

**KAREN L KOHLER**  
*Assistant Professor*  
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## **EDUCATION**

EdD 2016 Capella University  
Doctor of Education  
Specialization in Reading and Literacy

MEd 2004 Texas State University, San Marcos  
Degree: Elementary Education

BA 1999 California State University, Chico  
Degree: Social Studies and Spanish

### **Certification**

Texas EC-4 Generalist  
Texas 4-8 Reading and Language Arts  
Certified Academic Language Therapist – Qualified Instructor (In Progress)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **University Teaching Experience**

#### **Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX Present**

**January 2018 -**

Assistant Professor – August 2020 - Present  
Assistant Professor Professional Track – January 2020 – July 2020  
Lecturer – August 2019 – December 2019  
Adjunct Professor - January 2018 - August 2019

#### **Courses Taught**

EDCI 1301 Introduction to Teaching  
EDCI 3303 Knowledge of Pedagogy and Assessment  
EDCI 3321 Education Interventions (Hybrid)  
EDCI 3347 English/Language Arts Methods: Elementary Level  
EDCI 3348 Classroom Management: Early Childhood – Elementary (Hybrid)  
EDCI 3349 Social Studies Methods: Early Childhood - Elementary  
EDCI 4301 Teaching and Pedagogy: Early Childhood and Elementary Teachers  
EDCI 4309 Legal and Ethical Issues in Education (Hybrid)  
EDRG 4325 Disciplinary and Content Area Reading (Hybrid)  
EDCI 5301 School and Community Partnerships

#### **University of The Incarnate Word, San Antonio, TX Adjunct Professor – August 2016 – August 2019**

**August 2016 – August 2019**

#### **Courses Taught**

EDUC 2305 Foundations of Education  
EDUC 3307 Essential Literacy Instruction  
EDUC 3327 Developing the Fluent Reader  
EDUC 3337 Developing the Strategic Reader

EDUC 3347 Differentiated Literacy Instruction  
EDUC 6318 Disciplinary Literacy and the English Learner

Consultant - September 2017 – May 2018

- Created new minor for the School of Applied Sciences – Youth and Community Studies
- Developed proposal for new programs – Fort Hood, TX
- Curriculum development of new major and minors offered
- Presented programs at Undergraduate Council and Faculty Senate meetings

### **K-12 Experience**

**North East Independent School District, San Antonio, TX** **2012 - 2018**

- Camelot Elementary School
  - Bilingual Family Specialist
  - English Language Learner – Compliance Point of Contact/LPAC Coordinator

**Comal Independent School District, New Braunfels, TX** **2001 - 2005**

- Canyon Intermediate School
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher (Bilingual and General Education)
  - Bilingual Department Coordinator
- Frazier Elementary School
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bilingual Teacher

### **Consulting**

**Celebrate Dyslexia Schools** **2022 – Present**

- Assisted writing the APPROVED Texas Generation 28 Charter School application
  - Curriculum rationale and scope and sequence
- Superintendent interview panel (non-voting member)

**Institute for School and Community Partnerships, San Antonio, TX** **2022 - Present**

- Individualized professional development grounded in data for partner schools
- Literacy Based Design® curriculum professional development
- Exploring Professional Identity

**Education Alliance, New Braunfels, TX** **2005 – 2011**

- Developed innovative professional development trainings
- Provided consultative
- Support for teachers and school leadership
- Created in-home parent literacy training curriculum

## **SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

### **Refereed Publications**

**Kohler, K. L., & Espinoza, K. (2023).** Embracing abuelita epistemologies, “Nací para bailar”: A pathway for creating culturally sustaining lessons for LatinX students. *Learning, Culture and Social Interaction*, 43, 100768. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lcsi.2023.100768>

Espinoza, K. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2023) “I did not realize that my teacher had taken away part of my identity”: Bilingual preservice teachers’ virtual libraries project. *Journal for Multicultural Education*.

Gerzel-Short, L., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2022). A New Lens: Addressing Literacy Inequities by Reconnecting With Families. In K. Fox, & L. Szech (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Family Literacy Practices and Home-School Connections* (pp. 196-211). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-4569-3.ch012>

- Moody, C., Piper, R., **Kohler, K.**, Conway, N., Nichols, S. & Mudge, S. (2022) *Embracing diversity and social emotional learning in the elementary classroom through the arts*. Proceeding presented at Hawaii University International Conference (June 8, 2022: Honolulu, HI).
- Piper, R., Webb, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2022). Teachers, Students, and the Pandemic: How do we Move Forward?. In E. Langran (Ed.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 684-687). San Diego, CA, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). Retrieved April 27, 2022 from <https://www.learntechlib.org/primary/p/220812/>.
- Webb, C. L., Barrios, A. M., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021). Classroom Management, Lesson Planning, and Technology Integration . . . Oh My!: Ways to Cope With Online Pedagogical Practices. In M. Niess, & H. Gillow-Wiles (Ed.), *Handbook of Research on Transforming Teachers' Online Pedagogical Reasoning for Engaging K-12 Students in Virtual Learning* (pp. 583-603). IGI Global.
- Webb, C. L., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Piper, R. E. (2021). Teachers' preparedness and professional learning about using educational technologies during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Online Learning Research*, 7(2). 113-132.
- Barrios, A. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2020). Unpacking cultural barriers in the secondary classroom using multicultural literature. *Texas Association for Literacy Educators 2020 Annual Yearbook*, 7, 19- 23.
- Barrios, A., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Gerzel-Short, L. (2020). Shifting from involvement to engagement: Strategies for supporting families virtually. *The Texas Forum of Teacher Education*, 10, 24-30.
- Gerzel-Short, L., & **Kohler, K.L.** (2020). Blast off with formative assessments. In A. Quinzio-Zafran & E.A. Wilkins (Eds.), *The New Teacher's Guide to Overcoming Common Challenges: Curated Advice from Award-Winning Teachers* (pp.66-68). Routledge.
- Gerzel-Short, L., Miller, R., **Kohler, K.**, & Barrios, A. (2020, November). Shared learning spaces. *Difference and Disability Matters: Newsletter* for the TESOL Supporting Students with Disabilities Interest Section. Retrieved from <http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/tesolsswdis/issues/2020-11-05/2.html>
- Kohler, K. L.**, & Gerzel-Short, L. (2020). Hello, are you there? Strategies for communicating with families. In A. Quinzio-Zafran & E.A. Wilkins (Eds.), *The New Teacher's Guide to Overcoming Common Challenges: Curated Advice from Award-Winning Teachers* (pp.158-160). Routledge.
- Kohler, K. L.**, Gerzel-Short, L., & Hicks, R. (2020). Family engagement: CAPS relationships. *New Teacher Advocate* 27(3), 20-21.[bit.ly/NTASP20v27](http://bit.ly/NTASP20v27)

### In Preparation

- Kohler, K. L.**, Moody C., Sampson, S. (2023). Road to allyship: Motivation to advocate and support marginalized groups in education preparation programs. *The Journal of Teacher Education*.
- Kohler, K. L.**, Gerzel-Short, L., Liberty, L., and Young, N. (2022). Families and virtual learning. *TEACHING Exceptional Children*.

### Non-Refereed Publications

- Grotewold, K., **Kohler, K. L.**, & Krimbill, E. (2022). Pay it forward: Realizing the promise of OER for the next generation of learners. In C.J. Ivory & A. Pashia (Eds.), *Using Open Educational Resources to Promote Social Justice*.

- Kohler, K. L., Barrios, A., & Gerzel-Short, L. (2021).** Cashing in on family engagement: Using COIN during COVID. *Leader of Learners, 15*(1), pp. 3-8.
- Kohler, K. L. (2019).** Tools for talk: Scaffolding vocabulary productivity. *Early Years 40*(1), 26-28.
- Kohler, K. L. (2018).** Highlighting Texas presenters for the national conference. *Learning Disabilities Association of Texas E-Newsletter.*
- Kohler, K. L. (2018).** What to do when your child is struggling in school. *Learning Disabilities Association of Texas E-Newsletter.*
- Kohler, K. L. (2016).** *Effective Oral Language Development Strategies for Elementary Teachers.* (Doctoral Dissertation). Retrieved from ProQuest LLC.

## PRESENTATIONS

### International Refereed

- Moody, C., Piper, R., **Kohler, K.**, Conway, N., Nichols, S. & Mudge, S. (2022, June 8). *Embracing diversity and social emotional learning in the elementary classroom through the arts.* Proceeding will be presented workshop at Hawaii University International Conference.
- Webb, L., Piper, R. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2022, April 11-15). *Teachers, students, and the pandemic: How do we move forward?* Accepted to Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education 33rd International Conference.
- Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2022, January 27-30). *Culturally responsive formative assessments: The key to self-regulated learning.* Presented at the Learning Disabilities Association International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Kohler, K., & Gerzel-Short, L.** (2022, January 27-30). *Secret tips that help families engage with teachers.* Presented at the Learning Disabilities Association International Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Kohler, K. L. & Booth, G.** (2020). *How MTSS aligns with turnaround schools.* Presented to Learning Disabilities of America International Conference, Orlando, FL

### National Refereed

- Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Korver, J., Burgard, K., Stephenson, K., Jozwiak, M. M., (January 31- February 2, 2023). *Community and university partnerships designed to support campus arts integration.* [Panel presentation]. The Kennedy Center Partners in Education Annual Meeting. Washington, D. C.
- Espinoza, K., Burgard, K., Jozwiak, M. M., **Kohler, K.**, Stephenson, K., Krimbill, E. M., & Korver, J., (2023, April 13-16). *Cultivating arts integration in urban schools focusing on students' and communities' identity construction.* [Paper presentation]. The American Educational Research Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Korver, J., Stephenson, K., Burgard, K., & Jozwiak, M. M., (2023, April 13-18). *Creating and supporting an arts integrated school in a culturally, ethnically, and linguistically diverse community.* [Roundtable presentation]. The American Educational Research Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021, August 1-3). *Connecting through culturally responsive family engagement.* Association of Teacher Educators Summer Online Conference.
- Grotewold, K. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2021, April 13-16). *Open education resources OER and pre-services teachers: Introducing education majors to OER – promises and challenges.* The Association of College and Research Librarians, Virtual
- Kohler, K. L., & Castillo, R.** (2009). *Developing early literacy skills.* Presented to the National Conference of Family Literacy, San Antonio, TX

## State Refereed

- Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, Kapavik, R., \*Cruz, N., \*Castañeda, J., \*Valdez, A., & \*López, V. (2023, March 3rd). "I Needed This Space to Be Successful": First generation college students starting their own student organization [Breakout session presentation]. Teach Tomorrow Summit, Round Rock, TX.
- Kohler, K. L.** & Grotewold, K. (2021, March 11-2). *Changing the narrative with pre-Service teachers: From copyright restrictions to creative commons permissions & OER*. Open Texas 2021, Virtual
- Barrios, A. & **Kohler K.L.** (2020). *We wear the mask: Breaking down cultural barriers in the secondary classroom using multicultural literature*. Presented to Texas Association for Literacy Education conference, Odessa, TX
- Kohler, K. L.**, Barrios, A., & Gerzel-Short, L. (2020). *Engaging families virtually: A response to COVID-19 and student needs*. Presented to Texas Association for Teacher Educators, Virtual
- Kohler, K. L.** & Kapovic, R. (2019). *Finding solutions to combat food insecurity in the classroom: What are teachers to do?* Presented to Texas Association of Teacher Educators, Austin, TX
- Kohler, K. L.** & Hicks, R. (2018). *5 keys to increasing family engagement*. Presented to Texas Association of the Education of Young Children Conference, Galveston, TX
- Smith, A. & **Kohler, K. L.** (2008). *Oral language development and the impact on reading achievement for Pre-Kindergarten students in Early Reading First Grant*. Presented to Texas Speech and Hearing Association Convention, San Antonio, TX

## Invited

- Stephenson, K., Krimbill, E. M., Espinoza, K., **Kohler, K.**, & Ramirez, L. (May 15, 2023). *Community and university partnerships designed to support campus arts integration: Year one and year two*. The Kennedy Center Partners in Education Online Conference, Virtual.
- Kohler, K.**, Moody, J., & Smith, S. (March, 2023). Centering Inclusion in Curriculum. Featured Talk at the Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) Transformation Center Convening, Virtual.
- Kohler, K.**, Moody, J., & Smith, S. (March, 2023). Centering Inclusion in Curriculum. Featured Talk at the Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) Transformation Center Convening, Virtual.
- Kohler, K. L.** & Kapavik, R. (2022, October 6-7). *Preparing educators to recognize the signs of abuse and neglect*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Symposium, Virtual.
- Kohler, K. L.** & Schmitt, A. (2021, October 18). *Sitting at the meeting table: How families and schools can advocate for children with LD*. Learning Disabilities Association of America Webinar Series, Virtual
- Gerzel-Short, L. & **Kohler, K.** (2020). *Engaging Families/Caregivers in the Virtual Learning Environment*. Presented as a part of edTPA: Support for Candidates Completing the edTPA in a Virtual Learning Environment Training. Texas Education Agency and Pearson Education
- Kohler, K. L.** (2019). *Understanding oral language development*. Invited to present at Voices for Children of San Antonio Early Childhood Training, San Antonio, TX
- Kohler, K. L.** (2018). *How RTI fits into MTSS*. Presented to Learning Disabilities Association of Texas San Antonio, TX

## Local Non-Refereed

- Kohler, K. L.** (2017). *Understanding our refugee students*. Presented to Camelot Elementary School, San Antonio, TX
- Kohler, K. L., & Payne-Hall, W.** (2016). *What teachers should know about poverty*. Presented to Camelot Elementary School, San Antonio, TX
- Kohler, K. L.** (2016). *Engaging parents in education and social services they may need*. Presented to Camelot Elementary School, San Antonio, TX
- Kohler, K. L.** (2015). *All you need to know about linguistic accommodations for ELLs*. Presented to Camelot Elementary School, San Antonio, TX
- Bacigalupo, V., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2010) *What about the boys? Getting preschool boys interested in reading!* Presented to South San Antonio Independent School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, San Antonio, TX
- Kohler, K. L., & Swientek A.,** (2010). *English language learners: Best practices*. Presented at South San Antonio Independent School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, San Antonio, TX
- Bacigalupo, V., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2009). *Speech and language: Assessment and intervention*. Presented to Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Kohler, K. L.** (2009). *Oral language development strategies*. Presented at Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Kohler, K. L., Graupner, S., Swientek, A., & Bacigalupo, V.** (2009). *Implementing best vocabulary instruction and strategies*. Presented at Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Kohler, K. L., Graupner, S., Swientek, A., & Bacigalupo, V.** (2009). *Administering formal and informal literacy assessments in the pre-k classroom*. Presented at Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Kohler, K. L., & Swientek A.** (2009). *What is the early language and literacy classroom observation tool and how will we use it*. Presented at Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Kohler, K. L., Graupner, S., Swientek, A., & Bacigalupo, V.** (2008). *What is scientifically-based reading research*. Presented at Oakland Unified School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, Oakland, CA
- Castillo, R., & **Kohler, K. L.** (2007). *Implementing an in-home parent literacy program: Together we learn*. Presented at IDEA Donna, Donna, TX
- Kohler, K. L., DeCuir, S., & Swientek, A.** (2006). *What is scientifically-based reading research*. Presented to South San Antonio Independent School District Pre-Kindergarten Professional Development, San Antonio, TX

\*Denotes student

## GRANTS

- Burgard, K., PI; Krimbill, E., Espinoza, K., Jozwiak, M. M., Stephenson, K., Korver, J., & **Kohler, K. L.**, Co-PIs; Janysek, M., Program Evaluator. (2021). CULTIVAR: Communities uplifting learners through imagination and vibrant artistic reflections. Assistance for Arts Education Program (AAE). *Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. U. S. Department of Education Grant*. Grand total award amount: \$3,346, 265.00 Funded, September 28, 2021.
- Co-Principal Investigators – Grotewold, K., **Kohler, K. L.**, Martinez, T., & Kulka, L. (2020). Teachers as content and knowledge creators: Understanding tools such as creative commons, open educational resources, and fair use to demonstrate critical thinking and ethical technology use. Proposal award through Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity. (Funding requested \$6,000.00).

**Funding awarded: \$6,000.00.**

- Co-Principal Investigators –Hodge, M., Barrington, K, Streger, M., **Kohler, K. L.,** & DeCuir, S. (2009). Systematic, targeted, and appropriate, reading strategies. Proposal as a sub-award of U.S. Department of Education Early Reading First initiative through South San Antonio Independent School District. (Funding requested \$4,500,000.00). **Funding awarded: \$4,500,000.00.**
- Co-Principal Investigators –Rodezno, L., Barrington, K, Streger, M., **Kohler, K. L.,** & DeCuir, S. (2008). Ready to read, preparing to lead. Proposal as a sub-award of U.S. Department of Education Early Reading First initiative through Oakland Unified School District. (Funding requested \$4,500,000.00). **Funding awarded: \$3,967,979.**
- Co-Principal Investigators –Hodge, M., Barrington, K, Streger, M., **Kohler, K. L.,** & DeCuir, S. (2006). Ready to read, preparing to lead. Proposal as a sub-award of U.S. Department of Education Early Reading First initiative through South San Antonio Independent School District. (Funding requested \$4,500,000.00). **Funding awarded: \$4,500,000.00.**
- Co-Principal Investigators – Hodge, M., Barrington, K, Streger, M., **Kohler, K. L.,** & DeCuir, S. (2005). Ready to read. Proposal as a sub-award of U.S. Department of Education Early Reading First initiative through South San Antonio Independent School District. (Funding requested \$4,500,000.00). **Funding awarded: \$4,500,000.00.**

**SERVICE**

**Texas A&M University-San Antonio**

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Fall 2022 – Present       | Co-Sponsor – Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE)  |
| Fall 2022                 | Faculty Handbook Committee – Faculty Senate  |
| Summer 2022               | Lecturer Search Committee – Department of Curriculum & Instruction                                     |
| Summer 2022               | Reading Lecturer Search Committee – Department of Curriculum & Instruction                             |
| Summer 2021 – Spring 2022 | Core Team Member for Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity – College of Education & Human Development |
| Summer 2022 – Spring 2023 | Parliamentarian Executive Committee Faculty Senate   |
| Spring 2022               | Faculty Compensation Review Committee  |
| Spring 2022               | Policy and Procedures Committee - College of Education & Human Development                             |
| Spring 2022               | Distinguished Faculty Performance Award Committee  |
| Summer 2021 – Present     | Faculty Senator  |
| Fall 2020 – Present       | Assessment Committee – College of Education & Human Development  |
| Fall 2020 – Present       | Faculty Mentor, Department of Curriculum & Instruction   |
| Summer 2020               | Online Instruction Faculty Handbook Committee (Lead) – College of Education and Human Development      |
| Summer 2020               | Curriculum Committee – Department of Curriculum & Instruction  |
| Summer 2020 – Fall 2021   | Common Experience Committee  |
| Spring 2020 – Present     | Co-Advisor Kappa Delta Pi  |
| Spring 2020 – 2022        | edTPA Committee Member – College of Education & Human Development                                      |
| Spring 2020               | New Student Orientation – College of Education & Human Development                                     |
| Spring 2020               | edTPA Director Search Committee – College of Education & Human Development                             |
| Spring 2020               | Facilitator for faculty focus groups – College of Education & Human Development                        |
| Spring 2020 (April)       | TEExES Exam Prep: EC-6: ELAR   |
| Fall 2019                 | Lecturer Search Committee – Department of Curriculum & Instruction                                     |

**Education Community**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2022 – Present | Trustee-at-Large – Celebrate Dyslexia                  |
| 2021 – Present | President – Learning Disabilities Association of Texas |

2018 – 2021 Board Member - Learning Disabilities Association of Texas  
2021 – Present Board Member – KIPP San Antonio  
2020 – 2022 Reviewer – *IGI Global*  
2019 – 2021 Campus Improvement Committee – Olmos Elementary School, North  
East Independent School District  
2016 – Present Advocate - Assist families in understanding their children’s IEPs

**Community**

2018 – 2021 Volunteer - Jaxon’s Frog Foundation  
2017 – 2019 Manager - Deerfield Dragons Summer Swim Team  
2013 - 2015 Encourager - Camp to Success  
2012 – 2017 Volunteer – RackSpace

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Education Research Association Texas Association for Teacher Educators International  
Literacy Association  
Texas Association of Literacy Educators  
Learning Disabilities Association of America  
Learning Disabilities Association of Texas  
Kappa Delta Pi

**SCHOLARLY INTERESTS**

Family Engagement  
Tiered Instructional Supports  
Literacy  
Dyslexia  
Teacher Preparation