

Sarah Jean Baker

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EDUCATION:

Graduate: Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas
Ph.D., Education–School Improvement
December 2016

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas
M.Ed., Educational Administration
August 2009

Undergraduate: Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota
B.A., Elementary Education
Emphasis: Early Childhood
Special Interest: Special Education
May 2002

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS:

Texas Classroom Teacher: Elementary Self-Contained (1-8)
Texas Classroom Teacher: Elementary Early Childhood (PK-KG)
Texas Classroom Teacher: English as a Second Language (PK-8)
Texas Principal (EC-12)

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS:

Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI)
English Second Other Language (ESOL)
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (CPI)
Talented and Gifted (TAG)
AEL & T-TESS (Advancing Educational Leadership & Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support Systems)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Concordia University Texas

Austin, TX

Assistant Professor

July 2010-Present

- Supervise teacher candidates during fieldwork and student teaching experiences
- Develop lesson plans to meet course objectives and outcomes
- Create learning activities that will meet learning objectives and outcomes
- Utilize course evaluations to make changes to learning activities and course requirements
- Advise students for academic planning
- Develop relationships with students to create engagement in the classroom, as well as promote success
- Maintain students' academic files
- Facilitate Introduction to Education course to be held on-site with local school districts

Director of EC/Elementary Undergraduate Education

July 2011-Present

- Work collaboratively with deans at satellite locations (DFW, Houston, San Antonio) for course sequence and delivery of EC-6 degree requirements
- Develop relationships with community members to support vision and mission of the University
- Write annual program assessment for early childhood and elementary education major
- Create yearly program goals through collaboration with faculty
- Collaborate with faculty to make certain course objectives facilitate program outcomes
- Develop and implement yearly benchmark process for students in the major
- Facilitate student benchmark interviews
- Assess and make recommendations of the benchmark process for students in the major
- Conduct student performance reviews, as needed with students enrolled in the program

Chair of Major- Undergraduate Teacher Education

July 2016- Present

July 2012-July 2014

- Work collaboratively with College of Education faculty to revise scope and sequence of undergraduate education courses
- Update and create field work and student teaching experiences handbooks
- Facilitate placement of students for field work and student teaching experiences
- Plan and lead Mentor Teaching trainings
- Serve on Education Preparation Program (EPP) Advisory Committee
- Create observation and evaluation forms to be used during supervisory visits of teacher candidates

- Manage program assessments; including surveys of teacher candidates, mentor teachers, and recent graduates
- Plan and lead Student Teacher Retreat
- Facilitate degree revisions to move professional semester (Student Teaching) to fall semester to better meet needs of teacher candidates, mentor teachers, and local school districts
- Maintain program compliance with state agency- Texas Education Agency (TEA), which includes making sure certification programs comply with state legislation

Round Rock Independent School District

Round Rock, Texas

Assistant Principal

July 2008-July 2010

Canyon Creek Elementary

- Work collaboratively with grade level teams, as a campus educational leader, to strengthen classroom instruction for students
- Lead faculty meetings and professional development for faculty/staff
- Supervise teachers' professional performance
- Organize TAKS testing for all student groups
- Facilitate ARD meetings as the administrator
- Partner with PTA to strengthen and enrich the school to community connection
- Desegregate information on student performance and analyze with teachers the individual needs of each student
- Develop positive relationships with students, families, and faculty/staff

ESL Elementary Teacher

August 2005-July 2008

Cactus Ranch Elementary

- Kindergarten and First Grade Teacher
- Work collaboratively with team of teachers to provide best practice instruction to diverse student population
- "Looped" with class of kindergarten students to first grade

ESL Elementary Teacher

August 2002-July 2005

Berkman Elementary

- Kindergarten and First Grade Teacher
- Create a balanced literacy classroom utilizing daily guided reading groups and workstations to foster literacy development and 6+1 Writing Traits
- Facilitate math instruction with Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI)
- Create lesson plans that meet individual needs of students, as well as Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

ESL Summer School Teacher, PK/Kindergarten

Summer 2003-2006

Bluebonnet Elementary

- Assess student's needs for individualized instruction through small-flexible grouping
- Facilitate 'language rich' classroom/activities to continue to foster students development in English

TEACHING

TEACHING HONORS & AWARDS:

- Nominated for Martin J. Neeb Senior Teaching Excellence Award April 2017
Nominated for Martin J. Neeb Senior Teaching Excellence Award April 2014
Nominated for Martin J. Neeb Senior Teaching Excellence Award April 2013

COURSES TAUGHT:

2301-Introduction to Education

This course is an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the teacher, the characteristics of today's schools and curriculum, and selected issues facing today's teachers. Fieldwork includes teacher-aide and observation experiences in a local elementary, middle or senior high school. Observation/activities will focus on the child as learner, teaching strategies, management procedures, classroom climate, and roles of the teacher.

3320-Early Childhood Curriculum, Methods, & Materials

This course addresses the organization, materials, curriculum and methods in preschool, kindergarten, and primary education. Teaching methods for working with 3-7 year olds will be emphasized.

3310-Writing Across the Curriculum

This course prepares students to personally master writing effectively and efficiently for a variety of audiences and purposes; includes methods of teaching writing for elementary, middle school and secondary levels.

EDU 3311 Teaching Strategies & Assessment

This course addresses instructional techniques and strategies that emphasize practical application of the teaching/learning process to include writing of instructional objectives and lesson plans, delivery strategies, and grouping practices based on learning theory and learning styles as well as multiple intelligences. This includes formal and informal assessment, measurement and evaluation of curriculum, teaching strategies and student learning in the elementary classroom with an emphasis on the use of technology.

EDU 3240- Societal Relationships

This course will explore the vital and necessary interrelationships between the three elements present in the overall education of students or learners: school, home, and community.

EDU 3201- Differentiated Instruction

This course will investigate differentiated instruction as a philosophical approach to meeting the instructional needs of all learners—academically, emotionally and culturally. Class discussions and course assignments are designed to gain an understanding of the dynamics of differentiated learning, create and sustain classroom structures that facilitate differentiated

instruction, and plan the implementation of meaningful instruction that helps all students succeed.

EDU 4226- Classroom Management

This course will explore methods of effective classroom management and discipline strategies, as well as motivation strategies. This course is required of all education students

EDU 4101 Teacher Education Seminar

This course will discuss major topics in preparation for the TExES exams needed for certification as a teacher in Texas, resume writing, and interviewing skills.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Developing Culturally Responsive Classrooms and Schools
Capturing Kids' Heart
6+1 Writing Traits
Balanced Literacy
Understanding by Design (UbD)
Teaching Innovation- The Role of Change in Higher Education
Faculty Governance
Lutheran Education & Higher Education
Designing Course Resources for Students with Disabilities
Leadership & Lutheran Identity
Enhancing the General Education Experience for Today's Student
Using iPads in the University Classroom
Teaching & the Millennial Student
Crucial Conversations

SCHOLARSHIP:

HONORS & AWARDS

2016 David L. Clark Graduate Research Seminar Scholar
2008 Finalist for CLAS (Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education & School Psychology)
Department Graduate Student of the Year

GRANTS

Baker, S.J. & Baker, A.M. (2006). *Where the chickadees roam- Constructing Birdhouses*
\$500 RRISD Service Learning Grants

Baker, S.J. & Vogelpohl, M. (2003). *Creating school gardens* \$3000 RRISD Foundation
and A+ Teachers Federal Credit Union Grants for Educators

PUBLICATIONS

Nelson Baray, S., & **Baker, S.J.** *Inside out: scholar-practitioners as mothers of school age children.* (Revise & resubmit).

Baker, S.J. *Picturing mothering and leading*. (manuscript in preparation)

Baker, S.J. *Understanding the self: using autobiography with pre-service teachers to develop culturally responsive pedagogy and praxis*. (manuscript in preparation)

Baker, S.J. *Picturing intensive leadership*. (manuscript in preparation)

Baker, S.J. *Remembering our history- teachers and mothers*. (manuscript in preparation)

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Baker, S.J. (2016). *#leadingmamas: A visual ethnography*. Paper presentation at the annual University Council for Educational Administration conference. Detroit, MI.

Baker, S.J., & Nelson Baray, S. (2016). *Intensive leading & mothering: A visual ethnography*. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the British Educational Leadership and Management Society (BELMAS). Cheshire, UK.

Baker, S.J. (2014) *Understanding the self*. Session presented at Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE). Austin, TX.

Baker, S.J. (2014) *Women leaders in schools*. Session presented at Advancing Improvement in Education. Austin, TX.

Baker, S. J. (2014) *Constructing classrooms for literacy*. Session presented at Texas District Early Childhood Conference. Horseshoe Bay, TX.

Baker, S. J. (2014) *Pushing through barriers: Women in higher education*. Paper presentation at University of Texas at Austin Cultural Conference. Austin, TX.

Baker, S. J. (2013) *Creating connections from school to home*. Session presented at Texas District Early Childhood Conference. San Marcos, TX.

Baker, S. J. (2013) *Utilizing technology in the early childhood classroom*. Session presented at Texas District Early Childhood Conference. San Marcos, TX.

Baker, S. J. & Baker, A. M. (2012) *Homework myth*. Session presented at Texas District Educator Conference. Austin, TX.

SERVICE:

University

Member, Planning Committee for Texas State Qualitative Conference (2013, 2014, 2015)

EnRoute- Welcome Transfer Student (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)

Embark- Parent Presenter (2012, 2013, 2015, 2017)

Instant Decision Day (2013, 2014)

Dean Search Committee (2013)

Ministerial Youth Retreat (2012, 2013, 2014)

Life & Leadership- New Student Seminar (2013)

College

Sunday-School Professional Development Team (2016)

President, Graduate Organization for Leadership Development in School Improvement (2013, 2014)

Education Club Advisor- Concordia University Texas (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Mock Interview Event (2014)

Certification Exam Study Sessions (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Professional

Member, E3 Alliance Central Texas Council on Educator Preparation (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Member, American Educational Research Association (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Member, University Council for Educational Administration (2015, 2016, 2017)

Community

Hill Country Christian- Preschool Development (2016)

Austin Moms of Multiples- Literacy in the Home (2012, 2014)

Curriculum Planning for Orphanages in Haiti (2015)

Round Rock ISD K-2 Report Card Committee (2009)

Mentor Teacher (2007)

International Children's Day Coordinator (2007)

Appraisal by Collaboration Facilitator (2006, 2007, 2008)

Campus Teacher Leader (2006, 2007, 2008)

Literacy Library Contact & Coordinator (2006, 2007, 2008)

Round Rock ISD Social Studies Campus Contact (2005)

Site-Base Teacher Representative (2005, 2006, 2008)

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES:

James McConnell, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Education
Concordia University Texas
jim.mcconnell@concordia.edu
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Alison Chai
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Concordia University Texas
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Sarah Nelson Baray, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Pre-K San Antonio
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Eleece Moffatt, M.Ed.
Retired Principal
Canyon Creek Elementary, Round Rock ISD
emoffatt@austin.rr.com
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Margo Vogelpohl, M.Ed.
Director of Title I and Prekindergarten Programs
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