



CONVENTION NEWSLETTER

Howdy Southwestern Union Educators! In just a few short days, we will gather together for a time of learning, encouragement, fellowship, and spiritual renewal as we celebrate our shared mission of Adventist education. As your arrival draws near, we wanted to provide this newsletter to highlight important information, exciting events, and helpful reminders so you can make the most of your convention experience. We are looking forward to spending this special time with each of you and pray that these few days together will inspire, equip, and encourage you for another year of faithfully serving our students and sharing Jesus through education.

Convention Registration is Monday, 2-5:00 pm in the convention center foyer. Each teacher will need to check in at the hotel and also at your conference booth. Be sure to get your name tag and wristbands for your family. The nametag or a green wristband is needed for the two lunches served on Tuesday and Wednesday. We're asking other family members to wear a yellow wristband for security. At this time you can check out our sponsor and exhibitor booths.

We are grateful to **Southwestern Adventist University**, our partners in education in the Southwestern Union, for sponsoring our **opening reception** on Monday evening, 5-6:00 pm in the convention center foyer. All teachers and family are invited! Alumni, come wearing your SWAU gear for a ticket for special prizes!

Visit the **Victory Vault** to be the best-dressed teacher this year. You'll need to sign up at the Adventist Community Service booth for a voucher to select a new outfit of professional clothing. *The Victory Vault is located in the **Hamilton** room.*

Welcome to **Creation Station**! Ready to bring your classroom visions to life? Step into our **DIY Teacher Creation Station** and gear up for an amazing school year!

- **Make it Pop:** Use our Cricut for stunning bulletin boards, learning centers, wall decals, student folders, and manipulatives.
- **Protect & Perfect:** Lock in your hard work with our heavy-duty laminator.
- **Gear Up:** Use our heat press for custom designs on t-shirts, canvas bags, and totes (bring your own shirts and totes). **Rockhill**

Hours:

Tuesday, 5 - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 2 - 5:00 PM

Bring your ideas and let's make some magic!

Table Talks — **Meet, Eat, and Connect** — During lunch, attendees are invited to participate in "Table Talks" by selecting a table based on a topic of interest. These facilitated conversations provide an opportunity to network, share ideas, and learn from colleagues across the field. **Frisco 8 & 9**





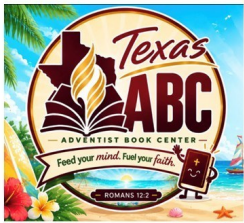
TUESDAY TABLE TALKS

Social Emotional Learning – Elementary – Sabrina Samuel
REACH – Caroline Shockey
Starting an Agriculture Program – Ruth Elizalde
Early Childhood Program – Rosy Arizaga
Preparing a School Worth Accrediting – Mike Furr and Renee Whiting
Helping New Teachers Thrive – Levi Whitcomb and Robyn Grimsley
Running an Effective PLC – Bonny Baldrige
Elementary PE – Ellen Thomas and Dianna Martinsen
Secondary Classroom Management – Lawanna McCoy
Making Secondary Math Exciting – Larry Seery

WEDNESDAY TABLE TALKS

Academy Principals	Registrars
Elementary Principals	Vice Principals
Extension School Principals	One-teacher schools
PE/Athletic Directors	Multi-grade teachers
Treasurers	Dual-grade teachers

SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS



Adventist Retirement





CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, August 3

2:00-5:00 pm – CONVENTION REGISTRATION

5:00-6:00 pm – RECEPTION

7:00 pm – GENERAL SESSION I

Concert

Speaker  Ruth Horton, NAD VP of Education

Tuesday, August 4

8:30 am – MORNING DEVOTIONAL I

Host  Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

Speaker  Cedric Belcher

9:30 am – GENERAL SESSION II

Speaker  Mario Acosta

LUNCH–Meet, Eat, and Connect

2:00 pm – GENERAL SESSION III

Host  Oklahoma Conference

Speaker  John Almarode

3:05-4:00 pm – BREAKOUT SESSIONS I

4:05-5:00 pm – BREAKOUT SESSIONS II

Wednesday, August 5

8:30-9:30 am – MORNING DEVOTIONAL II

Host  Southwest Region Conference

Speaker  Cedric Belcher

9:30 am – GENERAL SESSION IV

Speaker  Robyn Jackson

10:45-12:00 pm – BREAKOUT SESSIONS III

LUNCH–Meet, Eat, and Connect

7:00 pm – GENERAL SESSION V

Host  Texas Conference

Speaker  Stephen Mackey

EDtalks teaching worth sharing

Thursday, August 6

8:30 am – MORNING DEVOTIONAL III

Host  Texico Conference

Speaker  Cedric Belcher

9:45 am – GENERAL SESSION VI

Speaker  Ingrid Slikkers

10:45-12:00 pm – CONSECRATION SERVICE

Speaker  Elton DeMoraes

Our convention hotel is Embassy Suites at 7600 John Q. Hammons Dr. in Frisco, TX. Our overflow hotel is the **Drury Hotel** located at 2880 Dallas Parkway in Frisco.

Every room is a suite and **breakfast is included for everyone in the room.** Two lunches will be provided for teachers attending the convention and for family members, if you ordered meals for them.

Parking is covered by the Union.

Hotel check-in is 4:00 pm and checkout is 11:00 am. There will be a luggage storage area on the morning of our last day. For any last-minute changes to rooms, please contact your conference office of education. You will need to provide a credit card to the hotel at check-in for additional charges.

[Frisco](#) is a city that has a lot to do. You can check out events that week and places to go at www.visitfrisco.com/things-to-do.



CEU Reporting — You can report 20 clock hours of certification renewal credit for attending the 2026 Educators' Convention. Please use Adventist Learning Community to report hours. Login and go to My CEU Requests. Look for the pre-approved activity list.



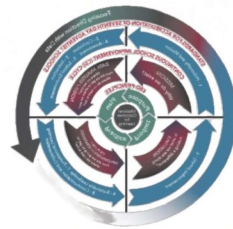
Stories
Climate
Values and Beliefs
Heroes

Mission
Rituals
Symbols
Ceremonies of Celebration

Network
Language
Norms
Vision

School Culture

by Design



**Southwestern Union Conference
2026 EDUCATORS' CONVENTION**

**August 3-6, 2026
Embassy Suites • Frisco, Texas**

Breakouts



Consecration



EDtalks

Family Activities



Sports



**STEPHEN
MACKEY**



**INGRID
SLIKKERS**



**ROBYN
JACKSON**



**MARIO
ACOSTA**



**JOHN
ALMARODE**



**ELTON
DEMORAES**



EDUCATION | SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH | SOUTHWESTERN UNION