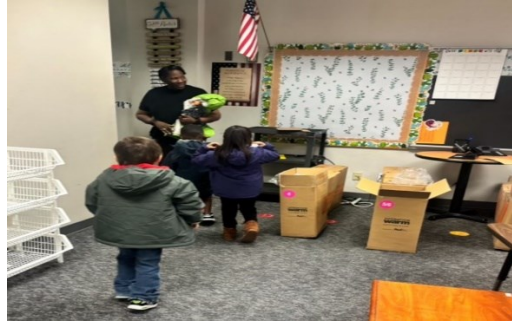


## CREATIVE ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



Although not shown because I took the picture, I assisted in distributing coats for children donated to the school. Crowley ISD, February 28, 2024.

**B. Service to and Evidence of Involvement in the Community:** Describe the amount and type of your involvement in professionally related community service activities. Include the date, type of service, and location of these activities.

Participating in community service is not just a selfless act; it is an enriching experience that fosters valuable relationships with local businesses and organizations. As a former school administrator and now a higher education professor, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact that community involvement can have on both personal growth and societal betterment.

Engaging in community service allows individuals and organizations to connect deeply with their surroundings, building bridges that lead to collaborative initiatives and mutual support. For instance, volunteering to distribute coats at an elementary campus in Crowley ISD provided me with the opportunity to interact with children in need, while also strengthening ties with the school. Such interactions are essential, as they cultivate a sense of trust and reliability that can lead to future partnerships. I enjoyed my time at the campus.

Moreover, my experience purchasing toys and gifts for a nursing home facility through our Sorority exemplifies how community service creates bonds among diverse groups. This project not only enriched the lives of the elderly residents but also unified our Sorority members and

local businesses who contributed. The act of coming together for a common cause builds camaraderie and encourages ongoing collaboration that benefits the entire community.

In addition to these efforts, our Sorority's provision of pencils for East Texas classroom teachers highlights the critical importance of supporting educational initiatives. By reinforcing our commitment to local educators, we create a network of support that enhances the learning environment for students. Documenting these experiences is vital, as it allows us to reflect on our journey and recognize the multitude of ways we've impacted the community over the past seven years.

As I continue my efforts in community service, I realize the importance of keeping track of my involvement. Each project offers a unique learning opportunity and serves as a testament to the connections we forge with businesses and organizations. Through collective action, we not only uplift those in need but also strengthen the fabric of our community, creating a collaborative atmosphere where everyone can thrive.



Our Sorority is committed to the community. YES – Youth, Education, Service!

In summary, participating in community service is a rewarding endeavor that deepens relationships with businesses and organizations. It opens doors for collaboration, enhances personal growth, and fosters a spirit of unity within the community. My commitment to documenting these experiences will ensure that I can share the significance of our collective contributions and inspire others to engage in meaningful service.

<b>Year Service Performed</b>	<b>Involvement in the Community – Professionally Related Community Service Activities</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<b>2024</b>	Volunteer for Jackie Carden Elementary, Crowley ISD Guest Speaker for Community Cemetery Clean-up, Whitehouse (Church) NSPDK, Inc. Epsilon Beta Toy Drive for North Tyler Day Care NSPDK, Inc. Epsilon Beta Christmas Stockings for North Tyler, Glenwood Nursing Facility Officer: Dean of Pledges	February 28, 2024 Crowley ISD August 2024, Whitehouse, Texas  December 23, 2024, Tyler, Texas  December 23, 2024, Tyler, Texas
<b>2023</b>	NSPDK, Inc. Sorority Pencil Drive for East Texas Classroom Teachers Officer: Krinon Chair	September 2023, Tyler, Texas
<b>2022</b>	NSPDK, Inc. Sorority Service Projects: Dec. 2022 Daycare and Nursing Facility Gifts Reading NSPDK, Inc. Sorority Officers: Publications Officer of Epsilon Beta, Tyler Chapter NSPDK, Inc. Southwest Regional Office: Krinon/Journal Chair	December 19, 2022, Tyler, Texas December 19, 2022, Tyler, Texas

### **CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

**C. Creative Activity:** Describe creative activities engaged in during the period of this report but not published. Give specific details for activity in creative fields, i.e., dates and locations of juried art shows, music recitals, concerts, etc.

Throughout the course of leadership and the professoriate, there are creative activities that are not published or measured by the intelligence ratings used within institutional settings (Greenleaf, 1977). Intuition, awareness, perception, and the ability to conceptualize are great

traits to possess as leaders; but one must also be able to arouse the spirit within those around them to engage and participate in meaningful activities that awaken and enlighten motivation. I am a spiritual-servant leader who works tirelessly as a transformational leader. Continually, I grow spiritually (Ross, 2023) and understand that spirituality is centered in our work (Dillard, 2006).

The creative activities attached are visuals of those opportunities for transformation in the lives of those around me, although the activities may not be accepted in some university settings. I exercise in self-care, one of my research topics, and can discuss such applications when conversations are centered around the issue.

The first link depicting my evidence of creativity is to my Monday Night recording page in which I am now charged with leading a live Facebook church message entitled, In Case You Missed It. The teaching begins at 7pm and usually ends around 45 minutes later. The lesson content is from our Sunday class and is presented in case viewers miss their Sunday School lesson.

### **ONE VIDEO OF “IN CASE YOU MISSED IT”**

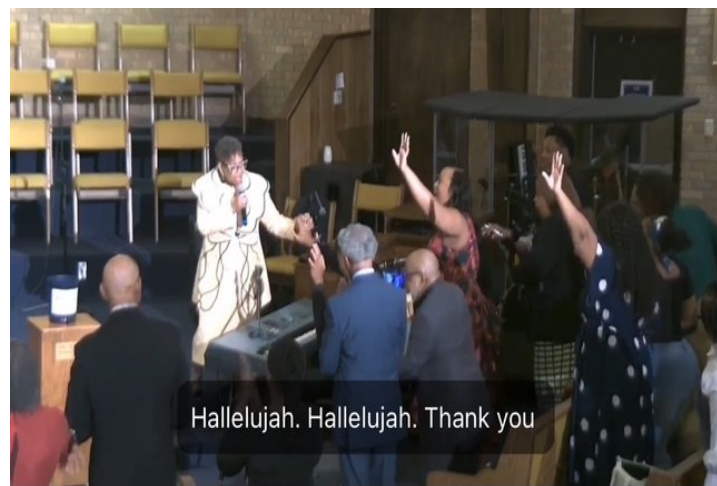
[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\\_www.canva.com\\_design\\_DAGC5cT833E\\_hRpQ-5FQ3FHCP3oNJ6Qb46sA\\_watch-3Futm-5Fcontent-3DDAGC5cT833E-26utm-5Fcampaign-3Ddesignshare-26utm-5Fmedium-3Dlink2-26utm-5Fsource-3Duniquelinks-26utlId-3Dha2da02dc28&d=DwIFAg&c=oqyuZuih6ykib6aKiBq22\\_bich4AVfYGoLertJN0bEc&r=KUEPqI5Ve0ZKkVgKEsIXltiQN3N2UQObUowQ-lxW6zs&m=jbW8bSjv9MM8T0zkOeviJzLM5SjrnMup2shGZVFIDlcpIGHcZidX9Gx7KaX9Gb5c&s=uuBUL\\_H5FcfF24VViv3LC-tn0Cu1wKIMh1NPAVQW6iw&e=](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_www.canva.com_design_DAGC5cT833E_hRpQ-5FQ3FHCP3oNJ6Qb46sA_watch-3Futm-5Fcontent-3DDAGC5cT833E-26utm-5Fcampaign-3Ddesignshare-26utm-5Fmedium-3Dlink2-26utm-5Fsource-3Duniquelinks-26utlId-3Dha2da02dc28&d=DwIFAg&c=oqyuZuih6ykib6aKiBq22_bich4AVfYGoLertJN0bEc&r=KUEPqI5Ve0ZKkVgKEsIXltiQN3N2UQObUowQ-lxW6zs&m=jbW8bSjv9MM8T0zkOeviJzLM5SjrnMup2shGZVFIDlcpIGHcZidX9Gx7KaX9Gb5c&s=uuBUL_H5FcfF24VViv3LC-tn0Cu1wKIMh1NPAVQW6iw&e=)

The second indicator of evidence includes pictures showing me as the Sunday speaker for the morning sermon because I am a minister called to inspire others through the Word of God. At

church, we work to spiritually *transform lives*. Conclusively, at ETAMU, I am proud to apply our mission which states we work to *transform lives*, so students excel and soar globally in their workplaces transforming schools, organizations, businesses, and the world around them.

Working in the vineyard, whether at home, church, or in a career setting, it is essential that strong and courageous visionaries can bring their true self identity into the space for the purpose of growing, nurturing, cultivating, building, and transforming. I have learned to look inside each student and colleague and plant a seed that I, or someone else can water. Capacity building...to transform lives.

## PICTURES FROM SUNDAY MORNING SERMON



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

**D. Evidence of Other Scholarly and Creative Activities:** Describe the amount and type of scholarship in professional activities, e.g., speeches (including papers presented), critical discussants, workshop presentations, and media appearances. Include the date, subject, and location of these activities.

In today's fast-paced academic environment, finding the balance between scholarship, professional activities, and community service can be quite challenging. As an educator deeply

involved in promoting women in education, I have dedicated significant time to various initiatives that not only enhance my professional growth but also contribute positively to my community and the broader educational landscape.

My journey began with participation in critical conversation webinars hosted by the Research on Women and Education organization. These platforms allow for meaningful discussions about the challenges and successes faced by women in educational leadership, providing a space for everyone to share their insights and experiences. Additionally, being a guest speaker at the TASA Midwinter Conference in Austin, Texas, enabled me to engage directly with fellow educators and administrators, sharing innovative strategies for fostering inclusive educational environments.



RWE Houston, 2022



RWE Las Vegas, 2024

The opportunity to present papers at summer writing workshops and specialized conferences for principals and assistant principals further enriched my professional repertoire. These gatherings often spotlight issues relevant to Texas women in higher education, allowing for dialogue and collaboration among attendees. One highlight was the Texas Council of Women School Executives Spring Conference, where I shared my insights on leadership and empowerment in educational settings.



TCWSE



TWHE



TWHE

Moreover, I proudly led a fireside chat titled "Women in the Superintendency," where I moderated a discussion featuring Dr. Latonya Goffney, a prominent superintendent in Texas. This event not only underscored the achievements of women in leadership roles but also sparked critical conversations about the pathways available for aspiring female superintendents.



My commitment to scholarship is evident through my active participation in the annual AERA conference in 2023. As a discussant for over 15 papers, I contributed to critical dialogues around education research and its implications for practice, emphasizing the importance of data-driven decision-making in educational policy and leadership. I learned quite a lot in being a first-time discussant for such a huge assignment and was quite overwhelmed, but the process afforded me an invaluable experience.

Additionally, my recent media appearance highlighting my appointment to the TCPEA executive board reflects my dedication to advancing educational standards and advocating for equitable practices within our school systems. This role has provided me with a platform to influence educational policy and foster collaborative efforts among professionals in the field. A hyperlink describing my appointment is attached at the end of this section.

Looking ahead, I am currently developing a presentation in collaboration with a colleague from out of state. This project aims to tackle pressing issues within our educational frameworks and offers a unique perspective that I believe will resonate with our peers.



In conclusion, while the demands of these scholarly and professional activities require careful time management and prioritization, the rewards of contributing to my community and advocating for women in education are immeasurable. Each experience not only fuels my passion for educational leadership but also reinforces my commitment to creating inclusive spaces for all members of the educational community. As I continue this journey, I remain eager to embrace new opportunities for growth and collaboration.

**Ross, S.** Spring 2025. Bringing voice without being void. Virtual Presentation. Research on Women and Education (RWE) Critical Conversations Webinar. Virtual.

French, C., Brown, K., James, K., Martinez, B., Perkins, G., **Ross, S.**, Sorensen, M. (2025, January 27) Women in transformational leadership: Empowering voices, navigating challenges, and inspiring change. TASA Midwinter, Austin, Tx.

Washington, K., Brown, K., Taylor, J., & **Ross, S.** (2024, July 29-31) Examining women in educational leadership and work satisfaction through a racial lens. Paper Presentation. 2024 ICPEL San Antonio Conference.

**Ross, S.**, & Cooper, J.M. (2004, June 20-21). The making of writing circles. 2024 TCPEA Summer writing workshop. Virtual.

**Ross, S.**, & Connor, A. (2004, June 12-14). Putting the “coach” in collaborative commitment. 2024 TASSP Summer Conference. Austin, Tx.

**Ross, S.** (2024, April 24). The power of balance, being the best. Region 7 & 8 Spring Convening of Texas Council of Women School Executives. Mt. Pleasant, Texas Region Service Center.

**Ross, S.**, Williams, S., Vaughn, G., Singh, M., Cerling, K. (2024, April 7-9). First time attendees' welcome session: I'm here, now what? Texas women in higher education. 2024 Annual conference, Corpus Christi, Tx.

**Ross, S.**, Walker, V., & Conner, A., (2024, January 27). Discover the powerful trio: Grit, grace, and culturally relevant leadership. TCWSE 2024 Annual conference. Austin, Tx.

Washington, K., Brown, K., Brown, J., & **Ross, S.** (2024, January 27). A statistical

analysis: Examining women in educational leadership and work satisfaction through a racial lens during critical times. Texas Council of Women School Executives, 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Austin, Tx.

**Ross, S.** Moderator. (2023, December 7). Fireside chat: Women in the superintendency. AERA Superintendent SIG. Virtual.

Williams, P., & **Ross, S.** (2023, December 6). Managing relationships in transition. Dallas LEAD Mini-Intensives, TAMUC. Dallas, Tx.

Washington, K., **Ross, S.**, Taylor, J., & Brown, K. (2023, October 11-13). A statistical analysis: Examining women in educational leadership and work satisfaction through a racial lens during critical times. [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association Research on Women SIG, 50<sup>th</sup> Annual RWE Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Ross, S.** (2023 October 5-7). Undercover prophet: Retrospective reflections on servant leadership and spirituality. International Society for Educational Biography (I.S.E.B.) 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Oklahoma.

Washington, K., Brown, K., Taylor, J.L. & **Ross, S.** (2023, April 14). During critical times: The perceptions of women in educational leadership and work satisfaction [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. <https://aera23aera.ipostersessions.com/?s=2A8C-90-4D-82-2B-15-C7-1C-Be-13-D2-C1-80-39-0B> Chicago, Illinois.

Washington, K., Brown, K., Taylor, J.L. & **Ross, S.** (2023, January 27). During critical times: The perceptions of women in educational leadership and work satisfaction. Texas Council of Women School Executives Annual Conference. Austin, Tx.

Washington, K., Brown, K., Taylor, J., & **Ross, S.** (2022, December 1-3). “The Perceptions of Women in Educational Leadership and Work Satisfaction Re-Imagined During Critical Times” 47<sup>th</sup> Annual RWE Fall Conference. Houston, Tx.

**Ross, S.**, Pruitt, S., Atchley, S., October 2022. “Matters of the Heart: Supporting from the Office to the Classroom,” CSOTTE Annual Conference. San Marcos, Tx.

### **Role as Critical Discussant - AERA 2023**

Ross, S. Friday, April 14, 2023 Discussant: Paper Session 2: Trust, Mindset, Response, and Equity (5 Presenters)

Sunday, April 16, 2023 Discussant: Roundtable 17 The Lived Experience of Leaders Engaged in School Improvement in Event

Sunday, April 16, 2023 Discussant: Paper Session: Baltic Inclusion and Culture in Faculty Teaching, Evaluation, and Development

### **Presentation in Progress**

Salazar-Montoya, L., **Ross, S.**, & Delgado, G.

Beyond Performative Allyship: Building Authentic Partnerships for Equity and Justice in Education

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:53f0ed42-0d30-40b0-8199-6578ba62720f>

### **Media Appearance**

**December 6, 2024 ETAMU Website**

[East Texas A&M Professor Joins Educational Administration Group's Executive Board | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU](#)

