

# Educator Offers Free Conference to Combat Teacher Shortage Crisis

*Austin Educator Gives Away \$20,000 Worth of Professional Development to Combat Record-High Teacher Burnout and Declining Student Performance*

AUSTIN, TX, UNITED STATES, May 30, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As Texas grapples with a staggering teacher shortage of over 32,000 positions and student achievement scores continue their post-pandemic decline, one former Title I instructional coach is taking unprecedented action. Olivia Odileke is investing her own resources to launch the [Spark Curiosity EDU Conference](#) on June 19-20, 2025, offering 40 completely free registrations valued at over \$20,000 to Texas teachers who need support most.



Spark Curiosity EDU Conference Logo

The timing couldn't be more critical. Recent data from the Texas Education Agency shows that teacher turnover has reached alarming heights, with nearly one in four educators leaving the profession within their first five years. Meanwhile, standardized test scores across the state reveal significant learning gaps that widened during remote learning periods, leaving many educators feeling defeated and disconnected from their original calling to teach.

"We're witnessing an education emergency in Texas," says Odileke, who spent years working directly with teachers in under-resourced Title I schools. "Teachers are drowning in mandates, overwhelmed by data requirements, and losing sight of why they became educators in the first place. This conference isn't just professional development—it's a lifeline for teachers who are questioning whether they can continue in this profession."

Revolutionary Approach: Curiosity Over Compliance

The Spark Curiosity EDU Conference, hosted at Austin's Central Library, represents a radical departure from traditional teacher training focused on test preparation and compliance. Instead, Odileke's program centers on curiosity-based instruction—a research-backed approach that has shown remarkable results in increasing student engagement and teacher satisfaction.

"When teachers rediscover how to spark genuine curiosity in their students, everything changes," Odileke explains. "Classroom management improves because students are engaged. Test scores naturally rise because learning becomes meaningful. And teachers remember why they fell in love with teaching in the first place."

**Addressing the Mental Health Crisis in Education**  
Beyond academic strategies, the conference tackles the mental health crisis plaguing Texas educators. Recent surveys indicate that 76% of teachers report chronic stress, with many citing lack of support and resources as primary factors in their consideration to leave the profession.

"This isn't about adding more to teachers' plates," emphasizes Odileke. "It's about fundamentally shifting how we approach teaching so that it becomes sustainable and joyful again. When teachers are empowered and inspired, students thrive."

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*Olivia Odileke, Founder of  
Kampus Insights*

**Strategic Partnership and Resources Provided**  
Through a partnership with the [American College of Education](#), all conference participants will earn official microcredentials—digital badges that demonstrate mastery of curiosity-based teaching methods. These credentials provide tangible evidence of professional growth that teachers can showcase to administrators and use for career advancement.

Every attendee will receive a complimentary copy of Odileke's newly released book, *Unleashing Curiosity: Empowering Fearless Educators to Engage and Inspire*. The resource includes five research-based strategies for integrating curiosity into any subject area, lesson plan templates adaptable for grades K-12, and a collection of twelve original motivational songs designed specifically for educators.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND THE  
**SPARK  
CURIOSITY**  
EDU CONFERENCE



Spark Curiosity EDU Conference

## Interactive Conference Format

Unlike typical education conferences that focus primarily on lecture-style presentations, the Spark Curiosity EDU Conference emphasizes hands-on learning in an interactive, single-room format. The conference includes interactive workshops where teachers practice new techniques, real classroom examples demonstrating curiosity-based learning strategies in action, collaborative learning opportunities for teachers to adapt strategies for their specific contexts, and structured networking where participants are encouraged to connect with at least three other educators for ongoing accountability and support.

"Teachers learn best when they're actively engaged, just like their students," Odileke observes. "We're creating an intimate, interactive environment where every educator can participate fully and connect meaningfully with their colleagues."

## Addressing Equity and Access

The decision to offer free registrations specifically targets equity concerns in professional development access. Many Title I schools lack budgets for teacher training, creating a disparity where educators working with the highest-need students receive the least support.

"Quality professional development shouldn't be a luxury," states Odileke. "The teachers working in our most challenging schools deserve the same level of support as those in well-funded districts. These 40 free spots are our investment in educational equity."

Priority for complimentary registrations will be given to teachers working in Title I schools, new educators in their first three years, and those serving high-need student populations through the first-come, first-served registration process.

## Beyond the Conference: Long-term Impact Vision

The Spark Curiosity EDU Conference represents the beginning of a larger movement to transform education culture in Texas. Odileke's organization, Kampus Insights, plans to expand the initiative statewide, with regional conferences.

"This is about creating a ripple effect," explains Odileke. "When we transform one teacher's practice, we impact hundreds of students. When we support 40 teachers, we're talking about thousands of students who will experience more engaging, meaningful education."

## Registration Information

The Spark Curiosity EDU Conference will take place June 19-20, 2025, at the Austin Central Library, located at 710 W Cesar Chavez St, Austin, TX 78701. Complimentary registrations are available on a first-come, first-served basis at [Eventbrite Registration Link](#). Standard registration fees will apply after the 40 free spots are filled.

## About Kampus Insights

Founded by veteran educator Olivia Odileke, Kampus Insights specializes in transforming

struggling schools through curiosity-based pedagogy. Odileke brings over 15 years of experience working directly with teachers and administrators in Title I environments, along with a track record of improving both student outcomes and teacher retention rates.

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