

2017 Washington State ASCD

Outstanding Young Educator Award Recipient

Alissa Farias is a National Board Certified teacher who earned her Bachelor's of Psychology at Pacific Lutheran University with minors in Spanish and English. She then went on to earn her Master's of Counseling of Psychology at Northwest University while also completing her teacher certificate through the alternatives routes program at Pacific Lutheran University and while teaching full time as an emergency teacher. Before earning her Bachelor's, she also attended a Discipleship Training School for YWAM in Chiloe, Chile where she learned Spanish through immersion and attended a TESOL program in Peru to earn credits for her ELL endorsement.

Her many accomplishments include:

- Spanish teacher at Lincoln High School for almost a decade
- District Teacher Lead for World Languages
- Board member for WAFLT and president elect
- President of AATSP Juan de Fuca and member for ACTFL
- Mentor teacher for her district through the OSPI BEST grant
- Impacted student achievement through her work in transitioning world language classrooms from traditional (what students know about language) to performance based (what student can do with the language)
- Uses innovative and creative ways to support high-quality teaching and learning
- Engaged at the state level, such as providing feedback on OSPI Career and College Goals for World Language
- Prepares and supports new educators through having student teachers and working as a mentor for her district.

Alissa advocates for improvement in the profession and acts on current issues, she is consistently seeking opportunities to engage in professional growth. Alissa keeps her eyes on the future as she actively encourages her students to consider the education field as a career option by inviting college students who are majoring in Spanish to share their stories. She exemplifies exceptional teaching and leadership. We are pleased to be able to recognize Ms. Farias' many contributions to education by presenting her with the Outstanding Young Educator Award.

Alissa Farias, MA, NBCT | Spanish Teacher | Lincoln High School

AFarias@Tacoma.K12.WA.US | [@LaProfeFarias](https://www.instagram.com/LaProfeFarias) | <http://laprofefarias.wix.com/inspire>



{Alissa & her daughter sporting her school mascot before a football game}