



**Texarkana**  
Independent School District

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# MEDIA RELEASE

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**T-STEM NETWORK CHOOSES TISD STEM TEACHER  
AS TEACHER OF THE YEAR**



**Texarkana, TX** – The Texas Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (T-STEM) Initiative has selected Nicole Ayers, Texas High School teacher, as one of 111 teachers in Texas chosen for the T-STEM Network Teachers of the Year.

Ayers is an Algebra 2 Pre-AP STEM teacher with the Ross Perot STEM Academy at Texas High School. She has been part of the Tiger Family for two years. Ayers holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Purdue University. Additionally, she has a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University – Texarkana. Prior to moving into the teaching field, she was a Production Engineer with Dow Chemical Company in Plaquemine, LA.

“STEM is a way of thinking and a way of problem solving,” shared Ayers. “As a teacher, it is my job to take STEM content and make it more real-world applicable in order for students to see the connections to what we are learning in school and how it applies in the real world.”

The T-STEM Initiative provides a foundational approach to empower teachers, inspire students, and advance the studies in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The public-private initiative of academies, professional development centers and networks is designed to improve instruction and academic performance in science and mathematics-related subjects at secondary schools.

Texas is home to 121 T-STEM Schools, including 97 T-STEM Academies and 24 blended Early College High School/T-STEM Academies serving more than 84,000 students across the state.

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