

## **ERIKA LOWERY**

Erika Lowery is beginning her sixth year as the Secondary Social Studies Coordinator for Denton ISD. During her 23 years in education, she has taught middle school and high school geography courses for students in ESL Sheltered, Inclusion, On- Level, Pre AP, and AP Human Geography. She was awarded the National Council for Geographic Education Distinguished Teaching Achievement award in 2013.

Her dedication to social studies extends beyond the classroom to statewide and national

leadership roles. She was president of Texas Council for the Social Studies in 2018 and past president in 2019. She is currently the president elect for the National Social Studies Supervisors Association and has previously held the office of secretary for the organization. She served as a member of the National Geographic Society's Texas Advisory Committee in 2018 - 2019. She has held other leadership and membership roles with the City of Lewisville, PTA, and Delta Kappa Gamma and was selected as a judge for the Regional Citizen Bee, a judge for the state Geography Bee, an AP Reader, and a presenter at various state and national conferences. She received her Bachelor of Science in Social Studies Education from Florida State University and a Master of Education from National Louis University.

Lowery began her dedication to the field of education in the summer of 1994, declaring her major in Social Science Education. In the fall semester of 1995, she was completing her pre student teaching at Griffin Middle School in Tallahassee and was hooked for life. The spring of 1996 she returned from her student teaching in South Florida and continued her teaching path as a substitute teacher at Leon High School. Her first teaching position was at Robinswood Middle School in Orlando teaching seventh grade Florida history and western hemisphere geography. She then moved to Osceola County Public Schools and continued teaching geography, sixth grade eastern hemisphere, spending the next four years at Parkway Middle School. During this time she married her FSU sweetheart, Chip Lowery, who also graduated FSU from the College of Education with a degree in Physical Education, and they had a beautiful baby girl, Emma. In 2002, The family moved to Texas and continued their dedication to education.