



# TexaSpeaks

*Monthly Newsletter*  
March 2022



## White Paper



CONVENTION 2022  
ROCKWALL, TX  
OCTOBER 5-8, 2022

NEXT YEAR'S THEME:  
KEEP IT SIMPLE!

[Click here](#) to read TSCA's White Paper on: "Enhancing Student Choice by Allowing Oral Interpretation to Fulfill ELA Elective Credit and Fine Arts Credit"

The goal of this white paper is to provide support for Oral Interpretation as a course on campuses across Texas.

## HELPFUL LINKS

[2021 Resolutions](#)

[March 2022 Newsletter](#)

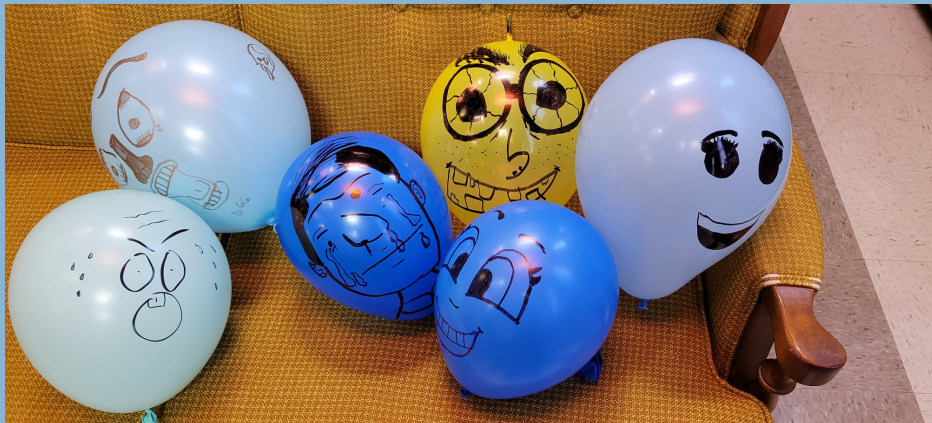
[Convention Minutes](#)

[TSCA Bylaws](#)

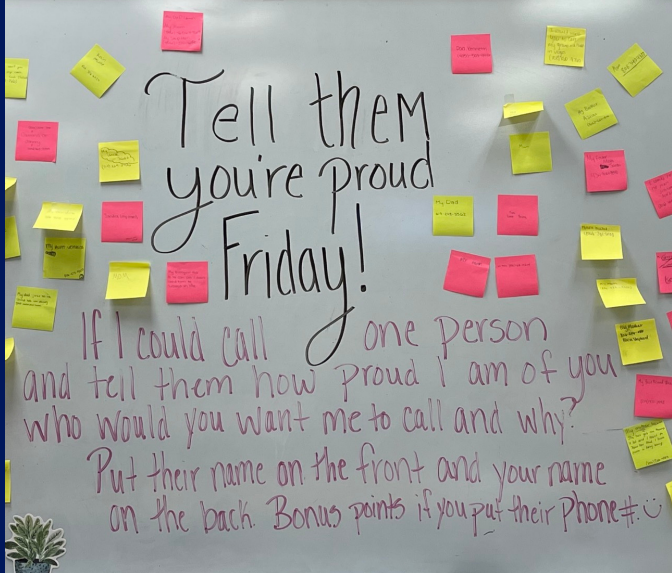
## EMOTION BALLOONS

Students are divided into small groups. Each group selects a sticky note from off the board. Each sticky note has an emotion.

Working as a group, the students draw a face reflecting that emotion on a balloon and create a backstory for why their balloon is feeling the emotion. After each group presents their balloon and tells the story of their character's emotion, the class will practice different ways to express emotions using different facial expressions. Thank you for the recommendation, Ryan Lovell!



## TELL THEM YOU'RE PROUD



Looking for a good classroom activity to foster positive relationships with your students and build their confidence? Try this activity, recommended by member Heather Soltero!

Students are given the prompt: "If I could call one person and tell them how proud I am of you, who would you want me to call and why? Put their name on the front and your name on the back. Bonus points if you include their phone number!"

Keep their responses posted near your desk/workspace and make call throughout the week.

## WRITER'S BLOCK? DRAW IT OUT!

It's final paper time and with it comes stumped students who may be struggling to figure out the structure of their papers. Ask them to get a sheet of paper and something to write with. Then, simply give them the prompt "draw me your paper". It shouldn't be an outline, it shouldn't be a bunch of words. Instead, they should draw a visual representation of their paper. After about 15 minutes, have them share with the class.

This will allow writers to ground their paper, finding the big idea to thread through their writing - and maybe even develop a strong metaphor to use! THEY DO NOT HAVE TO BE ARTISTS TO DO THIS EXERCISE -STICK FIGURES ARE EMBRACED AND ENCOURAGED.

This is a great exercise for all writers - our Communication Director got the idea from her graduate school professor!



## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Were you named Teacher of the Year? Did your team partake in an awesome community service project? Do you have an amazing resource or lesson plan you would like to share with your fellow educators? Would you like to nominate someone for the member spotlight? Email [socialmediaTSCA@gmail.com](mailto:socialmediaTSCA@gmail.com) so we can include it in a future Newsletter!