

The *LEAD* Houston Fellowship*ENHANCING STEM TEACHER LEADERSHIP THROUGH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) IN HOUSTON***Houston independent School District – Sergio Arjon, Mirabeau B. Lamar High School
Pre-IB Biology/Biology, Grade 9**

Sergio Arjon takes a holistic approach in facilitating student' success in the classroom, students' professional life and as well as their personal life. He graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor of Arts in Kinesiology in 2010. In 2018, Sergio won Teacher of the Year while serving as a coach. He was also a part of Achieve180 in HISD, where he was given the opportunity to work closely with two low performing high schools while also mentoring pre-service teachers from the University of Houston and University of Houston Downtown. Sergio has written curriculum for a new model of school that his campus is transitioning to and is also helping with in-service training for teaching staff. He has helped TEA with STAAR question and test creation. Sergio's greatest joy is student interaction.

**Spring Branch Independent School District – Sarah Vanderpool, Spring Woods High School
Mathematics, Grade 9**

Sarah Vanderpool currently teaches algebra 1 at Spring Woods High School in Spring Branch Independent School District. Sarah graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics in 2011 and completed her teaching certification in 2012. Prior to moving to Houston Sarah taught algebra and geometry and sponsored National Honor Society in the Monroe-Gregg School district in rural Indiana. Since moving to Houston Sarah has worked to improve her student's foundational mathematics skills by developing T24 curriculum. She has also worked to improve her school community by serving as the JV cheer coach.

**Pasadena Independent School District – Rosalinda Serna, South Houston High School
Biology, Grade 9**

As a fourth year Biology teacher at South Houston High School, Rosalinda Serna has embraced the capacity to impact her students' lives by way of her passion and empathy. She is an alumni of the University of Houston, with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Minor in Education through *teach*Houston, whose career path has led her to become a team leader. Rosy has since built upon a strong foundation for educating young minds by attending CAST conferences that specialize in the advancement of science teaching. She owes a great deal of gratitude to the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program for their continued investments in her edification through an undergrad scholarship and presentation opportunities at Noyce Summit conferences. Rosy aspires to lead a STEM education initiative with her peers by sharing what she has learned and being an advocate for equity in education.

The *LEAD* Houston Fellowship*ENHANCING STEM TEACHER LEADERSHIP THROUGH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) IN HOUSTON***Spring Branch Independent School District – Amanda Campos, Landrum Middle School
Science, Grade 7**

Amanda Campos is a seventh grade science teacher at Landrum Middle School in Houston, TX. She graduated from the University of Houston – Clearlake with a BA in Biological Sciences. Her personal project is to study personalized learning and apply it in her classroom. She is highly intrigued in learning how children, especially those in under served areas, learn best. In the fall of 2016, Amanda created and continues to sponsor a club called Concrete Flowers at her school. Concrete Flowers is geared to providing support systems to goal-driven minority females on campus. In addition to advocating for the needs of her students, she is a member of Vanguard Cohort III. Members of this cohort are charged with integrating cutting-edge technology use into their lessons. Beginning this year, she is now a part of a Campus Redesign team that will create new ways LMS students will learn and master content.

**Houston Independent School District – Anne Marie Wakefield, Carnegie Vanguard High School,
AP Physics, Grades 11-12**

Anne Marie Wakefield teaches AP Physics 1 and AP Physics C: Mechanics and AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism at Carnegie Vanguard High School in Houston ISD. She graduated from Tulane University with a BS in Biomedical Engineering. She then joined Teach for America as an Amgen Fellow and taught in Washington DC for three years while also earning her MAT in Secondary Science Education from American University. In 2015 she was awarded the Excite Award with the MIT-Lemelson Foundation, and in 2018 she was awarded the Ernest and Sarah Butler Award for Excellence in Science Teaching from the Texas Medical Association. Over the past decade as a teacher, Anne Marie has served as department chair, sponsored the Science National Honor Society and Women in Science and Engineering, coached girls' soccer, written curriculum, and completed a two-year research program in the summers of 2014 and 2015 at the University of Houston with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

**Spring Branch Independent School District – Alissandre Robbins, Spring Forest Middle School
Science, Grade 6**

Ali Robbins teaches sixth grade science at Spring Forest Middle School in Spring Branch ISD. She graduated from Texas State University at San Marcos with a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She has taught third grade, fourth grade, and sixth grade science in her career as a teacher. Ali has been Teacher of the Year on her campus twice and was a finalist as a Secondary District Teacher of the Year. She is a team leader, mentor teacher, and will be add Instructional Specialist to her teaching role next year.

The *LEAD* Houston Fellowship*ENHANCING STEM TEACHER LEADERSHIP THROUGH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) IN HOUSTON***Houston Independent School District – Marina Rodriguez, Sharpstown International School
Algebra II, Engineering Math, Grades 8 - 12**

Marina Rodriguez is committed to student success inside of the classroom and in life. A 2011 graduate of The University of Houston, Marina has a double major BA in History and Hispanic Studies. Currently a teacher in the STEM department, Marina teaches project-based learning while serving as the sponsor for the Lemelson-MIT JV InvenTeam club at her campus. In addition, she is a volleyball coach and has served as assistant coach for girls' soccer, as well as the sponsor and instructor/leader for the summer school robotics camp for students. Marina believes the power of developing meaningful relationships is critical to successful learning.

**Houston Independent School District – Joshua Garcia, Carnegie Vanguard High School
Pre-AP Biology, Pre-AP Chemistry, and AP Physics 1, Grades 9-11**

Joshua Garcia teaches Pre-AP Biology, Pre-AP Chemistry, and AP Physics 1 at Carnegie Vanguard High School in Houston, Texas. He graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with Honors in Molecular Genetics. He has been teaching for 7 years. He is the Chairperson of the Ninth grade, Chairperson of the NHS committee, Lead for Pre-AP Chemistry, Co-Sponsor of the WISE club (Women in Science and Engineering), and Sponsor of the STEM club (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). He is dedicated to helping students become passionate about STEM education and inspiring them to become lifelong learners.

**Katy Independent School District – Erin Wise, West Memorial Junior High
Science, Grade 6**

Igniting a love for learning is a passion that Erin Wise has taken into the classroom every day for the past 5 years. She graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in 2013, and currently teaches 6th grade science at West Memorial Junior High. In 2015, Erin received a grant to begin a Robotics Club on her campus that has since expanded to include an Advanced Robotics Club. She is a firm believer that every student can be successful when provided with the correct tools. As a result, Erin has co-authored an article published in Science Scope, presented at the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching ("CAST") that is put on by the Science Teachers Association of Texas in 2015 and 2016, and presented within Katy ISD multiple times to share new and innovative teaching ideas.

The *LEAD* Houston Fellowship*ENHANCING STEM TEACHER LEADERSHIP THROUGH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) IN HOUSTON***Galena Park Independent School District – Anastasia Fress, Galena Park High School
Mathematics, Grades 9 and 10**

Anastasia Fress is completing her tenth year of teaching at Galena Park High School. She is a graduate of Grand Valley State University in Michigan where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with an emphasis in Secondary Education. Since moving to Houston in 2008, she has been employed with Galena Park ISD teaching Algebra and Geometry, as well as AP Psychology and Pathways to College and Careers. She has assisted with curriculum revisions and had a hand in the most recent book adoption. From 2015-2017 she was the UIL Academic Sponsor for Mathematics, Calculator Applications and Number Sense. Joining the Mathematics Leadership Team has also provided her with opportunities to facilitate and lead in professional development in previous years. Being a part of the Technology Integration Committee and implementing new technology in her classroom has been her most recent endeavor.

**Katy Independent School District – Susan Holzkecht, WoodCreek Junior High
Science, Grade 8**

Susan Burell Holzkecht teaches eighth grade science at WoodCreek Junior High in Katy, Texas. She graduated from the University of Houston in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. As head coach of her school Science Olympiad team, she fosters relationships with school staff and the community, helping her match Science Olympiad students with mentors and leading the newly restructured Science Olympiad team to the 2018 Texas State Championship, where they earned 8th place. As a result of her enthusiasm for teaching and high standards of excellence she holds for herself and her students, Susan was selected as the 2018 Campus Teacher of the Year at WoodCreek. She is looking forward to the 2018-2019 school year, when she will work towards increasing the rigor for GT students by implementing a new GT program that includes compacting curriculum; as well as, STEM activities, mentoring, and educational planning and guidance.

**Pasadena Independent School District – Armando Morales, Pasadena High School
AP Physics 1, 11th Grade**

Armando Morales teaches AP Physics 1 at Pasadena Early College High School in Pasadena, TX. He also tutors the early college students in University Physics 1 and 2, Calculus 1, 2, and 3, Statistics, Biology 1 and 2, Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, Chemistry 1 and 2, Organic Chemistry and some social science courses as well in San Jacinto College. Armando obtained a B.S in Biology from the University of Houston in 2002 and fell in love when he took his first teaching position in 2005. He is committed to providing a safe and productive environment for his students to excel in both high school and college courses, as well as helping his colleagues in any way necessary. Armando believes building strong relationships with students as well as colleagues is the key for continuing success.

The *LEAD* Houston Fellowship*ENHANCING STEM TEACHER LEADERSHIP THROUGH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) IN HOUSTON***Houston Independent School District – Rodolfo Morales, Heights High School
Algebra II, Grades 9-10**

Rodolfo Morales has been teaching in Houston ISD for six years. He graduated from the University of Houston in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. He began teaching at Northside High School where he became team lead for Algebra I in his second year. He now teaches Algebra II at Heights High School where he is also the team lead. He is a co-sponsor for the Math Club at Heights High School where he coaches the students in Numbers Sense skills. He has spent his entire teaching career in Title I schools focusing especially on students struggling to succeed in mathematics. Rodolfo uses his content background and knowledge of inquiry-based learning to empower students to take ownership in their learning, think critically, and become problem solvers.

**Houston Independent School District – Sha'rell Webb, Lamar Fleming Middle School
Science, Grade 8**

Sha'Rell Webb is a Teacher at Lamar Fleming S.T.E.A.M. Magnet, where she teaches 8th Grade Science. She graduated from Jarvis Christian College, with bachelor degree in Science in 2012. She is currently working on a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialization in STEM. This past summer, Sha'Rell has worked with Code.org as a Computer Science Discoveries Educator, NASA as a Professional Development Educator and a Network of States Train-the-Trainer and an ambassador for Houston Area Alliance School of Black Educators. In the last past two years, Sha'Rell has been Houston ISD Secondary Fan Favorite Teacher of the Year, Houston Area Alliance Teacher of the Year and Houston ISD Teacher of the Month and Recognized by Region 4 Texas Regional Collaborative as a Leading Science teacher. This year alone, Sha'Rell has earned \$31,950 in instructional technology for her classroom.

**Channelview Independent School District – Mayra Foose, Anthony Aguirre Junior High
Mathematics, Grade 8**

Mayra Foose teaches 8th grade math and Algebra at Anthony Aguirre Junior High in Channelview ISD. She graduated from the University of Houston- Downtown with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and minor in Chemistry and Statistics. Mayra uses her passion for math and technology to inspire her students to pursue STEM education. In addition to teaching she is also the cheer sponsor at her school. Mayra also is very active in her community with service and volunteer