



JANELLE SAFFORD

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Profile Summary

I am an accomplished educational professional with deep familiarity of edtech, equipped to leverage experience in adult education and online learning environments. I also have a strong foundation in educational theories and pedagogical practices, underpinned by a relentless drive for continual learning and improvement. My ability to design engaging and effective educational content has enabled me to address diverse needs of educators, students, and institutions. I am able to adapt to new technologies and dynamic educational demands and I am committed to enhancing educational outcomes and fostering learner success through innovative solutions.

Key Strengths

- Leadership
- Team Management
- Curriculum Development
- Staff Training & Coaching
- Instructional Design
- Public Speaking
- Presentations
- Cross-Team Communication
- Analytical Problem-Solving
- Adult Education
- Relationship Development
- Educational Training
- Instructional Design
- Educational Technology

Professional Experience

SULPHUR SPRINGS ISD Director of Instruction & Learning, 2022 – 2024

My role included oversight of 6 direct reports, a team consisting of curriculum, technology, and media specialists. Lead initiatives to establish foundational practices in blended learning that respond directly to instructional needs of educators across the district. One of my goals was to help reduce teacher prep time without sacrificing quality standards for online and blended learning excellence by creating digital lesson plans and e-learning modules. I also provided resources to address diverse instructional needs of teachers and student groups, serving as benchmarks for pedagogical best practices.

Highlights:

- Spearheaded regional deployment of a blended learning program, aligning educational strategies with district-specific goals to effectively boost student outcomes.
- Designed and implemented a “Curriculum & Technology Review Process”, which enhanced district-wide educational resources and technology integration.
- Formulated systematic approach involving a “Solution Review Committee” of key district leaders to evaluate, endorse, or reject educational solutions based on rigorous criteria.
- Streamlined vendor interactions during the “Pre-Purchase Cycle” phase, a process that ensured adherence to compliance standards and assessed technological impacts.
- Demonstrably enhanced average test performances by using detailed analyses of usage and assessment data to pinpoint educational gaps and facilitate targeted interventions.
- Upheld proactive and strategic communications with 50+ edtech companies, managing relationships to support troubleshooting, gathering feedback on features, coordinating new product training, and influencing product design to better meet the needs of educators and learners.

REGION 7 EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER Digital Learning Specialist , 2021 – 2022

Led, designed, and disseminated digital lesson plans and e-learning modules. Pioneered adoption of innovative learning tools and methodologies that enhanced student engagement through fostering communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity.

Highlights:

- Reduced instructional planning time and successfully streamlined preparation processes while establishing benchmarks for best practices in online and blended learning environments.

- Provided comprehensive technical support for both the rollout and ongoing use of online learning platforms and tools, ensuring robust functionality and continuity in teaching and learning experiences.
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SULPHUR SPRINGS ISD Innovative Learning Design Specialist, 2018 – 2021

Spearheaded creation and distribution of tailored digital curricula and e-learning resources, optimizing instructional workflows and establishing new benchmarks for teaching efficiency and quality in online/blended environments.

Highlights:

- Championed integration of innovative pedagogical tools, improving learner engagement and fostering development of key skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and creative problem-solving.
- Supported uninterrupted learning experiences by delivering consistent and effective technical leadership to educators for seamless integration and ongoing functionality of edtech.

WINNSBORO ISD Instructional Technology Coordinator | District Webmaster, 2017 – 2018

Deepened student knowledge and bolstered proficiency in essential 21st-century skills by introducing diverse edtech and methodologies. Efforts improved communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking.

Highlights:

- Ensured uninterrupted, high-quality digital learning experiences by implementing and operating online learning platforms and tools with essential technical support.

WINNSBORO ISD Campus Technology Specialist, 2016 – 2017

Introduced and integrated cutting-edge learning technologies and pedagogical techniques, significantly enhancing student abilities. Delivered expert technical assistance for rollout and ongoing maintenance of online and digital learning tools, ensuring seamless operations and continuous educational excellence.

(Additional experience at Winnsboro ISD as Kindergarten Teacher and 4th Grade Teacher)

Education & Certifications

- Professional Certificate in Digital Learning & Instructional Design (In progress)
The Digital Learning Institute
- Master of Education (M.Ed.), Digital Learning & Leading Program
Lamar University
- Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary Studies
Texas A&M University Commerce

Texas Educator Certificates

Elementary Self Contained; Elementary Early Childhood; ESL Supplemental

Other Certifications – Google Level 1 & Level 2; MIE Expert; TCEA Campus Technology Specialist Certification; TCEA Technology Director Certification; Jim Knight “Impact Cycle” Certification

Professional Affiliations

Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA); International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE); Technology Coordinators Special Interest Group Member (TCEA TecSig); Campus Technology Special Interest Group Member (TCEA CampSig)

Coaching Areas of Expertise

Google Classroom; Thinglink; Peardeck/Nearpod; Quizizz/Quizlet/Quizlet Live; CK-12; Tech Tools for Vocabulary; Padlet/Popplet; Google Keep; Virtual Reality in the Classroom; Symbaloo & BlendSpace; Going Further with Google Slides; Digital Choice Boards; Digital Storytelling; Blended Learning; Real World Math w/Tech; Google Forms; Backchannel Tools; Free Web Tools; Chrome Extensions; Microsoft Teams; Microsoft 365; Canva

Training & Presentations

TCEA Elementary Technology Conference Presenter; TCEA Technology Convention Presenter; Presenter – Region VII Summer Library Conference, Sulphur Springs Summer Learning Conference, Region VII iPadPalooza Conference, & Region VIII Library Conference