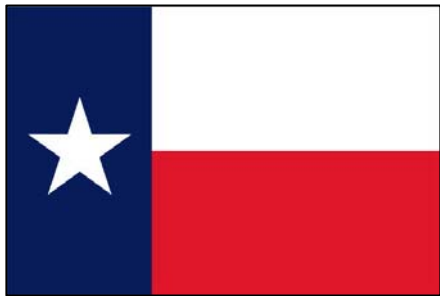
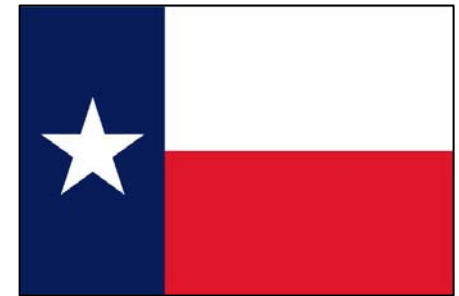


# Texas Adolescent Literacy Academies (TALA)



A State-wide Initiative

Summers  
2008 & 2009



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# A Little Background

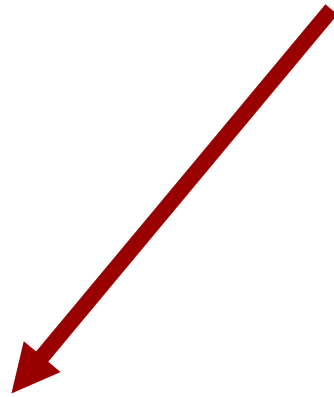
- During the 1990's, Texas passed legislation to fund **reading academies**.
- The academies started in kindergarten and were developed to provide **research-based strategies for teaching reading** in the elementary grades.
- Academies were developed **for grades K, 1, 2, 3, and 4**.
- **Teachers were paid** to attend the academies.
- **Test scores went up**, and legislators were pleased.

# BUT . . .

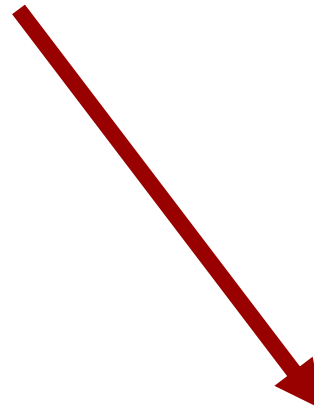
- Test **scores began to dip in the intermediate and middle level grades** . . . particularly in reading.
- The **legislature determined to do something.**
- During the **80<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**, they came up with . . .

# Two New Academies

(known as the Texas Adolescent Literacy Academies)



English  
Language Arts  
(ELA)  
Academies



Content Area  
Academies

# Summer of 2008 for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading and  
English Teachers

(known as **ELA Academies**)

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, Science,  
and SS Teachers

(known as **Content Area Academies**)

Four-day academy (24  
CPEs)

Two-day academy (12  
CPEs)

3 days on-site = \$250

1 ½ days on-site = \$125

1 day online follow-up =  
\$250

½ day online follow-up =  
\$125

# Summer of 2009 for 7th and 8th Grade Teachers

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading  
and English Teachers  
(known as **ELA Academies**)

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, Science,  
and SS Teachers  
(known as **Content Area Academies**)

Four-day academy (24  
CPEs)

Two-day academy (12  
CPEs)

3 days on-site = \$250

1 ½ days on-site = \$125

1 day online follow-up =  
\$250

½ day online follow-up =  
\$125

# Who **CAN** attend?

- **Content Area Academy** – Full-time **teachers who will teach mathematics, science, and/or social studies at least 50% of their day** and teach students in grade 6 (2008-2009) and grades 7-8 (2009-2010) at least 50% of their day, including teachers in general education, special education or English as a second language education.
- **ELA Academy** – Full-time **teachers who will teach English language arts and/or reading at least 50% of their day** and teach students in grade 6 (2008-2009) and grades 7-8 (2009-2010) at least 50% of their day, including teachers in general education, special education or English as a second language education.

# Who ***MUST*** attend?

Attendance for most teachers is voluntary. However, educators that meet the above criteria and teach in a campus labeled Academically Unacceptable (AU) ***due to TAKS Reading*** are **required by legislation (HB 2237)** to attend these academies.

Grade 6 teachers on campuses that are rated AU due to TAKS reading as of the final accountability rating on November 1, 2007 will attend the academies in 2008. Teachers in grades 7-8 on campuses that are rated AU due to TAKS reading as of November 1, 2008 will participate in the academies in 2009.

# Points of Interest

- Funded by the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, **HB 2237**
- Designed for reading, language arts, **math, science, and social studies** teachers
- Ratio of **2 trainers to 50 participants**
- **Regional trainers** will be teachers from Region 10 districts and Region 10 consultants

# Implementation Plan

- Offered throughout Region 10 in **clustered locations** convenient for teachers to attend
- **Offered in every county** with most sessions in Dallas and Collin Counties due to population distribution

# Implementation Plan

- Academies start **June 9 and continue through August 1** (approximately 4 content area academies and 4 ELA academies per week)
- Registration will begin **February 11** for hosting districts and AU campuses (password required)
- Open registration will begin **March 1** (no password required)

# Implementation Plan, cont.

- Week of June 9-13                      4 ELA and 4 Content Academies
- Week of June 16-20                      4 ELA and 4 Content Academies
- Week of June 23-27                      4 ELA and 4 Content Academies
- Week of July 7-11                        4 ELA and 4 Content Academies
- Week of July 14-18                      4 ELA and 4 Content Academies
- Week of July 21-25                      3 ELA and 3 Content Academies
- Week of July 28-Aug. 1                3 ELA and 3 Content Academies

# How to Register

## (as of March 1, 2008)

- Go to Region 10's website at [www.region10.org](http://www.region10.org).
- Click on "Workshop Registration".
- Click on "search" in the gray bar at the top of the web page.
- Type "TALA" in the first search box and REMOVE THE DATE in the second box.
- Register for the ELA date and location which best suits you!

For More Information . . .

[www.tea.state.tx.us/tala](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/tala)

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