



# TX REGIONAL LITERACY SYMPOSIUM FAR WEST



JANUARY 22 & 23, 2026 | YSLETA COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER



*Scan for a floorplan, along with detailed descriptions of the sessions and to find out more about each presenter*

## DAY 2 – FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

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| <b>8:15 AM – 8:45 AM</b><br><i>Multi-Purpose Building</i>  | <b>CHECK-IN for pre-registered attendees, breakfast snacks</b><br><i>Breakfast on Friday is sponsored by Centre Future at El Paso Public Library. Thank you!</i>  |
| <b>8:45 AM – 9:00 AM</b><br><i>Multi-Purpose Building</i>  | <b>WELCOME, opening remarks</b><br>Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas<br>Martha Toscano, El Paso Public Library  |
| <b>9:00 AM – 9:30 AM</b><br><i>Multi-Purpose Building</i>  | <b>OPENING ADDRESS: “From Incarceration to Integration” (30 min)</b><br>Elizabeth Arellano, El Paso County Criminal Justice Coordination Department<br>Cpl. Luis Vasquez, El Paso County Criminal Justice Coordination Department |
| <b>9:30 AM – 10:00 AM</b><br><i>Multi-Purpose Building</i> | <b>NETWORKING: “Build a Pathway Together” (30 min)</b><br>Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas   |
| <b>10:10 AM – 11:40 AM</b><br><i>Lab 16</i>                | <b>BREAKOUT SESSION #1 (90 min)</b><br><b>AI Is Already at Work: Preparing Adult Learners for Today’s Workforce</b><br>Veronica Alvidrez Alvarez, Ysleta Independent School District (YISD)                                       |
| <i>Room 1</i>  | <b>From First Steps to Credentials: A Non-Credit to Credit ESL Bridge Model</b><br>Marta Edwards, El Paso Community College<br>Rose Galindo, El Paso Community College  |
| <i>Room 2</i>  | <b>How To Plan Your Life: Navigating Order and Chaos</b><br>Daniel Inostroza, The Literacy Center @ El Paso Public Library  |
| <i>Room 3</i>  | <b>Pronunciation Rules! (that every ESL instructor should know)</b><br>Amber Miller, TCALL (Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning)  |
| <i>Room 5</i>  | <b>Teacher as Architect: Instructional Strategies for Adult Learners (Part 1 of 2)</b><br>Dr. Irene Ramos, TCALL (Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning)  |
| <i>Room 4</i>  | <b>Teaching Beginning Math Learners</b><br>Heidi Schuler, Adult Numeracy Center at TERC   |

**11:40 AM – 12:40 PM**

*Multi-Purpose Building*

**WORKING LUNCH**

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

**“Teaching in the Age of AI: Workforce Skills for Tomorrow” (45 min)**

Rubina Flores-Jurado, Ysleta Community Learning Center (MODERATOR)

Dr. M. Shahriar Hossain, University of Texas at El Paso

Diana Yadira Mooy, M. Ed., Ysleta Independent School District (YISD)

W. David Moody, El Paso Community College

Veronica Alvidrez Alvarez, Ysleta Independent School District (YISD)

**12:50 PM – 1:35 PM**

*Multi-Purpose Building*

**SPOTLIGHT SESSION: Retention vs Persistence (45 min)**

Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas

**1:45 PM – 3:15 PM**

*Lab 16*

**BREAKOUT SESSION #2 (90 min)**

**Beyond Kahoot!: More Games and Apps to Engage Students**

Amber Miller, TCALL (Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning)

*Room 2*

**Re-Imagining Literacy Programs for Emerging Adults**

Indy Gonzalez, Centre Future @ El Paso Public Library

Kalina Gallardo, Centre Future @ El Paso Public Library

*Room 12*

**Supporting Families Through Citizenship and Conversational English Pathways**

Claudia Jimenez, El Paso County - Office of New Americans

*Room 5*

**Teacher as Architect: Instructional Strategies for Adult Learners (Part 2 of 2)**

Dr. Irene Ramos, TCALL (Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning)

*Room 4*

**Teaching Math Conceptually: A CALM Approach**

Heidi Schuler, Adult Numeracy Center at TERC

**3:15 PM**

*Multi-Purpose Building*

**FAREWELL, door prizes**

*Don't forget to visit special guests:*

- ✦ Burlington English
- ✦ Colorful Chapters Bookstore
- ✦ El Paso Community College
- ✦ El Paso Public Library
- ✦ Essential Education
- ✦ GED Testing Service
- ✦ Grand Canyon University
- ✦ Pearson ELL

*Special thanks to:*

- ✦ The Texas Workforce Commission
- ✦ Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning (TCALL)
- ✦ Ysleta Community Learning Center
- ✦ El Paso Public Library
- ✦ Grand Canyon University
- ✦ 915scentguys