DISTRICT LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF EXTENDED CHAOS
Panel Session 4 – April 6, 2021

PANELISTS
- Dr. Jeannie Stone, Superintendent, Richardson ISD
- Dr. Jeremy Thompson, Superintendent, Ponder ISD
- Ms. Linda Ellis, Superintendent, Grand Prairie ISD
- Dr. Catherine Robert, Moderator
- Collin Yoxall & Tatiana Kurochkina, Facilitators

Welcome message from Dr. Marilee Bresciani Ludvik, Department Chair of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies: “We try to think forward to What does education look like now? What do we need to be doing differently and what do we need to be doing better?”

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

General Wins of Work in Crisis:
Collaboration – Okay to not feel Okay – Forced changes will make Education better

Perspectives on Leadership

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<th>Collaboration</th>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Developing networks of leaders</th>
<th>Not being afraid to ask questions</th>
<th>Being transparent</th>
<th>Building trust with community</th>
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Leadership is about...

Worth Repeating

DR. STONE
- “I was able to move down...with each position having just more of an impact...to support those whom I serve with students then being at the very top.”
- “The safety and lives of teachers matter equally.”

DR. THOMPSON
- “It’s about what's doing right for kids.”
- “The solution ...is good communication...I think if we don’t tell our story, then people are going to fill in their own story.”

MS. ELLIS
- In times of crises, “I don’t think your leadership changes. I do think your leadership is under magnifying glass.”
- “You’ve got to communicate it nine times nine ways.”

Diversity & Equity

DR. STONE:
Focus on a problem in your district rather than the systemic racism of the world. Take the problem apart, fix the broken piece, and put it back together.

DR. THOMPSON:
Acknowledge your own biases and ask difficult questions of those who have experienced racism to get their perspective.

MS. ELLIS:
Acknowledge racism exists and educate yourself and staff.