TEXAS STATE VITA

I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Name: Jane Marie Saunders, Ph.D.
Title: Professor, Curriculum and Instruction/Literacy

Educational Background

Degree	*Year*	*University*	*Major*	*Thesis/Dissertation*
Ph. D.	2008	The University of Texas at Austin	Curriculum Studies	Negotiating Theory and Practice with Preservice English/Language Arts Teachers: An Examination of Burgeoning Understandings and Practices of Multicultural Education
M. A.	1997	University of North Texas	Interdisciplinary Studies (English, Education, History, Women's Studies)	
B. A.	1988	The University of Oklahoma	Letters (Liberal Arts and Languages)	

University Experience

Professor, Literacy	Texas State University	2021-Present
Associate Professor, Literacy	Texas State University	2014-2021
Program Coordinator/Advisor Master of Education in Reading Education Program	Texas State University	2014-2018
Assistant Professor, Literacy	Texas State University	2008-2014

Relevant Professional Experience

English Teacher (Pre-AP, AP, English I-IV)	Austin I.S.D. (Travis High School)	2000-03
Sales Consultant/Content Developer	Barrett Kendal Publishing	1999-00
Teacher (English II, Speech, Debate)	Austin I.S. D. (Travis High School)	1997-99
English Teacher (8th Grade)	Denton I.S.D. (Strickland Middle School)	1994-97
Teacher (English III, Latin I-IV)	Mesquite I.S.D. (Poteet High School)	1992-94

Other Professional Credentials

Teacher Certification: Secondary English, 1991; Speech, and Reading, 1997
Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented Awareness Certificate, 1997

II. TEACHING

Teaching Honors and Awards

Nominee, **Presidential Distinction Award for Excellence in Teaching**, College of Education, Professor, 2025.

Nominee, **Minnie Stevens Piper Professor Award**, 2024.

Spotlighted as a professor who embodies "the spirit of empowerment in their work." *Student Involvement and Engagement* Instagram for Women's History Month, March 2024.

Nominee, Alumni Association Teaching Award of Honor, 2023 (Texas State University).

Nominee, Alumni Association Teaching Award of Honor, 2021 (Texas State University).

Alfred H. Nolle Chapter of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, **Favorite Professor**, 2019 (Texas State University).

Alfred H. Nolle Chapter of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, **Favorite Professor**, 2017 (Texas State University).

College-level Award, **Presidential Distinction Award for Excellence in Teaching**, College of Education, Assistant Professor, 2011 (College representative in University-wide competition).

Eta Zeta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi **Educator of Honor**, 2013 (College of Education, Texas State University).

Recognition letters (50+) from the Director of Retention Management and Planning, Jennifer A. Beck for making a contribution to a student's academic career (2008-present).

Courses Taught

Graduate

Reading 5320, Foundations of Literacy Instruction
Reading 5324, (regular and TRP-CSA), Teaching Content Reading in Secondary Schools
Reading 5326, Developmental Literacy in the Middle and Secondary Grades
Reading 5331, Literacy Methods for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children
Reading 5340, Connecting Reading and Writing in the Classroom
Reading 6336, Reading Specialist Internship

Undergraduate

Reading 4330, Teaching Reading/Language Arts in Middle School
Reading 4320, Literacy for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children
Reading 3320, Integrating Reading and Writing
Reading 3315/4310, Middle School Block, Camino Real Elementary, Chapa Middle School, Simon Middle School, Canyon Middle School, Wallace Middle School

Graduate Theses/Dissertations or Exit Committees

Member, Annie Marks, Doctoral Dissertation Committee, Interpreting Studies: Pedagogy and Research, Gallaudet University, 2020-Present

Chair, Stephanie Klinkenberg, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2026
Member, Chelsi Besch, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2026
Member, Star Upton, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2025
Member, Lizzie Binder M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2025
Chair, Laura Pruitt, M. Ed. Reading, Spring, 2024

Member, Mary Ann Loesch, M. Arts. in Talent Development, Spring, 2024
Chair, Kristen Nichols, M. Ed. Reading, Summer, 2023
Chair, Samantha Rodriguez, M. Ed. Reading, Spring, 2023
Chair, Emily Koenig, M. Ed. Reading, Spring, 2021
Chair, Wally Ayala, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2020
Chair, Olivia Pardo, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Chair, Melinda Verstuyft, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Member, Jessica Bartlett, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Member, Margaret Esquibel, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Member, April Flores, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Member, Idalia Vela, M.Ed. Reading, Summer 2018
Chair, Angel Martinez, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2018
Chair, Shannon Hardiman, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2018
Member, Kevin Felter, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2018
Member, Charity Atteberry, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2018
Member, Veronica Perez, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2018
Chair, Isabelle Salazar, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2017
Member, Christinne Schnoor, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2017
Member, Nina Stern, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2017
Chair, Hannah Friedman, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2015
Chair, Shannon Hardwick, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2015
Chair, Rachael Hakim, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2015
Member, Jennifer Winters, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2015
Chair, Emily Smith, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Chair, Esther Peckover, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Member, Sarah Atwater, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Member, Leslie DeLeon, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Member, Melissa Tortora, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Member, Donna Weikert, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2014
Member, Lindsey Collyer, M.A. International Studies, Fall 2013
Chair, Lisa Kridner, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Chair, Lila Daniels, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Chair, Danya Gardner, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Member, Karen Newton, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Member, Laura Lee Stroud, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Member, Bonnie Southerland, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Member, Joël Johnson, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2013
Chair, Ashley Jorge, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2012
Chair, Jessica Tobleman, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2012
Member, Natalie Long, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2012
Member, Kirby Ferguson, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2012
Member, Annie Box, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2012
Chair, Eileen Brady, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2011
Chair, Abbe Oden, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2011
Chair, Kristie Slaughter, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2010
Member, Cynthia Brewer, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2010
Member, Kirby Williams, M.Ed. Reading, Spring 2010

Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development

Study in America: Teaching Institutes at Washington DC Museums, 2019.

RDG 3320, RDG 4320, CI 3338; RDG 5331, RDG 5340, RDG 5370B

Wallace Middle School Field Block: RDG 4310
Canyon Middle School Literacy Block: RDG 4310; RDG 3315
Simon Middle School Literacy Block: RDG 4310; RDG 3315
Chapa Middle School Literacy Block: RDG 4310; RDG 3315
Camino Real Elementary [4-8] Middle School Literacy Block: RDG 4310; RDG 3315

Reading 4330, Teaching Reading/Language Arts in Middle School (2016), in support of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate 4-8 Middle Grades Certification Program Changes.

Other

Participant, **US Prep Learning Tour** (2023) San Diego State University.

Participant, **Alkek One: Record & Edit Your Podcast** (2023) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Cybersecurity Training** (2020, 2022, 2024, 2026) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Camp Canvas: Canvas Essentials** (2020) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **TXST Canvas: Making the Transition** (2019) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **College of Education Equity Audit Workshop** (2019) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Curriculum and Instruction Preservice Teacher Dispositions Training** (2018) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Curriculum and Instruction Teacher Education Forum** (2017) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Reframing the Future: Revising Student Outcomes and Assessment** (2016) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Understanding the Danielson Framework** (2016) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **GATO "Flip Your Site" Training** (2016) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **WP Personal Website Training for Faculty** (2013) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **GATO I Training** (2013) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **Creating and Teaching an Online Course** workshop (2012) Texas State University – San Marcos.

Participant, **EEO Training for Non-Supervisors** (March, 2012).

Participating professor, Texas State University **Teaching Residency Program (TRP)** for Critical Shortage Areas, 2010-2012. Course: Reading 5324 Content Area Reading

Participant, **National Writing Project's Annual Conference** (2009-2010).

Participant, **The Center for Digital Storytelling**, (2009) in Washington, D.C.

Teacher Consultant, **Central Texas Writing Project's (CTWP) Summer Institute** (2009).

Participant, **Excellence in Teaching and Learning** (2008-2009), Texas State University—San Marcos.

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

Works in Print

Scholarly Monographs

Adolescent Literacy Committee* of the International Literacy Association. (2019). *Engagement and adolescent literacy* [Position Statement and Research Brief]. International Literacy Association. (Refereed; *K. N. Headley (chair), V. Gillis (co-chair), H. Casey (co-chair), J. W. Aragon, G. E. Ash, G. Boggs, A. M. Bonafide, D. Morgan, B. Murphy, J. Nieroda, E. Ortlieb, J. Overlacker, and **J. Saunders**)

Refereed Chapters in Books

López, M. M., & Saunders, J. M. (2022). Where our paths crossed: Latina teachers, professional development, and funds of identity. In I. Management Association (Ed.), *Research anthology on racial equity, identity, and privilege* (pp. 623-643). IGI Global. https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-4507-5.ch033

Saunders, J. M. (2021). "Learning to fly: Why developing student voice matters." In Warner, J. (Ed.) *Failure before success: Teachers describe what they learned from mistakes.* Rowman & Littlefield.

Saunders, J. M. & López, M. M. (2020). Literacy teacher preparation for educational justice through culturally sustaining pedagogies. In C. Clausen and S. Logan (Eds.) *Handbook of research on integrating social justice education in teacher preparation programs* (pp. 56-75). IGI Global. https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-7998-5098-4.ch003

López, M. M. & **Saunders, J. M**.(2020). Where our paths crossed: Latina teachers, professional development, and funds of identity. In A. Slapac & S. Coppersmith (Eds.), *Beyond language learning instruction: Transformative supports for emergent bilinguals and educators* (pp 305-331). IGI Global. https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-7998-1962-2.ch013

Saunders, J. M. (2019). Adolescents in the wild: Critiquing and arguing back through mediated social spaces. In Pyles, D., Rich, R., Pleasants, H., & Warner, J. (Eds.) *Negotiating space and place through digital literacies: Research and practice* (pp. 219-240). Information Age.

Refereed Journal Articles

Saunders, J. M. (2026). Archetypes of teaching: Looking for light in the figured world of schools. *English in Texas 56*(1), 10-16.

Ash, G. E. & **Saunders, J. M.** (2018). "From 'I don't like Mondays' to 'Pumped Up Kicks': Rampage school shootings in young adult fiction and young adults lives." *Children's Literature in Education 49*(1), 34-46.

Van Overschelde, J., **Saunders, J. M.** & Ash, G. E. (2017). "Teaching is a lot more than just showing up to class and grading assignments": Preparing middle-level teachers for longevity in the profession. *Middle School Journal 48*(5), 28-39.

Saunders, J. M. (2017). Using Infographics to Engage in Disciplinary Literacy. *English in Texas 47*(1), 45-50.

Saunders, J. M. & Ash, G. E., Salazar, I. *with* Pruitt, R., Wallach, D., Breed, E., Saldana, S., Szachacz, A. (2017). "'We're already somebody:' High school students practicing Critical media literacy IRL [In real life]." *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy 60*(5), 515-526.

Saunders, J. M. & Smith, E. (2014). Every word is on trial: Six-word memoirs in the classroom. *The Reading Teacher 67*(8), 600-605.

Saunders, J. M. (2014). Where writing happens: Elevating student writing and developing voice through digital storytelling. *Teaching/Writing: The Journal of Writing Teacher Education 3*(1),

61-70. Available at: http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/wte/vol3/iss1/8

Saunders, **J. M.** (2014). What the *Hunger Games* can teach us about disciplinary literacy. *English Journal*, *103*(3), 41-47.

Saunders, J. M. (2013). Life inside the hive: Creating a space for literacy to grow. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education, 9*(2), 95-109.

Saunders, J. M., & Ash, G. E. (2013). Entering the arena: The figured worlds transition of preservice teachers. *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, *56*(6), 490-499.

Saunders, J. M. (2012). Intersecting realities: A novice's attempts to use critical literacy to access her students' figured worlds. *Multicultural Education, 20*(2), 18-23.

Saunders, J. M. (2012). Layering of language and novel study deepens student learning. *Middle School Journal*, *43*(5), p. 34-39.

Rush, L., Ash, G.E., **Saunders**, J., Holschuh, J., & Ford, J. (2011). Meaningful and significant texts for adolescents: Tensions in text selection policies. *Literacy Research Association 60th Yearbook,* 349-361.

Assaf, L.C., Ash, G. E., **Saunders**, J., & Johnson, J. (2011). Renewing two seminal literacy practices: I-charts and I-search papers. *Voices From The Middle*, *19*(4), 31-42.

Saunders, J. M. (2010). Seeing themselves as writers: Building on the 6 trait writing process to engage student authors. *English in Texas*, *40*(2), 56-59.

Saunders, J. M. (1994). Song lyrics: Gateway to the interpretation of poetry. *English in Texas*, *25*(4), 48-50.

Non-refereed Articles

Saunders, J. M. (Summer, 2015). Tapping into art to develop writing: a brief review of *Syllabus: Notes from an accidental professor*, by Lynda Barry. *Texas Voices*, Newsletter, Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.

Saunders, J. M. (Spring, 2014). Taking your membership to the next level. *Texas Voices*, Newsletter, Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.

Saunders, J. M. (Summer, 2013). Oh no! I need some help with how to teach writing! *Texas Voices*, Newsletter, Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.

Book Reviews:

Saunders, J. M. (2020, October 27). [Invited review of the book *How stories teach us: Composition, life writing, and blended scholarship*, edited by A. Robillard & D. S. Combs]. *Teachers College Record.* https://www.tcrecord.org ID Number: 23481

Works not in Print

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings

Saunders, J. M. (2025, December). Telling stories: Teachers talk about teaching. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Las Vegas, NV.

López, M. M., Van Overschelde, J. & **Saunders, J. M.** (2024, August). *Teaching out-of field in English: Understanding the Past, Analyzing the Present, & Hope for the Future*. Presentation at the annual meeting of the European Conference on Educational Research, Nicosia, Cyprus. (peer reviewed)

Saunders, J. M. (2023, November). *Teaching critically in a time of unrest: Responses to social justice while learning to teach.* Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Atlanta, GA.

López, M. M., Van Overschelde, J. & **Saunders, J. M.** (2023, August). *Confronting the issue of teaching out-of field: Inequities in Secondary English in Texas.* Presentation at the annual meeting of the European Conference on Educational Research, Glasgow, Scotland, UK. (peer reviewed)

Ash, G. E. & **Saunders, J. M.** (2019, December). *White Savior Reeditado? Attempting to Identify Teacher Caring in YA Novels with Latinx Characters*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Tampa, FL.

Saunders, J. M. & Salazar, I. (2018, November). *Social distortion: High school students practice critical media literacy IRL (in Real Life).* Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Houston, TX.

Ash, G. E. Garcia, I., Garcia, J., López, M. M., & **Saunders, J. M.** (2018, July). *The three questions: Creating a successful district-university collaboration for the preparation of reading professionals.* Presentation at the annual meeting, International Literacy Association (ILA), Austin, TX.

Saunders, J. M. & Ash, G. E. (2017, November). *The kids are alright: High school students' critical engagement through social media and its resultant maelstrom*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Tampa, FL.

Ash, G. E. & **Saunders, J. M.** (2016, December). *'I don't like Mondays' to 'Pumped Up Kicks': School shootings in young adult fiction and young adults' lives, 1977-2016*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Nashville, TN.

Ash, G. E. **Saunders, J. M.,** Salazar, I. (2016, July). *The kids are all right: Guiding adolescents' critical use of social media to read and respond to their world.* Presentation at the annual meeting, International Literacy Association (ILA), Boston, MA.

Ash, G. E. **Saunders, J. M.** (2016, February). *Those Who Can't, Teach: Critical Media Literacy for Social Media Users*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Texas Association of Literacy Educators (TALE), San Antonio, TX.

Ash, G. E. **Saunders, J. M.** (2015, July). *It's a hoax! Social networking savvy for you and your students.* Presentation at the annual meeting, International Literacy Association (ILA), St. Louis, MO.

Saunders, J. M. (2013, April). *Engaging student work in the hive society: One teacher's journey to harness new literacies in her classroom*. Presentation at the annual meeting, International Reading Association (IRA), San Antonio, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2012, November). *Developing the hive society: One teacher's journey to harness new literacies in her classroom.* Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), San Diego, CA.

Saunders, J. M. (2012, November). *Where writing happens: Elevating student writing and developing voice through digital storytelling.* Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), San Diego, CA.

Saunders, J. M. (2011, December). *Naming their world: Using digital storytelling to explore the lived experiences of central Texas secondary students*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Jacksonville, FL.

Ash, G., Rush, L., Holschuh, J., **Saunders, J.M.** (2011, December). *The politics of text: Close and critical reading(s) of the Stotsky report*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Jacksonville, FL.

Saunders, J. M. (2011, December). *Positioning matters: A study of two preservice language arts teachers' attempts to enact culturally responsive practice in the figured worlds of schools*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Literacy Research Association (LRA), Jacksonville, FL.

Ash, G., Rush, L., **Saunders, J.M.** (2011, November). *Teaching to the text: Forces influencing text selection in grades 6-12*. Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Chicago, IL.

Saunders, J.M. (2011, April). *Positioning matters: A study of two preservice language arts teachers' attempts to enact culturally responsive practice in the figured worlds of schools*. Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), New Orleans, LA.

Sullivan, C.C. & **Saunders, J.M.** (2011, April). *Praxis and the preservice teacher: Breaking with hegemony*. Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), New Orleans, LA.

Saunders, J. M., McClain, J.A. (2011, January). *Seeing themselves as writers: Building on the 6 trait writing process to engage student authors*. Presentation at the annual meeting, Texas Council of Teachers of English (TCTELA), Galveston, TX.

Ash, G., Rush, L., **Saunders, J. M.**, Holschuh, J. (2010, December). *Meaningful and significant texts for adolescents in middle and high School: Mediating tensions between students' needs and gatekeeping texts*. Alternative panel presentation at the annual meeting, National Reading Conference (NRC), Fort Worth, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, December). *Intersecting realities: One preservice teacher's attempts to use critical literacy*

to gain access to students' figured worlds. Presentation at the annual meeting, National Reading Conference (NRC), Albuquerque, NM.

Ash, G., Rush, L., Heron-Hruby, A., **Saunders, J. M.** (2009, December). *Creating textual lineages Meaningful and significant texts for adolescents in middle and high school: Mediating tensions between students' needs and gatekeeping texts*. Study group at the annual meeting, National Reading Conference (NRC), Albuquerque, NM.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, November). *Authoring their world: A young teacher's journey into the figured worlds of her students*. Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Philadelphia, PA.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, November). *Reciprocity as a means for elevating secondary English preservice teachers' understandings of culturally responsive practice*. Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE),

Philadelphia, PA.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, April). *Reciprocity as a means for elevating preservice teachers' understandings of culturally responsive practice*. Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Diego, CA.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, April). *Intersecting realities: A study of a preservice teacher's attempts to use critical literacy to gain access to students' figured worlds*. Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Diego, CA.

Saunders, J. M. (2008, November). *Meet me in the middle: Reciprocity as a means for elevating secondary English preservice teachers' understandings of culturally responsive practice*. Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), San Antonio, TX.

Saunders, J. M. & Sullivan, C. C. (2008, March). *Preservice teachers as rethinkers: The development of culturally responsive educators*. Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), New York, NY.

Saunders, J. M. (2008, January). *Meet me in the middle: Reciprocity as a means for elevating secondary English*

preservice teachers' understandings of culturally responsive practice. Presentation at the annual meeting, Texas Council of Teachers of English/Language Arts (TCTELA), Houston, TX.

Sullivan, C.C. & Saunders, J.M. (2007, April). *Preservice teachers as "rethinkers": How reflective practice reinforces the development of culturally responsive educators.* Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago, IL.

Saunders, J. M. (2007, April). *Taking the plunge: Preservice teachers' investigate their school community's funds of knowledge to expand their culturally responsive practice.* Presentation at the annual meeting, American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago, IL.

Saunders, J. M. (2006, November). *Negotiating theory and practice: Developing a "funds of knowledge" approach to teaching and learning with preservice English teachers.* Presentation at the annual meeting, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Nashville, TN.

Saunders, J. M. (2005, October). *Emerging agency in pre-service teachers: How journals and collaboration contribute to growth.* Presentation at the annual meeting, American Association for Teaching and Curriculum (AATC), Austin, TX.

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Presentations:

Saunders, J. M. (2025, November). *Looking at disciplinary literacy pedagogy with your teacher eyes.* Presentation Isabelle Salazar's RDG 4310: Content Area Literacy course. San Marcos, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2021, April). *Conducting research with new literacies data.* Presentation Lori Assaf's RDG 5320: Foundations of Literacy Instruction course. San Marcos, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2019, September). *Writing from the inside out.* Presentation at Judson ISD (in collaboration with the Central Texas Writing Project [CTWP]). San Antonio, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2018, July). *The Kids Are All Right: Guiding Adolescents' Critical Use of Social Media to Read and Respond to Their World.* Presentation in David Simmons' EDCL 6342: Curriculum Design class. San Marcos, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2016, July). *We're already somebody: High school students practicing critical media literacy IRL [In real life].* 3M Presentation at Faculty Retreat. San Marcos, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2016, January). *Your life on a postcard: Writing the significant moments of amazing humans, briefly*. Presentation at Central Texas Writing Project/San Marcos ISD Professional Learning Day [Write for Texas Program], San Marcos, TX.

Assaf, L. C., **Saunders, J. M.,** Taylor, V., Ash, G., Delaney, C. (2015, January). *Beyond "member" status: Developing conference presentations and English in Texas submissions*. Presentation to the Texas Council Teachers of English Language Arts (TCTELA) annual meeting, Houston, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2014, October). *Your life on a postcard: Writing the significant moments of amazing humans, briefly*. Presentation to Literacy Education Conference [The Power of Diverse Literature for Children and Young Adults], Texas State University, San Marcos, TX.

Assaf, L. C., **Saunders, J. M.,** Taylor, V., Ash, G., Delaney, C. (2014, January). *Beyond "member" status: Developing conference presentations and English in Texas submissions*. Presentation to the Texas Council Teachers of English Language Arts (TCTELA) annual meeting, Corpus Christi, TX.

Pinkerton, K., Bedard, C., Van Horn, L., Assaf, L. C., **Saunders, J. M**., Taylor, V., Ash, G., Delaney, C. (2013, January). *Beyond "member" status: Developing conference presentations and English in Texas submissions*. Presentation to the Texas Council Teachers of English Language Arts (TCTELA) annual meeting, Dallas, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, November). *Reinvigorating the classics: Drawing on students' lived experiences and creativity to cultivate critical literacy*. Presentation to the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Saunders, J. M. (2009, October). *Gaining a critical consciousness: Writing about culture*. Presentation to the 12th Annual Central Texas Writing Project Teachers' Conference [Writing Tools that Help Build Writers: Sharing Extraordinary K-12 Literacy Instructions], San Marcos, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2008, November). *Using cartoons to cultivate critical literacy*. Poster presentation to the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) annual meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2007, September). *Negotiating theory and practice with preservice English/language arts teachers: An examination of burgeoning understandings and practices of multicultural education*,

presentation to Phi Delta Kappa International, Chapter 12, Austin, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2007, April). *Nurturing civic participation in high school students: What is speak up! speak out!,* Leadership Development and Civic Responsibility: A Special Program for Jordan Sponsored by the U.S. Embassy, Amman, Austin, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2007, February). *Using cartoons to draw out prior knowledge,* "Super Saturday" novice teacher training, The University of Texas at Austin UTeach, Natural Sciences, Austin TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2006, June). *Employing case study approaches,* Scholarship of Inquiry Class*,* The University of Texas, Austin, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2005, November). *Paradigm shift: Parallels between the Gutenberg Bible/printing press innovations and the innovations made available by personal computers and the internet,* Interdisciplinary Lesson Plan*,* Harry Ransom Center, Austin, TX.

Saunders, J. M. (2004, April). *Reading comes to life!* Explore UT, The University of Texas, Austin, TX.

Consultancies

Write for Texas, a partnership between the Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk (MCPER), Texas Education Agency (TEA), and the Institute for Public School Initiatives (IPSI) to help improve secondary students' academic writing. Central Texas Writing Project (CTWP) is delivering PD and supporting writing efforts, 2015.

Charles A. Dana Center, University of Texas at Austin, Development of Writing Online Modules for New Mathways Project, 2014.

Charles A. Dana Center, University of Texas at Austin, Development of Writing Modules/Rubrics for New Mathways Project, 2013.

Charles A. Dana Center, University of Texas, Curriculum Development for Frameworks for Mathematics and Collegiate Learning, 2012.

Texas College Readiness Content Editor. English, Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC), July – October, 2009-2010.

Workshops

Saunders, J. M. (2019). *Judson ISD*. "Writing from the inside out" presentation. Partnering with the Central Texas Writing Project, professional development.

Saunders, J. M. (2010). *Hays C.I.S.D. Open Institute*. Partnering with the Central Texas Writing Project, directed week-long professional development and book study with Kelly Gallagher's *Teaching Adolescent Writers*.

Other works not in Print

Works "submitted" or "under review"

Saunders, J. M. (submitted August, 2026). Telling stories: Diminished efficacy and power in the figured world of schools. *Teachers and Teaching.*

López, M. M., Van Overschelde, J. P. & **Saunders, J. M.** (Revise/Resubmit April 2026). Teaching ELA Out of Field: The measurable cost to student learning. *Research in the Teaching of English*.

Works "in progress"

Saunders, J. M. Teaching critically in a time of unrest: Responses to social justice while learning to teach. Revising.

Other Scholarly/Creative Works in Print

Co-Editor, English in Texas, 2013-2016 (peer-reviewed journal, published biannually).

Grants and Contracts

Funded External Grants and Contracts

Saunders, J. M. (2010). *Naming their world: Using digital storytelling to explore the lived experiences of central Texas middle school students*. $5000 mini-grant awarded from the National Writing Project (NWP) Urban Site Network.

Submitted, but not Funded, External Grants and Contracts

Ash, G. E., **Saunders, J. M.** & Armstrong, S. (2020). Application for editorship of *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy* (JAAL). $100,000.00 grant submitted to International Literacy Association (ILA) journal editorship support grant.

Saunders, J. M. (2019). *Telling stories: Teachers, talking, and technology*. $49,955.00 grant submitted to Spencer Foundation, Small Research Grants on Education.

Saunders, J. M. (2011). National Writing Project Professional Writer's Retreat for Summer, 2011.

Funded Internal Grants and Contracts

Saunders, J. M. (2021). Additional Research Support for Research Active Professors (ASAP-2) Pilot Initiative. Course release for fall, 2022 to work on "Telling Stories: Teachers Talk About Teaching" research project.

López, M. M. and **Saunders, J. M.** (2017). *To be or not be a Credentialed Reading Specialist: How valuable is it to students and teachers*? $12,800 grant awarded by the Faculty Research Enhancement Committee, Texas State University.

Saunders, J. M. (2017). *Understanding and teaching about the struggle for social justice in the United States*. $3000 developmental grant to explore Washington DC. as a teaching site, awarded by the Study in America Program, Texas State.

Brooks, M. D. and **Saunders, J. M.** (2014). *Creating a pedagogy of teacher education.* $1000 awarded by the College of Education Scholar-Mentor Program, Texas State University.

Saunders, J. M. and Holschuh, D. (2012). *Naming their world: An examination of the critical literacy practices and intersecting worlds of an urban English teacher and her students*. $2165 awarded by the College of Education Faculty Pilot Research Grant Program, Texas State University.

Saunders, J. M. and Ash, G. A. (2010). *Naming their world: Using digital storytelling to explore the lived experiences of central Texas middle school students.* $1000 awarded by the College of Education Scholar-Mentor Program, Texas State University.

Saunders, J. M. and Ash, G. A. (2009). *Naming their world: An examination of the critical literacy practices and intersecting worlds of a small-town teacher and her students.* $1000 awarded by the College of Education Scholar-Mentor Program, Texas State University.

Submitted, but not Funded, Internal Grants and Contracts

Saunders, J. M. (2023). *Tales from the field: Understanding why ELA teachers are leaving the profession.*

$8000.00 grant submitted to the Faculty Research Enhancement Committee, Texas State University.

López, M. M. and **Saunders, J. M.** (2016). *Literacy leadership: Notions of identity, community, and resiliency*. $15660.00 grant submitted to the Faculty Research Enhancement Committee, Texas State University.

Saunders, J. M. (2009). *Naming their world: An examination of the critical literacy practices and intersecting worlds of a small-town teacher and her students*. $1613 grant submitted to the Faculty Research Enhancement Committee, Texas State University.

Fellowships, Awards, Honors

Nominee, Arthur Applebee Award for Excellence in Literacy Research, Literacy Research Association/SUNY Albany, 2018 [Article: **Saunders, J. M**. & Ash, G. E., Salazar, I. *with* Pruitt, R., Wallach, D., Breed, E., Saldana, S., Szachacz, A. (2017). "'We're already somebody:' High school students practicing Critical media literacy IRL [In real life]."]

English in Texas, **Winner**, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Affiliate Journal Competition, 2016 (Editor)

English in Texas, Honorable Mention, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Affiliate Journal Competition, 2015 (Editor)

English in Texas, Honorable Mention, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Affiliate Journal Competition, 2014 (Editor)

College-level Award, **Presidential Distinction Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activities**, College of Education, Assistant Professor, 2014 (College representative in University-wide competition).

Saunders, J. M. (2013). Life inside the Hive: Creating a space for literacy to grow. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*, 9(2), 94–10 was included in the 2018 Annotated Bibliography of Research in the Teaching of English (RTE). That bibliography is available at: http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEFiles/Resources/Journals/RTE/0523-feb2018/RTE0523ABib.pdf?_ga=2.177407909.1203746347.1537542608-1751279847.1522264339

Saunders, J. M. (2014). Where writing happens: Elevating student writing and developing voice through digital storytelling. *Teaching/Writing: The Journal of Writing Teacher Education*, *3*(1), 61–70 was included in the 2014 Annotated Bibliography of Research in the Teaching of English (RTE). That bibliography is available at: http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEFiles/Resources/Journals/RTE/0492-nov2014/RTE0492Annotated.pdf

Saunders, J. M., & Ash, G. E. (2013). Entering the arena: The figured worlds transition of Preservice teachers. *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, *56* (6), 490-499 was included in the 2013 Annotated Bibliography of Research in the Teaching of English (RTE). That bibliography is available at:

http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEFiles/Resources/Journals/RTE/0482-nov2013/RTE0482Annotated.pdf

Prior to Texas State University

Professional Development Travel Award, 2008
The University of Texas at Austin, Curriculum and Instruction Department
This supported travel to the American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2008 annual conference to present a paper.

Timy Baranoff Graduate Research Award, 2007
Phi Delta Kappa International, Chapter 12

Professional Development Travel Award, 2007
The University of Texas at Austin, Curriculum and Instruction Department
This supported travel to the American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2007 annual conference to present a paper.

Professional Development Travel Award, 2006
The University of Texas at Austin, Curriculum and Instruction Department
This supported travel to the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) 2006 annual conference to present a paper.

Teresa Lozano Long Endowed Graduate Fellowship, 2005

IV. SERVICE

University

Volunteer, Bobcat Build with Charles Butt Foundation Scholars, March, 2026
Recruiter/Representative of the Charles Butt Scholarship for Aspiring Teachers Program, Bobcat Days for Prospective Students, 2024-present (various dates)
College of Fine Arts and Communication College Review Group, 2022-2022
Member, University Library Committee, 2022-2025
Curriculum and Instruction Representative to the College Research Enhancement Committee (CREC) for Research Enhancement Program (REP) grants, 2020-2020
Project Maestros: Growing the teacher education pipeline at Texas State University, Advisory Board Member, 2019-2020
Curriculum and Instruction Volunteer, Hispanic Welcome Reception, September, 2018
Curriculum and Instruction Volunteer, Welcome to the Family Reception, September, 2017
Volunteer, Bobcat Build with Simon Middle School Block Students, April, 2017
Volunteer Speaker, Alief ISD High School Prospective Students' visit to Texas State, April, 2016
Marshall, Graduation May 2015
Volunteer, Bobcat Day for Prospective Students, 2015-2018 (various dates)
Volunteer Speaker, Houston ISD Teacher Magnet High School Prospective Students' visit to Texas State, November, 2015
Member, University Lecture Series Committee, 2009-2012.
Ally, Allies of Texas State University, 2009-present

Departmental/College

Designed and Coordinated TEXeS Review Sessions for CI Teacher Education Students, 2025
Co-writer, Charles Butt Foundation Partner Application, Middle Grades (4-8) Program, 2024
Program Lead, Charles Butt Scholarship for Aspiring Teachers Program, 2023-present

Member, Renovation Committee for Education Room 2120, 2024-Present
Mentor to Brad Robinson for Tenure Review/Promotion, 2020-2025
Volunteer Recruiter, Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts (TCTELA) Annual Conference, 2024
Volunteer, Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) Conference, 2023
Member, Search Committee – Chair, Curriculum and Instruction, 2022-2023
College of Education College Review Group, 2019-2022
Program Coordinator, Master of Education in Reading Education Program, 2014-2018
Graduate Advisor, Master of Education in Reading Education Program, 2014-2018
Member, Texas State University-San Marcos, PhD Associate Faculty, 2015-Present
Mentor, College of Education Scholar/Mentor Program, 2014-2015
Co-Sponsor, San Marcos Reading Council, 2011-2012.
Member, College of Education Departmental Scholarship Committee, 2008-2010, 2015
Member, Central Texas Writing Project Leadership Team, 2009-2014.
Member, Curriculum and Instruction Scholarly/Creative Activities Annual Review Rubric Committee, 2014-present
Member, Curriculum and Instruction Personnel Committee, 2014-Present
Member, Search Committee - Assistant Professor, Talent Development, 2014-2015
Member, Search Committee - Assistant Professor, Talent Development, 2011-2012
Member, Master of Education in Reading Program, 2008-present
Member, Undergraduate Secondary Program Committee, 2008-2011
Grader, Middle Grades Graduate Comprehensive Exams, 2020-Present
Grader, Secondary Graduate Comprehensive Exams, 2008-2011

Community

Judge, *Speak Up! Speak Out! Civics Fair Competition*, sponsored by the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life, February 2018
Volunteer Deputy Registrar for Voting, Hays County, Texas, 2008

Professional

International

Insight Grants Proposal Reviewer, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2021

National

International Literacy Association (ILA), Adolescent Literacy Committee Member, 2017-19
Updated and wrote Adolescent Literacy Position Statement for publication.

Association for Middle Level Education
Middle School Journal Reviewer, 2014-Present

National Council of Teachers of English
English Education Reviewer, 2011-Present
English Journal Reviewer, 2010-Present
NCTE Conference Special Session and General Session Volunteer, 2008

National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research
Annual Meeting, Proposal Reviewer, 2018

Literacy Research Association (LRA, formerly the National Reading Conference)
Annual Meeting, Proposal Reviewer, 2009-present

Journal of Literacy Research, Reviewer, 2012-Present

American Educational Research Association
AERA Division K, Proposal Reviewer, 2006-2008, 2010-present

Teaching/Writing: The Journal of Writing Teacher Education, Reviewer, 2013-present

Intersections: Women's and Gender Studies in Review Across Disciplines, Reviewer, 2005-2006

Routledge Publishing
Book Prospectus Reviewer, 2019
Integrating disciplinary literacy: A guide for K-6 teachers
Pearson Publishing
Book Reviewer, 2019
Words their way: Vocabulary for middle and secondary students, 2nd Ed.
Information Age Publishing
Chapter Reviewer, 2018
Negotiating place and space through digital literacies: Research and practice
Cognella Publishing, Inc.
Book Prospectus Reviewer, 2017
Writer's workshop in the college classroom
Allyn and Bacon Publishers
Book Reviewer, 2011
Vocabulary their way: Word study and secondary students
Wadsworth Publishers
Chapter Reviewer, 2009
Reading to learn in the content areas

State

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas
Reviewer/Evaluator for Faculty Tenure and Promotion Process, 2025

Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts
Board Member, 2013-2016
English in Texas, Editor, 2013-Present
English in Texas, Reviewer, 2009-2013, 2016-Present

Organizations

Memberships in Professional Organizations

American Educational Research Association (AERA)
Member: Division G, Social Context of Education, Curriculum Studies; Division K, Teaching and Teacher Education; Critical Educators for Social Justice SIG
International Literacy Association (ILA)
National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
Literacy Research Association (LRA)
Texas Council of Teachers of English/Language Arts (TCTELA)
Kappa Delta Pi, Delta Chapter