



Nov. 7, 2025

Schedule-at- a Glance

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Registration Location: Foyer
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions (A)
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Break
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions (B)
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Reception (Theme: Wear your School/Organization Apparel with Texas Twist) Location: Foyer

Nov. 8, 2025

Schedule-at- a Glance

7:00 AM-8:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast Location: Foyer
8:00 AM-8:30 AM	Lawson Academy Band Opening Location: Foyer
8:30 AM-9:00 AM	Welcome/Opening- Dr. Ingrid Haynes (NLI Director) Conference Overview- Dr. Delilah Gonzales (ELLF Founder) Conference Ceremony and Door Prizes Location: Foyer
9:00 AM- 10:00 AM	Keynote Introduction: Dr. Shannon Parish Keynote Speaker, Dr. Tommie Mabry Location: Woodway I



10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Conference Logistics
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Exhibit Hall and Book Swag (Be Sure to Complete Bingo Board) Location: Foyer
10:45 AM- 11:35 AM	Concurrent Sessions (A)
11:45 AM- 12:45 PM	Lunch Location: Foyer
12:15 AM- 12:45 PM	Keynote Speaker: Quartus P. Graves IV Leadership Institute: Woodway I
1:00 PM- 2:00 PM	Keynote Speaker: Principal Kafele'
2:15 PM- 3:05 PM	Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (B)
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit Hall (Be Sure to Complete Bingo Board) Location: Foyer
2:15 PM - 3:05 PM Only School Leaders	Speakers: Dr. Ingrid Haynes & Dr. Delilah Gonzales Title: The Reset Framework: Strengthening Literacy, Retention, and Renewal in Schools Leadership Institute: Woodway I
3:15 PM - 4:05 PM	Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (C)
4:15 PM - 5:05 PM	Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (D)



Mega Pre Con Sessions (Friday, November 7) 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm		
Location	Session A: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Session B: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Woodway III 4 th Floor	Title: Authentic Assessment and Artificial Intelligence: Reclaiming Real Learning in the Age of AI Presenter: Dr. Katie Alaniz	Title: From Surviving to Thriving: Navigating Change with the 4S's; Situation, Self, Support & Strategies Presenter: Dr. Cynthia Villalovos
Woodway II 4 th Floor	Title: When Teachers Stay Students Win: The Retention Imperative. Presenter: Dr. Shannon Parish	Title: From Struggling to Soaring: Transforming Reading Literacy Instruction with Hands On Agency & AI-Powered Differentiation Presenter: Dr. Sheri Voss
Plaza I 3 rd Floor	Title: AI & GT: Supercharging STEM for Gifted Minds Presenter: Michael Newman	Title: AI and Literacy: Helping Students Write, Read, and Think with Artificial Intelligence Presenter: Dr. CJ Thompson
Plaza II 3 rd Floor	Title: Culture Architects: Building Bridges Between Instruction and Innovation Presenter: Justin Clark	Title: From Barrier to Asset: Understanding Dyslexia in Bilingual Contexts Presenter: Dr. Francisco Usero-González
Mega Con Kickoff Celebration (Theme: Wear your School/Organization Apparel with Texas Twist) 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm		



Location	Session A: 10:45 am – 11:45 am
Woodway III 4 th Floor	Title: AI Literacy: Integrating AI into Classroom Planning Presenter: Gwen Sharp
Woodway II 4 th Floor	Title: Better Together: How Principal Collaboration Fuels Innovation, Strength-Based Leadership, and Student Success Presenter: Eric Mace Co Presenters: Lucia Laguarda, Meg Sheehan, Pia Ferrante, Kimberly Licato
San Felipe 3 rd Floor	Title: Bringing Writing Alive: Symbolic Representation and Motivation in a Preschool Classroom Presenter: Tonya Hibbler-Theard Co Presenter: Sarah Heinrich
Sage 3 rd Floor	Title: The Art of the Formative Rubric for Writing Presenter: Larisa Merriman-Raban
Westchester 3 rd Floor	Title: Beyond the Book Report: Creative Projects and Authentic Assessments for Today's Students Presenter: Dr. CJ Thompson
Tanglewood 3 rd Floor	Title: Add Drama, Get Engaged! Bringing Books to Life Through Dramatic Play in PreK–K Classrooms Presenter: Elizabeth Fields
Bellaire 3 rd Floor	Title: Not Your Typical Literacy Session: Surprising Tools for 21st-Century Classrooms Presenter: Dr. Sheri Voss
Post Oak 3 rd Floor	Title: Bilingual Dyslexia Strategies for Educators Presenter: Dr. Francisco Usero-González



Location	Session B: 2:15 pm – 3:05 pm
Woodway III 4 th Floor	Title: Building Community Through Effective Classroom Management Presenter: Dr. Frances Hester
Woodway II 4 th Floor	Title: Look Up and Talk: Curiosity and Conversation in the Classroom, Hands on Presentation Presenter: Heather Brantley
San Felipe 3 rd Floor	Title: Culture Architects: Building Bridges Between Instruction and Innovation Presenter: Justin Clark
Sage 3 rd Floor	Title: Making Sense of Sounds: Supporting Young Learner's Phonological Awareness Presenter: Dr. Suzanne Adinolfi
Westchester 3 rd Floor	Title: Storytelling: Develop Emotional Competency Through Narrative Presenter: Terri Cecchine
Tanglewood 3 rd Floor	Title: Planning Small-Group Reading Interventions Through Backwards Design Presenter: Stephen Winton
Bellaire 3 rd Floor	Title: Dyslexia Simulation: Bridging Awareness and Instructional Practices Presenter: Jennifer Jacobsen
Post Oak 3 rd Floor	Title: AI & GT: Supercharging STEM for Gifted Minds Presenter: Michael Newman



Location	Session C: 3:15 pm – 4:05 pm
Woodway III 4 th Floor	Title: Redesigning Small-Group Literacy Instruction for Intervention, Differentiation & Acceleration Presenter: Julie Taylor
Woodway II 4 th Floor	Title: Building Family Partnerships for Literacy Success & Workshop Presenter: Keo Chea-Young
San Felipe 3 rd Floor	Title: From Compliance to Connection for Whole-Child Learning Presenter: Shontay Olson
Sage 3 rd Floor	Title: Secret Sauce to a Thriving Classroom, Interactive presentation Presenter: Rainya Miller
Westchester 3 rd Floor	Title: Let's Get L.I.T.: Family Literacy and Creating Community within the Classroom Presenter: Clianda Florence
Tanglewood 3 rd Floor	Title: Understanding Why Comprehension is An Outcome, Not Just A Strategy Presenter: Melissa Gill
Bellaire 3 rd Floor	Title: How Teachers Can Close the Reading/Writing/Spelling Gap In 10 Minutes A Day Presenter: Jennifer Jacobsen
Post Oak 3 rd Floor	Title: Growing Early Readers: Supporting Early Literacy from Birth Presenter: Robin Quick



Location	Session D: 4:15 pm – 5:05 pm
Woodway III 4 th Floor	Title: Conquering Comprehension in Any Classroom Presenter: Julie Taylor
Woodway II 4 th Floor	Title: Coaching, Mentoring, and Training, Oh My! Presenter: Kirk Koennecke
San Felipe 3 rd Floor	Title: Igniting Potential in Boys: Overcoming Stereotype Threat, Strengthening Academic Identity; Presentation and Discussion Presenter: Dr. Olufemi Fadeyibi
Sage 3 rd Floor	Title: From Surviving to Thriving: Navigating Change with the 4S's Presenter: Dr. Cynthia Villalovos
Westchester 3 rd Floor	Title: Transforming Mathematics Instruction: Leveraging AI to Empower Teachers & Engage Students Presenter: Tanisha Johnson Co-Presenter: Christin Walker
Tanglewood 3 rd Floor	Title: Using Story-Telling to Build Central Competence in the Classroom Presenter: Dr. Ashley Schulte
Bellaire 3 rd Floor	Title: When Teachers Stay Students Win: The Retention Imperative Presenter: Dr. Shannon Parish
Post Oak 3 rd Floor	Title: Elevating Co-Teaching: A Leadership Playbook for Inclusive Campus Transformation Presenter: Dr. Danielle Corbie-Archey