

## 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



#### 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.”*



#### 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.

##### 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.**”*