



**Curriculum Vita
September 2021**

Instructor: Rene' L. Sawatsky, Ed.D.

Academic Department: Curriculum and Instruction

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Texas A&M University-Commerce
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PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

- Teacher Preparation for the 21st Century
- Reading Comprehension Strategies, Motivations and Social Behaviors for 21st Century Adolescent Learners
- Technology Applications and Their Effects on Reading Comprehension in Adolescents
- Oral Language Development and Its Importance in Reading Comprehension
- Implications of Language and Reading Development for English Language Learners and other struggling populations

EDUCATION

*Doctor of Education
Ed.D. Supervision, Curriculum & Instruction
Reading Specialist
Texas A&M University-Commerce, TX - 2021*

*M.Ed. Educational Leadership (Principal Certification)
Lamar University-Beaumont, TX - 2011*

*A.A. Paralegal Studies
Inver Grove Heights Community College-Inver Grove Heights, MN - 1993*

*B.A. Elementary Education (K-8 & ESL Certification)
Trinity International University-Deerfield, IL -1988*

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Certifications: (IL-1-8; MN-K-8; TX-Principal, K-8 Generalist, ESL, GT)

Texas Principal's Certificate

Texas Teaching Certificate (EC-8)

ESL and GT Certifications

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduation Assistant Teacher, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Commerce, TX

August 2019 – May 2021

- Responsible for assisting with Teaching Academy – training of GAT/TORs in teaching pedagogy
- Conducted training sessions for GATs and new faculty hires in building student relationships, gradual release model, student engagement, strategy tools, reading techniques, questioning techniques and policies and procedures of the University
- Continued work on personal dissertation and research
- Mentoring Student Teaching Residents in the field
- Participate in Bill Martin Symposium planning committee
- Participate in reading faculty committee
- Served on Graduate Council as student representative, 2019-2020

Ad Interim Instructor, Reading, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Commerce, TX

August 2018 – May 2019

- Responsible for curriculum and instruction for undergraduate reading courses
- Oversee student teachers in grades 4-8 in field experience/student teaching
- Participate on reading faculty committee
- Participate on Bill Martin Symposium planning committee
- Develop and implement curriculum for content area literacy, beginning reading courses, spelling courses, writing courses and pedagogy courses for teacher preparation program

Assistant Principal, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX

July 2015-June 2018

- Responsible for regular monitoring of teacher instruction/pedagogy using TTESS evaluation system
- Responsible for yearly curriculum assessment and procurement for the elementary campus; advised curriculum director for district ELAR curriculum needs
- Responsible for finding teacher resources and research for best practice
- Responsible for campus/district literacy; committee head for district ELAR
- Developed/wrote reading and writing curriculum for elementary campus
- Responsible for yearly training on content area literacy, metacognition, reading technology programs, discipline practices, and RTI
- Responsible for ELAR data and changes to instruction to increase student performance
- Coordinated pilot writing program through Texas Education Agency and Region10 (2018 only)
- Implemented and oversaw RTI/CARE team program
- Implemented and oversaw school discipline programs
- Coordinator for UIL academic programs
- Committee member for development of the new ELAR TEKS through TALE

5th Grade Reading Teacher/Team Lead/PLC Leader/Mentor Teacher – Caddo Mills Independent

School District, Caddo Mills, TX – September 2007-August 2015

- Taught reading and writing in departmentalized team
- Responsible for discipline and classroom management
- Maintained PLC records for ELAR
- Differentiated instruction for all students in ELAR, math and science
- Monitored/Mentored student teachers (2) from TAMUC
- Promoted/chaired reading technology programming for upper elementary levels

Homeschool, Minneapolis, MN – September 1997-August 2007, my own four children.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Presenter – *The Importance of Practicing Oral Language Strategies Daily in Your Classroom to Enhance Reading Comprehension - Increasing the Use of Oral Language Strategies to Promote Reading Comprehension* - Presenter - Bill Martin Symposium, Commerce, TX, September 2019

Presenter – *The Importance of Practicing Oral Language Strategies Daily in Your Classroom to Enhance Reading Comprehension - Increasing the Use of Oral Language Strategies to Promote Reading Comprehension* - Presenter – TALE Literacy Summit, Waco, TX, February 2019

TAEYC Peer Reviewer, Texas Assn Early Years, July 2018

ALER Journal Reviewer, ALER National Organization, January 2017 to present

Presenter – *The Importance of Practicing Oral Language Strategies Daily in Your Classroom to Enhance Reading Comprehension - Increasing the Use of Oral Language Strategies to Promote Reading Comprehension* - Presenter - Bill Martin Symposium, Commerce, TX, May 2017

Reading Strategies and Technology Implications - Presenter – TALE Conference, Corpus Christi, TX, February 2017

Reading Strategies and Technology Implications - Presenter – ALER Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC, November 2016

Behavior ER Seminar – Presenter, Blue Ridge ISD, Blue Ridge, TX, August 2016

RTI Process for Blue Ridge ISD and Beyond – Presenter, Blue Ridge ISD, Blue Ridge, TX, August 2016.

Grant Writing – 2015-2017 High Quality Prekindergarten Grant Program, Texas Education Agency in conjunction with HB4 provisions, awarded April 2016

TALE Journal Reviewer, Texas Assn. of Literacy Educators, February 2016 to present

The Importance of Practicing Oral Language Strategies Daily in Your Classroom to Enhance Reading Comprehension - Increasing the Use of Oral Language Strategies to Promote Reading Comprehension - Presenter - Texas Association of Literacy Educators Summit, San Antonio, TX, February 2016

Calendar Committee, Blue Ridge ISD, Blue Ridge, TX, February 2016

New Literacies of the 21st Century – Presenter, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX, January 2016

Assistant Principal's Leadership Academy, Attendee, Region 10, Richardson, TX, 2015-2016

District Improvement Committee, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX, 2015 to 2018

Campus Improvement Committee, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX, 2015 to 2018

Care Team Chair/RTI Administrator, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX, 2015 to 2018

Reading Curriculum Director/Early Literacy Coach, Blue Ridge Independent School District,
Blue Ridge, TX, 2015 to 2018

iMPACT Technology Team, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX,
2015 to 2018

LPAC Member, Blue Ridge Independent School District, Blue Ridge, TX, 2015 to 2018

UIL Academic Coordinator, Blue Ridge Independent School District, 2015 to 2018

TELPAS Rater, Caddo Mills Independent School District, Caddo Mills, TX, 2008-2015

Endnote Web - Doctoral Talk Presenter, Texas A & M University – Commerce, October 2015

Rigor and Challenge in the Classroom - Presenter, Blue Ridge Independent School District,
Blue Ridge, TX, Teacher Professional Development, August 2015

Istation® Reading in the Classroom - Presenter, Computer Science Teachers' Association
(CSTA), Royse City, TX, August 2015

Reading Strategies and Technology Implications, Bill Martin Symposium, Texas A & M
University – Commerce, Commerce, TX, February 2015

Technology Instructor, Caddo Mills Independent School District, 2013-2015

Istation® in the Classroom, Royse City Literacy Camp, Commerce, TX, Summers 2013-2014

Teacher Mentor, Caddo Mills Independent School District, Caddo Mills, TX, 2012-2014

5th Grade Grant Writing Team, Caddo Mills Educational Foundation, Caddo Mills, TX, 2012

5th Grade PLC/Team Leader, Caddo Mills Independent School District, 2011-2015

Site-Based Committee Member, Caddo Mills Independent School District, 2011-2013

Reading Curriculum Committee, Caddo Mills Independent School District, 2011-2012
UIL Academic Coach, Caddo Mills Independent School District, 2008-2015

PUBLICATIONS

Sawatsky, R. (pending). *Christmas feast: A metaphor for 21st century reading instruction*.

Sawatsky, R. (2021). *The Impact on Literacy Instruction for Preservice Teachers Using a Technology Platform*. – Literacy Chapter, Dr. Juan Araujo, Texas A&M University – Commerce.

Sawatsky, R. (2020). *The impact of multi-layered reading strategy instruction in a technology platform on reading comprehension levels and motivations of pre-adolescents*, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Dissertation.

Szabo, S., Blaylock, J. & Sawatsky, R. (October 2016). *Becoming an awesome listener and talker: Using oral language activities to promote literacy and learning*. Tale Literacy Summit Yearbook 2016.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

ACSD – Member - September 2016

Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER) – Member since September 2015

Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO), Texas A & M University – Commerce, TX-
Member - January 2015

International Literacy Association (ILA) – Member since September 2015, Specialized Literacy Professionals, a special interest group for advocacy of literacy professionals, under the ILA umbrella – Member since June 2016

National Honor Society – Texas A & M University – Commerce, member since April 2017

National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) – Member since September 2015

Phi Kappa Phi – Texas A & M University – Commerce, TX, member since April 2017

Texas Association of Literacy Educators (TALE) – Member since September 2015

Texas Elementary Principals/Supervisors Association (TEPSA) – Member 2015-2018