

TASCOSA HIGH SCHOOL

3921 Westlawn Amarillo, TX 79102 Phone (806) 326-2600



Our mission is to graduate every student prepared for life and success beyond high school

Brett Beesley Principal

Marcus Figaro Assistant Principal Jesus Guerrero Assistant Principal Haley Villarreal Associate Principal

Keri Livingston Assistant Principal Gregory Thompson Assistant Principal

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I accept the nomination to serve as the Texas Speech Communication Association Vice-President Elect. TSCA has given me incredible support in and out of the classroom, and I would be honored to serve the organization in return.

I started teaching in 2017 with a love for communication, and a desire to share that love with the future sitting in my desks. However, as someone coming into education alternatively certified I was lost in how to get that message across. I was the only Professional Communications teacher at Tascosa, so I didn't have a PLT or a PLC -- I was a singleton attempting to make it day to day. I was a deer in headlights, and it really made me question if teaching was meant for me. It wasn't until I entered my second year teaching that I attended my first TSCA Convention. When attending the New Member Breakfast and getting to speak with veteran teachers who offered mentorship with their comforting words, I felt a renowned sense of self confidence in my teaching abilities. The New Member Breakfast at my first convention changed my outlook on teaching because they taught me that teaching might feel like a solo job in front of the students, but the real magic happens when the speech community comes together.

That first ever "together" feeling that I felt at my first Convention is guiding me in accepting this nomination. In many districts across the state, communication teachers are the only speech teachers at their school, and possibly in their district. Convention is the only time that communication teachers across the state can come together and learn from one another. My vision for TSCA is to ensure that every single person that attends the Convention, whether they are a new member, or a 50 year veteran, feels like it was a worthwhile investment.

I wish to work on providing panels that highlight the skills that our interest groups and various organizations can bring to the table. I want to motivate our panels to highlight the knowledge that veteran teachers hold, paired with the new members' fresh take on the upcoming generation. It is through working together, that I feel TSCA can really contribute to the education practices of Texas speech teachers.

Teachers can't pour from an empty cup. It is my hope that through TSCA that teachers cups are filled so that they can effectively pour into their students. With this vision in mind, I am proud to accept the Vice-President Elect position in hopes that I can give back to the organization at least a fraction of what it has given me.

Heather Soltero Tascosa High School Speech and Debate <u>Heather.Soltero@amaisd.org</u>



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Heather.D.Soltero@gmail.com

2728 Nebraska St Amarillo, TX 79106

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Communication

West Texas A&M University Graduated: August 2017

Bachelors of Science in Communication Studies

West Texas A&M University Graduated: May 2015

SERVICE TO TSCA

Texas Speech Communication Association

| | 2018 – Present |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Member of Educator Training Comn | nittee |
| | 2023 – Present |
| Chair of Local Arrangements | |
| | 2024 |
| Member of Committee to Nominate | the |
| Nomination Committee. | |
| | 2022 |
| Panel Presenter | |
| | 2021, 2022, 2023 |
| | |

Heather Soltero \downarrow

Educator

Strong willed and passionate educator with 10 years of experience in education. Dedicated to teaching students how to be a voice, not an echo.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tascosa High SchoolAugust 2017 - Present3921 Westlawn Ave Amarillo, TX 79102

- Taught grades 9–12 in Professional Communications, Dual Credit Public Speaking, Debate 1 – 4
- Hall of Fame, Freshmen Orientation, and Meet the Teacher Coordinator
- * CTE Department Chair, Administrative Assistant to Admin Team

Amarillo CollegeAugust 2024 - Present2201 S Washington ST #2411 Amarillo, TX 79109

- * Adjunct Instructor for Basic Public Speaking and Interpersonal Communication
- West Texas A&M University 2501 4th Ave Canyon, TX 79106

August 2019

* Adjunct Instructor for Basic Public Speaking

PUBLICATIONS

Mckee. C., & Goheen. H. (2018). Competition, Community, and Educational Growth.

Soltero, H. (2022, March). Using Virtual World to Combat Communication Anxiety. *NFHS. https://www.nfhs.org/articles/using-virtualworld-to-combat-communication-anxiety/*