

JENNIFER ORPITELLI GURNEA

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Curriculum & Instruction) | Texas A&M University | December 2024
Master of Arts (Teaching) | University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA | August, 2008
Bachelor of Arts in History | University of California, L.A. | Los Angeles, CA | June, 2007

CERTIFICATIONS

Social Studies Composite 7-12 | ELA 7-12 | ESL

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRHS | Travis HS | Lake Olympia MS | George Bush HS, FBISD | Rancho Alamitos HS, GGUSD | July 2011—

- Planned innovative instructional/learning experiences according to state standards and district goals.
- Executed curriculum according to district pacing guides using data to inform instructional decisions.
- Managed student behavior by first building rapport with students.
- Effectuated parent contact weekly, both written and verbally, to be transparent about student progress.
- Collaborated with team members during PLC to create learning experiences and assessments.
- Taught split schedules including 9th/11th ELA (including co-teach, and Pre-AP), US History, World History, Personal Financial Literacy, ESOL, ELA I, Mexican American Studies (curriculum writer)

Long-term Substitute Teacher | Garden Grove Unified School District | 2008-2011

- Organized and planned an appropriate pacing strategy to execute the following courses: ELA 1, ESL, Drama 1, US History, World History, Biology, Earth Science.

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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| 2025-Present | ELA I Academic Team Lead, Guiding Coalition Member, STAAR Retester Curriculum Writing (30 hrs) |
| 2023-Present | EB Coordinator |
| 2016-2023 | Mentor Teacher (12 mentees) |
| 2021-2022 | Team Leader, World History |
| 2020 | Teacher of the Year, Lake Olympia MS |
| 2018-2020 | Department Chair, ELA Professional Learning Lead Master Teacher Student Support Team |
| 2017-2018 | Team Leader, ELA |
| 2015-2016 | Campus Based Leadership Team |

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING & PRESENTATIONS

- Ignite: Classroom Culture; Aggressive Monitoring 2.0 | presenter, Summer 2025 | LCISD
- TAPP Mentorship: Evidence Based Feedback Cycles | presenter, October, 2023 | FBISD
- *Driven by Data 2.0* (Region IV Training series) | 2019-20 | Three sessions for staff | FBISD
- Student Ownership Tools | Feb. 2020 | presenter, Lake Olympia MS | FBISD
- Gretchen Bernabei STAAR Writing | Nov. 2019 | attended 2-day writing seminar | Houston, TX.
- GT Update Conference: Project-Based Learning 2.0 | June 2020 | Virtual Presentation
- GT Update Conference: Project-Based Learning | June 2019 | presenter, Ridge Point HS

AWARDS

- Fort Bend Education Foundation Grant Awards:
 - "Disrupting Traditional Texts," individual teacher grant (2023)
 - "Illustrated History," individual teacher grant (2022)
 - "Adventures in Historical Graphic Novels," individual teacher grant (2021)
 - "Journey Through the Mind's Eye," site grant (2020)
 - "Gonzo for Graphic Novels," individual teacher grant (2020)
 - "Reluctant Readers Win with Graphic Novels," individual teacher grant (2019)
 - "Getting Kids' Hands on Contemporary Classics," individual teacher grant (2017)

