

Yvonne Atkins

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Education

Master of Education in Reading

University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX | 2019

Master of Science in Community Mental Health

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL | 1979

Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL | 1977

Certifications

- Principal Certification, Lamar University | 2011
- Teacher Certification, K–8 Texas
- LLD Certification
- Reading Recovery Certification
- ESL Certification, K–12

Higher Education Teaching Experience

Adjunct Instructor

University of Texas at Tyler | 2019–Present

- Taught undergraduate literacy courses in online and face-to-face formats, supporting teacher preparation and evidence-based reading instruction.
- Strengthened student understanding of literacy development, instructional planning, and classroom application through targeted course support.

Grader

University of Texas at Tyler | 2019–2023

- Evaluated graduate coursework for literacy courses with attention to academic standards, instructional quality, and professional growth.

Administrative and Leadership Experience

6th/7th Grade ELAR Teacher

Three Lakes Middle School, Tyler ISD | 2015–2019

- Delivered middle school ELAR instruction designed to build reading comprehension, writing skills, and academic readiness.
- Applied literacy expertise to support diverse learners through structured instruction and responsive classroom practices.

Instructional Coach

A.T. Stewart Middle School, Tyler ISD | 2010–2015

- Coached teachers in curriculum alignment, lesson design, and instructional practices to strengthen classroom effectiveness.
- Supported professional learning and implementation of campus instructional priorities across content areas.

Reading Intervention and Project-Based Learning Coordinator

A.T. Stewart Middle School, Tyler ISD | 2009–2010

- Coordinated reading intervention services to support struggling readers and strengthen literacy growth.
- Helped advance project-based learning practices that connected instruction to student engagement and applied learning.

Coordinator, International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program Pilot

Boulter Middle School, Tyler ISD | 2004–2009

- Coordinated implementation of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program pilot to support interdisciplinary planning and instructional rigor.
- Collaborated with campus staff to align program expectations with classroom practice and student learning goals.

Teaching Experience

Reading Recovery Teacher

T.J. Austin Elementary, Tyler ISD | 1999–2004

- Provided individualized early literacy intervention to help students strengthen foundational reading strategies and confidence.
- Used assessment-informed instruction to guide targeted support for emerging readers.

Elementary Teacher

Clarkston Elementary, Tyler ISD | 1988–1999

Taught Special Education, K–5, and regular education in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades.

Middle School Language Arts Teacher

Boulter Middle School, Tyler ISD | 1981–1988

Taught Special Education, grades 6–8.

Counselor

Wiley College, Marshall, TX | 1980–1981

Presentations

Atkins, Y. (2013–2014). Created “STAAR Gazers,” a booklet informing parents about STAAR and how to help their students.

Atkins, Y. (2012). Mastering the TEKS for ELAR trainer for Tyler ISD grade 7 ELAR teachers.

Atkins, Y. (2011). Mastering the TEKS for ELAR trainer for Tyler ISD grade 6 ELAR teachers.

Atkins, Y. (2010, November). Word Walls presentation for all teachers at Stewart Middle School, Tyler, TX.

Atkins, Y. (2009, September). The Lesson Cycle presentation for teachers at Stewart Middle School, Tyler, TX.

Atkins, Y. (2009, October). Writing Lesson Plans presentation for teachers at Stewart Middle School, Tyler, TX.

Atkins, Y. (2009, August). Checking for Understanding presentation for teachers at Boulter Middle School, Tyler, TX.

Atkins, Y. (2009, June). Active Learning presentation for all Tyler ISD teachers, Tyler, TX.

Texas Reading Academy presenter in various cities throughout Texas | 1991–1993

Awards

Women Who Engage, Women of Tyler | 2025

Teacher of the Month, Three Lakes Middle School | May 2018

Campus Teacher of the Year, Clarkston Elementary | 1994

Women in Leadership, Texas College, Tyler, TX | 1998

Teacher of the Month, T.J. Austin Elementary, Tyler, TX | September 2002, September 2004, January 2006

Campus Teacher of the Year, T.J. Austin Elementary | 2005

Tyler Independent School District Teacher of the Month | March 2007

Professional Affiliations

Tyler Alliance of Black School Educators (TABSE)

National Society of Leadership and Success | 2017

Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) | 2004

National Teachers Association | 1980–2004

Community Leadership

Tyler Independent School District Board of Trustees

Trustee | 2020–Present

President | 2025–2026 and 2026–2027

- Provided governance leadership focused on district priorities, student success, and community accountability.
- Served in board leadership roles supporting collaboration, stewardship, and effective public education oversight.