

COURAGE

LEADERSHIP

INTEGRITY

VOTE

LINDA



TSTA VICE PRESIDENT

Dear TSTA Family,

My name is Linda Estrada, and I am a proud product of public education. In fact, I wouldn't be who I am if not for all the educators who made a difference in my life. The most vivid memory of how an educator touched my life was my 4th grade teacher, Mrs. Dawson. Like most families, problems arise that affect children and mine wasn't any different. Mrs. Dawson must have noticed a change in me, because she started asking me to bring my lunch and eat with her. She used my having problems with multiplication as an excuse and while she was helping me with math, she was also striking up a conversation with me. After about a week or so, I finally confided in her and in doing so felt like a weight had been lifted off of my shoulders. I still remember the kind look on her face as she apologized for what was happening and made me see how it had nothing to do with me. This allowed me to concentrate on being the best student I could be. I share this story with you, because her advice that day has been with me for the past 40 years. Educators are life changers, in many ways. We have the honor of making a difference in our students' lives and in the overall public education system in Texas! My family and I believe in the importance of our public schools, and that is why I, along with other members of my family are proud educators working to make a difference for our students, their families, our communities, and educators everywhere.

Fast forward to the present, I have been an educator for over 33 years and am currently the campus secretary at Runn Elementary. I am a proud Education Support Professional (ESP), who has the experience needed to be part of a state leadership team that represents ALL educators, future, present, and retired.

I have represented you in many roles at the local, state and national level. But I know that I didn't do it alone! Thanks to you and your support, I served as an ESP at Large for 2 terms where I represented the voice of ESP's on the TSTA Board of Directors. You also supported me as an NEA Director for 2 terms and as a national leader, where I effectively advocated for the needs of all of our students and ALL of our members (aspiring educators, teachers, education support professionals, and retired) in Congress, the NEA Board of Directors, and the TSTA Board of Directors.

I am now asking you for your support again to go further and represent you and our students as the next TSTA Vice President. I want to continue to use all I have learned through my leadership in my local, TSTA and NEA to help our President-Elect, TSTA board of directors, and every single local in this great state to take on and win on our issues. I will work to take our state organization to the next level! I will continue organizing our members and celebrating our victories like our Red for Ed movement that helped to put into action our March to the Polls and March to the Capital where, we elected education friendly state reps and senators that helped pass HB3, which allowed many of us across the state to see a substantial raise we hadn't seen in years! We need to continue talking, marching, rallying and standing up for the right thing! We must not let our guard down not for one moment!! As we know, we have many opponents who cannot wait to take our place with their agendas that are primarily made to satisfy their own self-interest. We, ALL Educators, future, active and retired, need to continue forming and strengthening our relationships with our local, state, and national elected representatives. Our fight is far from over and with your support, I want to use all that I've learned and that our union has given me and put it to use as your next Vice President. We are all born with a purpose. We must find what our purpose is, then do it with a passion, just like my 4th grade teacher said! I have found my purpose, advocating for Public Education to make a difference in the lives of our students, their families, our communities, and educators!

The end result of a successful Union is to make the lives of students and members better! I am ready to ensure our success!

I am Linda Estrada and as the candidate with the most experience and the most years of service to our great TSTA organization, I believe that I can get the job done! I ask for your support to become the next TSTA Vice-President. Thank you!

In Solidarity,

Leadership with Courage & Integrity



Leadership Experience

Local

2000 to Present – TSTA HoD Delegate
2000 to 2002 – Association Representative
2001 to 2003 – Donna TSTA/NEA Secretary
2002 – TSTA Ambassador

2003 to 2005 – Donna TSTA/NEA Vice President
2005 – 2009 Donna TSTA/NEA Vice President for ESPs
2009 – 2019 Donna TSTA/NEA President

Region

2004 to 2006 – Region 1A Secretary
2007 – Region 1E ESP of the Year

2007 – 2011 Region 1E VP
2011 – 2015 Region 1E President

State

2002 TSTA – Ambassador
2007 -2011 – TSTA ESP @ Large
2007 to Present – TSTA Board of Directors
2010 – Interviewing committee for TSTA Executive Director
2011 to 2015 – TSTA ESP Committee Chair

2011 to 2019 – TSTA Advisory Board
2015 to Present – TSTA ESP Committee Liaison
2016 to 2018 - TSTA Social Justice Task Force Committee
2019 to present – TSTA Statewide ESP Living Wage Campaign

National

2010 – NEA Leaders for Tomorrow Graduate
2011 to 2014 – NEA Sub Committee for Membership
2009, 2010, 2014 to Present – NEA RA Delegate
2014 to Present – Texas NEA Director Place 3
2014-2016 – NEA Elevating ESP Careers: worked to develop the Professional Growth Continuum for ESPs

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2016 to present – Read Across America (RAA) Committee
RAA Chair for 2019 – 2020
2016 to present – Elected by NEA BoD to NEA Member Benefits Board
2019 – Selected by NEA ESPQ as a True Colors Trainer of Trainers
to be part of the NEA Leaders for Tomorrow training

As a leader, I have advocated for members and helped win the following:

- *Restored local days
- *Fought for and received better salaries for all employees
- *Protected teacher conference periods
- *Developed a Member Advocacy Team
- *Due Process Policy for ESPs
- *Eliminated improper growth plans for teachers
- *Restored full paid holidays for Auxiliary
- *Equity in Bus Driver rotation in field trips
- *Restored local days

- *Defeated D.O.I. in 2017 & 2019
- *Assured members were part of all campus/district committees
- *Eliminated improper growth plans for teachers
- *6 paid Professional Days for all ESPs
- *Worked to make the NEA initiative, Safe Schools Zone a Donna ISD Policy
- *Restored 30-minute duty-free lunch for teachers
- *Corrected pay for veteran administrators
- *Restored stipends for Bilingual Teachers

TSTA is publishing and/or distributing candidate brochures as a service to its members in order to ensure a fully informed electorate. All candidates were provided with an equal opportunity to submit brochures to TSTA for distribution. This brochure was prepared by candidate Linda Estrada and solely reflects the views and opinions of the candidate, and not those of TSTA or its affiliates. Linda Estrada is solely responsible for the content.