

August 25, 2019

To the incredible coaches of Region 4,

In the words of former first lady Betty Ford, "I don't think there's anything as wonderful in life as being able to help someone else." This is something that we all live by as educators. We are never happier than when we see that the help we have given a student has made a difference in their lives.

This organization and the coaches in it have been my friends and extended family for much of my life. I have been a part of TFA since I was a freshman in high school. As someone who is always willing to serve, I have worked with this organization in various capacities: in extemp draw and IE tab at TFA state, in tab rooms and judges' tables all throughout the city of Houston, serving on the East Texas NSDA District committee and most recently as the interim Region 4 Representative. Because of my desire to continue serving the Houston debate community, I humbly ask for you to allow me to continue to serve as your region representative.

I will be entering my 15th year in education, and it will be my first year away from what has been my home for my entire career. I served in Klein ISD for my entire career, first at a middle school and then at my own alma mater for 12 years. I was exposed to service to TFA from Hall of Fame coaches who were essential to my growth as a debater and as a coach. Those coaches established my love for this community and my desire to be of service to the people in it. My new job in Cy Fair ISD is quite literally to be of service to coaches. I work with coaches who focus on interp, debate, public speaking, and I have to make sure that I make decisions that are good for *all students*. Although this new position means I won't be working with one specific team, it does mean that I will have a wider perspective in terms of what affects all students. As a member of the EC, I will continue to do what is best for all students and all programs. Furthermore, I have always and will always be willing to have conversations with people about their concerns. I will always be willing to talk about the issues that concern you and try to come up with reasonable and workable solutions.

I am more committed than ever to ensuring that every student has access to the most transformative activity in which they can participate. I will always be an advocate for Speech and Debate. Whether the school be public or private, big or small, I will continue to make decisions that are to help all students. We face a litany of serious issues, and we need servant leaders who are dedicated to bringing our community together. I believe that I can do that.

It would be my honor to continue to serve Region 4 as the Region Representative. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Hennessey
Cypress Fairbanks ISD
Humanities Curriculum Coach
TFA Region 4 Representative
East Texas District Committee Member