THUR

REGION 4 STUDENT DESIGN CHALLENGE

APR
17
FRI

REGION 4 DIGITAL LEARNING CONFERENCE

MAY
4
MON

REGION 4 MTSS CONFERENCE

MAY
6
WED

REGION 4 STEM CONFERENCE



Region 4 Launch K-5 Computer Science Training

REGION 4

LAUNCH_K5 COMPUTER SCIENCE TRAINING

A 3-day dynamic workshop designed to empower K-5 educators to integrate the new Technology Applications TEKS. Day 1 provides foundational content for all attendees. Day 2 is targeted for grade levels K-2 or 3-5.



- Week of [December 10](#)
- Week of [January 26](#)

All participants will receive a physical computing set!

 **K-2 Teachers:**
(2) VEX 123 robots

 **3-5 Teachers:**
(10) micro:bits

A PARTNERSHIP

FOR STEM EDUCATION



Texas educators get **free** access to the Energy Capital of the World module using the discount code below:

R4-EnergyCap2025



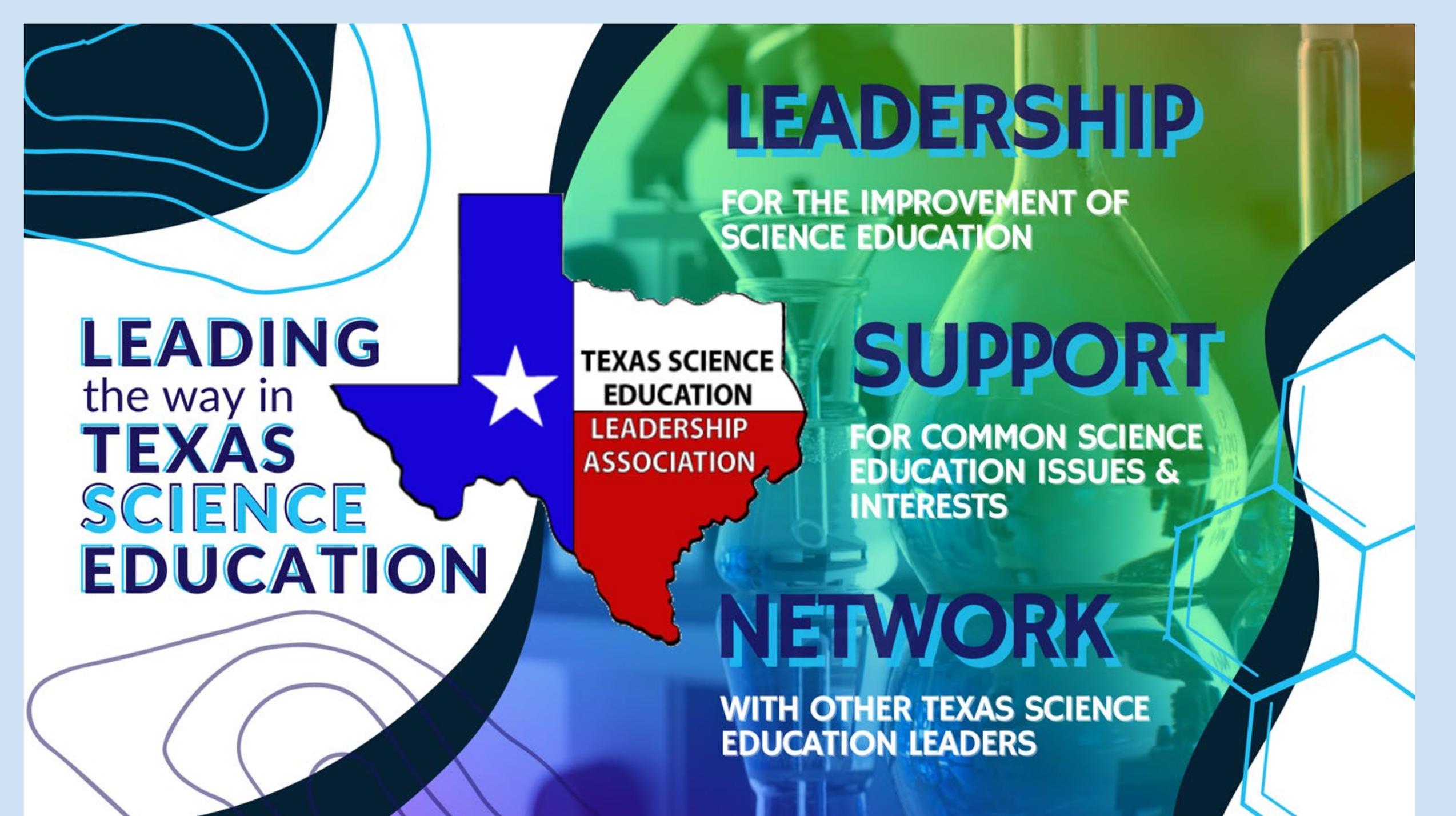
bitly



Together, we're bringing innovative and high-quality education to classrooms throughout Texas and beyond.

Shell Science Awards

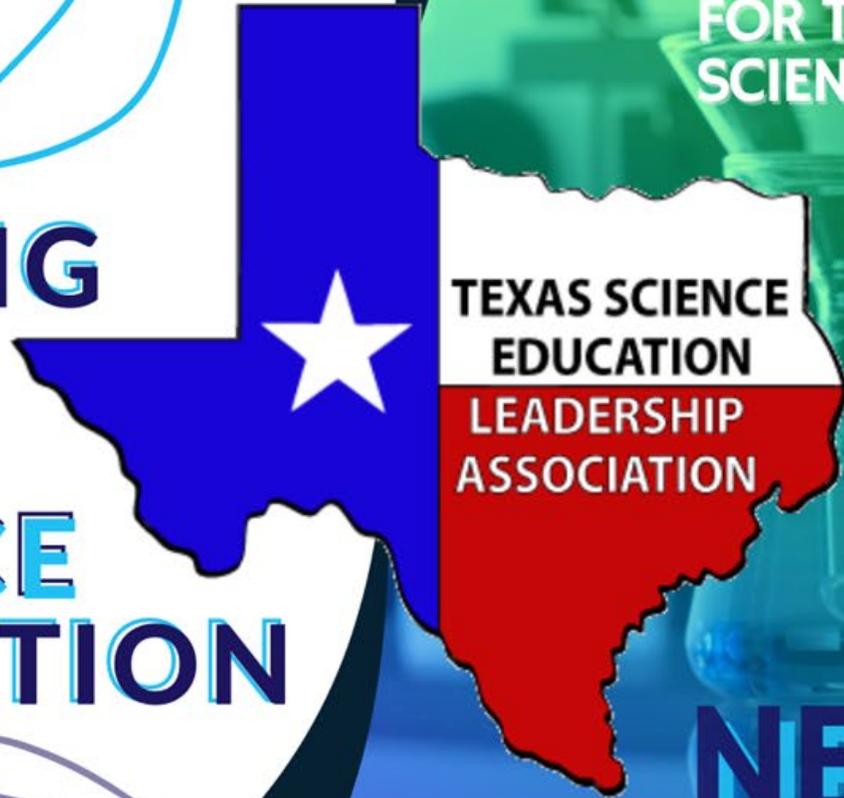
- [Shell Science Teaching Award](#): Apply by **Dec. 19, 2025**
- [Shell Urban Science Educator Development Award](#): Apply by **Dec. 19, 2025** (7 awards)
- [Shell Regional Lab Challenge](#): Apply by **May 1, 2026**
 - Deer Park Challenge (Deer Park, La Porte, Pasadena ISDs)
 - Houston Challenge (All schools in Region 4)
 - One elementary, one middle school, one high school award per challenge



LEADERSHIP

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF
SCIENCE EDUCATION

LEADING
the way in
TEXAS
SCIENCE
EDUCATION



SUPPORT

FOR COMMON SCIENCE
EDUCATION ISSUES &
INTERESTS

NETWORK

WITH OTHER TEXAS SCIENCE
EDUCATION LEADERS

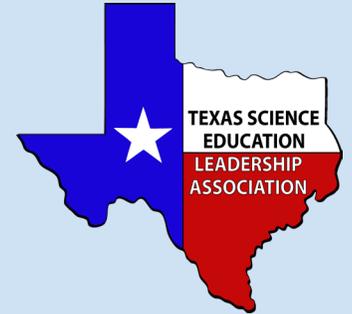
TSELA UPCOMING EVENTS

Connecting Leaders and Partners for STAAR Success

Virtual - Zoom - FREE to Members!

December 9, 2025

4:15 - 6:00pm



- TSELA partners will showcase their STAAR Review and HB 1416–aligned instructional materials
- District leaders will share their STAAR review implementation plans and resources
- Register at <https://tsela.wildapricot.org/>

TSELA UPCOMING EVENTS

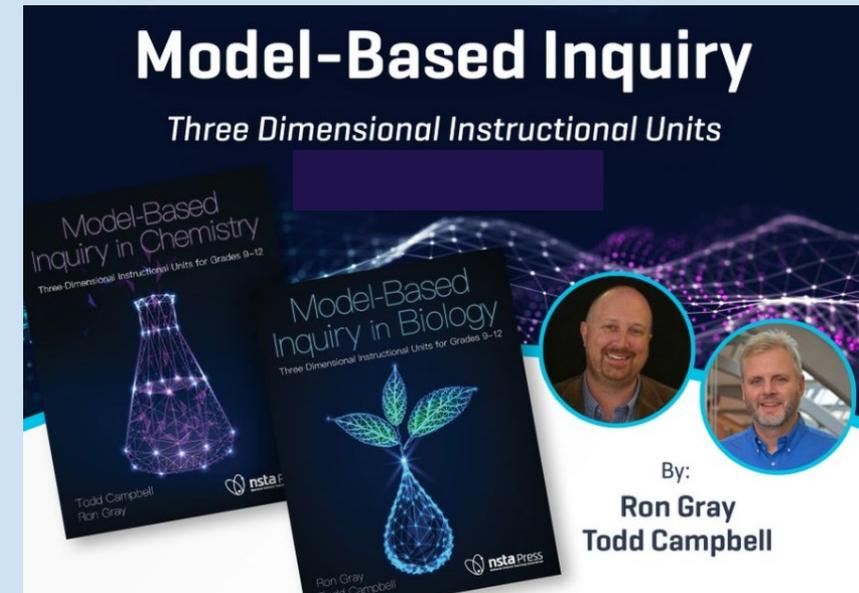
TSELA Spring Meeting

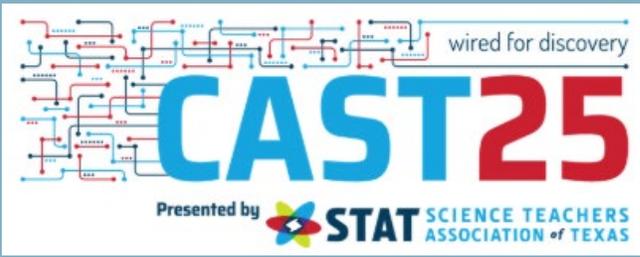
February 20, 2026

UT Thompson Conference Center

Austin, TX

- Professional development presented by:
Model-Based Inquiry
- Register <https://tsela.wildapricot.org/>





CAST Debrief

Presented by STAT

- November 13-15, 2025
- Sheraton Downtown Dallas

Date	Time	Location	Title	Presenter
Thursday, 11/13	11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.	Austin Ballroom 2	Developing High Quality Assessment Items	Dodie Resendez
Thursday, 11/13	4:00-5:00 p.m.	Austin Ballroom 1	Unlocking the Power of Vertical Alignment: Preparing Biology Students for Success	Lindsey Curiel
Saturday, 11/15	12:30-1:30 p.m.	State Room 3	Integrating Language and Science: Supporting Emergent Bilinguals Through Three-Dimensional Instruction	Lindsey Curiel



Region 4 STEM Updates

<https://bit.ly/R4EngDay>



- **Engineering Challenge Day** on March 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Judges** – to evaluate student teams using a provided rubric after live presentations.
- **STEM Career Guest Speakers** – engineers and STEM professionals who can offer short, engaging talks about careers, pathways, and real-world applications in the field.
- **Event Sponsors** - Because this event is free for all students and sponsors, we are also seeking **event sponsors** to help us continue providing lunch, awards, and certificates for participating students.

TEA STEM Updates

Planning | **Implementation** | **Community**



TEA Science Updates



SCIENTIFIC AND ENGINEERING PRACTICES

Ask Questions

Scientists **explore phenomena** (observable events or processes) to gain a deeper understanding of the natural world. Scientists **ask questions** about how or why phenomena occur to plan investigations that lead to evidence-based explanations.

Define Problems

Engineers **solve real-world problems** and **explore** the world around them. Engineers **identify a problem** or opportunity to **improve a solution** based on engineering-focused questions that define a problem with a purpose, constraints, and criteria for success.



Adapted from the science Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

SEPs posters
https://bit.ly/TEA_SEP

TEA's To The Administrator Addressed Correspondence

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence>

The screenshot shows the TEA website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail, a title, a descriptive paragraph, a sign-up link, and a table of correspondence items.

TEA
Texas Education Agency

Search Enter Keywords

[A-Z Index](#) [Contact](#) [Employment](#) [State Board of Education](#) [Sign Up for Updates](#) [TEA Correspondence](#)

[About TEA](#) [Texas Schools](#) [Academics](#) [Finance & Grants](#) [Reports & Data](#) [Student Assessment](#) [Texas Educators](#)

[Home](#) / [About TEA](#) / [News and Multimedia](#)

To The Administrator Addressed Correspondence

This page contains TEA Correspondence entitled "To the Administrator Addressed" and are important messages of interest to school districts, charter schools, and regional education service centers. Links and attachments contained in letters published prior to January 2017 may no longer be available.

Sign up to receive email notification when new letters are posted.

Search

Authored on	Title	Division
September 11, 2025	Updated SB 12 Guidance: Required Parental Rights Form and Right to Health-Related Services Information	Policy, Integration, and Technical Assistance
September 11, 2025	2023-2024 Assignment of Accreditation Statuses	Governance
September 04, 2025	2028 A-F Accountability Rating System Framework	Performance Reporting
September 04, 2025	Fiscal Year 2026 Instructional Materials Entitlements	District Operations, Technology and Sustainability Supports
September 04, 2025	Validations of Fiscal Data Reported for Federal Grants	Federal Fiscal Compliance and Reporting
September 04, 2025	2025-26 Significant Expansion of Enrollment — Charter Schools Only	Federal Fiscal Compliance and Reporting
September 04, 2025	2025-26 Purple Star Campus Designation Awardees	Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs

Legislative Updates (89th Session) – Bills to Watch

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/government-relations-and-legal/government-relations/89th-legislature-updates>

- **HB 8: Accountability**
- **SB 1191: GPA Calculations**

Assessment and Accountability

(TAA 10/23)

Results Notification

HB 8 amended TEC §26.005 to require school systems to provide parents and guardians access to the [Texas Assessment Family Portal](#) through a local parent portal and to notify parents and guardians each time state assessment results are available. Resources on connecting local parent portals and setting up automated access emails are available on [The Family Portal](#) page of the *Coordinator Resources*. Communication templates and additional materials to help notify parents about assessment results are available on the [Log In & Learn More Tool Kit](#) page of the TEA website.

Simplified Access to Results

TEC §26.005 was also amended to require TEA to provide parents and guardians with easy access to their child's state assessment results via the Texas Assessment Family Portal. TEA is in the process of updating the Family Portal login screen to comply with this requirement.

SB 1191 GPA Calculations (Guidance Coming)

This Texas bill mandates that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Commissioner develop a **standard method** of computing high-school grade point averages, including equal additional “weight” for honors courses, AP, IB, dual credit (including the OnRamps dual-enrollment) courses.

Industry Based Certifications (IBC) Released

Key Updates

- TEA finalized the [2025–2030 IBC](#) list, expanding from 309 to 523 certifications to better reflect workforce demand and program alignment.
- The new list takes effect in the 2025–26 school year and will influence accountability ratings in August 2027.
- Each IBC now includes a tier rating to guide districts on certification value and program alignment.
 - Tier ratings will influence accountability beginning in 2028 (pending rulemaking).
 - *Refer to: IBCs to [Program of Study Crosswalk 2025–2030](#)*

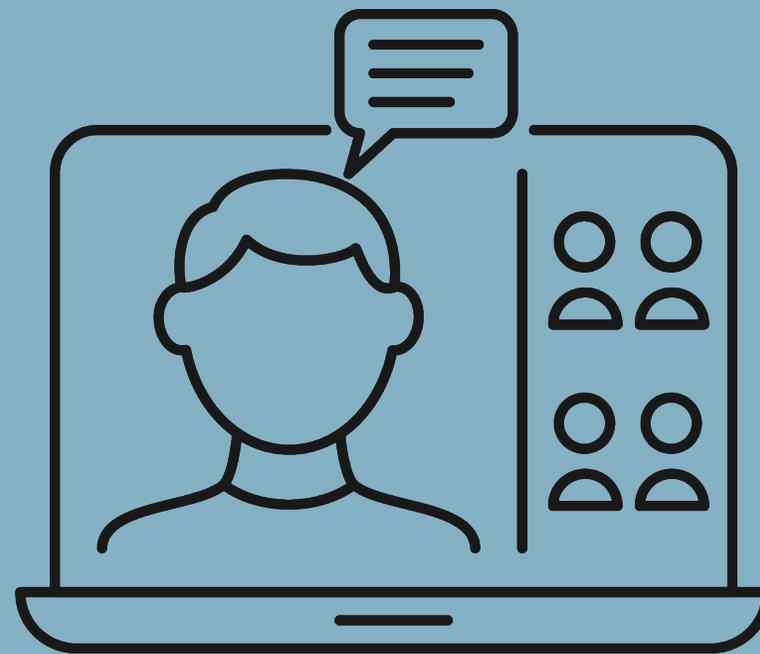
STEM and CTE Impact

- Expanded, tiered certifications strengthen connections between STEM and CTE programs and workforce needs.
- Districts can better align programs of study to support College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) outcomes.

District Spotlight:

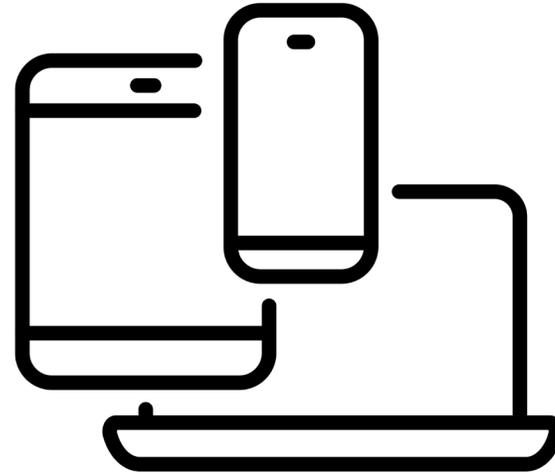
*Michael Harvey,
Lamar CISD*

Google NotebookLM



Learning for Leaders

Using AI as a Thought Partner and Support Tool



- What AI tools are approved for use in your district?
- What resources are being used?
- How is student data shared and used?
- Is the website in compliance with data privacy? (FERPA, COPPA)

Shared AI Tools



- Form elementary, middle school, and high school groups.
- Place all questions in the center of the table.
- Determine which SEPs and RTCs would be necessary to successfully answer each question.

Evaluating Questions for SEPs and RTCs

Revisiting 3D Science and Assessment

What are your takeaways?

- Students may be able to successfully answer questions without understanding vocabulary and content if they know how to analyze data and identify RTCs.
- Being able to utilize skills and recognize RTCs adds context to content.

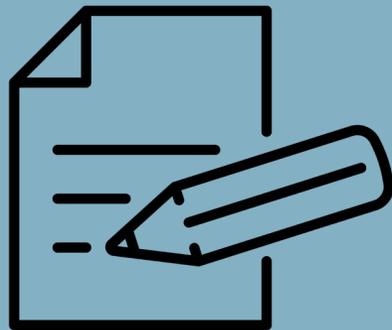
Cluster Set Writing

- Work as a grade-band group to create a cluster set of questions.
- Use the provided stimulus to write three questions of any item type *except* short constructed response. An exemplar is provided for reference.

Grade 5: drag and drop, hot spot, inline choice, match table grid, multiple choice, multipart, multiselect

Grade 8 and Biology: drag and drop, hot spot, inline choice, match table grid, multiple choice, multipart, multiselect, text entry

Exit Ticket



<https://bit.ly/SLN2>
ExitTicket

**Save
the
Dates!**

**2025-2026
Science Leadership Network**

February 24, 2026

May 13, 2026