

## Tanya Larkin

Tanya Latham Larkin started her career in education in 1994 after graduating from West Texas A&M University. She returned to her High School alma mater in Shamrock, Texas where she began teaching speech communication, theater arts, and English Language Arts to junior high and high school students. During this time, she also completed a Masters in Communications from WTAMU. While in Shamrock, she developed a very successful Theater Arts and Speech/Debate program that led to many district, regional, and state level student champions.

Mrs. Larkin moved to Pampa in 1998 and began teaching at Pampa High School and later served at-risk students at the Pampa Learning Center. After completing her Masters in Administration at WTAMU, she began serving PISD as the Elementary Curriculum Coordinator and Federal Programs Director. While working at the central office, Mrs. Larkin managed multiple grants and led instructional initiatives including intense work in early literacy and curriculum alignment.

In 2002, Larkin accepted the challenge of serving as the Principal at Wilson Elementary School in Pampa, Texas. For three years, she worked with students, parents, and staff to increase student achievement and developed a unique student-centered enrichment opportunity known as "Power Hour". During her leadership, Wilson Elementary implemented successful Professional Learning Communities and left the ranks of schools in improvement and became a campus to watch in the region.

In 2008, Mrs. Larkin was named Principal at Pampa High School. While serving at PHS, Larkin was accepted to the Harvard University Graduate School, Principals Center in Massachusetts where she worked alongside other educational leaders from all over the world to focus on research in educational and instructional best practice. Larkin also developed a partnership with the Schlechty Center for Engagement where she trained Principals from all over the state of Texas on effective education systems and leadership skills. During her time at PHS, Mrs. Larkin worked closely with Clarendon College Pampa Center and developed the Associates Degree pathway for high school students. In 2010, Pampa High School had the first graduates to have their Associates Degree *before* they walked the stage for their high school diploma. Under her leadership, Pampa High School successfully navigated through a transition from TAKS to STAAR that resulted in student performances above the state average not only on EOC assessments, but also in ACT/SAT results and graduation rates—all the while amidst a multi-million dollar reconstruction effort.

In 2013, Larkin was asked to serve Pampa ISD as the Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction where she secured a partnership with WTAMU Department of Education to bring high-quality learning opportunities for the teachers in Pampa ISD schools. This partnership has been instrumental in bringing about effective early literacy instruction in the K-2 classrooms in Pampa. Mrs. Larkin then became the Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction where she continued to work with staff, students, and community members to develop the HB5 Community Engagement system along with building systems to guide the district's transition into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a massive launch of technology devices K-12.

Mrs. Larkin was named the Superintendent of Schools in November, 2015. Since that time, she has worked with teachers, administrators, students, board members, and the community to set a course for success for the Pampa ISD.

Tanya and her husband, Dustin, have lived in Pampa for many years. Mrs. Larkin is a member of the local chapter of Lions Club. Their children Brody and Sydney attend Pampa schools. They are involved in athletics, fine arts, and academics as well. The family attends Central Baptist Church in Pampa.