

Session: Third Future Schools Presenta

Task Force Chair Josue Tamarez Torres welcomed members back to the main session. He introduced Third Future Schools CEO and former Dallas ISD Superintendent, Mike Miles. Commissioner Mike Morjan joined the session to facilitate a Q&A with Mr. Miles.

Introduction and Overview

Mr. Miles shared

Q&A:

The presentation closed with questions facilitated by the Commissioner.

Task Force members asked Third Future Schools were private. Commissioner Morath clarified that Third Future Schools runs three public school campuses within traditional public school districts in Texas (Ector County ISD, Midland ISD, and Austin ISD) and that these campuses are responsible for following all the same laws as all other Texas public schools including teaching the TEKS, taking STAAR, and that they receive an A-F rating. All performance, finance, and other data for these campuses is available on txschools.gov. Commissioner Morath talked about how schools have operational flexibility under Texas law. He shared that the Third Future Schools model is unique in the way the day is structured for staff and students, the compensation model, and the approach to staffing. Commissioner Morath talked about how a different approach has been designed within the same constraints everyone else has. Mr. Miles shared you have to do systems design. He talked about complications in larger districts and talked about how they were able to design programs with existing funding such as TEI (the largest pay for performance program in the country) and the ACE program (paying teachers more to go to the highest need schools) he was superintendent in Dallas ISD.

Commissioner Morath asked about variations among the schools and what adjustments were made for smaller schools. Mr. Miles shared that the number of Learning Coaches and Apprentices vary based on size. Commissioner Morath talked about 504 ARD, and LPAC meetings along with the House Bill 4545 tutoring requirements noting that the model has embedded those Bill 4545 requirements into the schedule. Mr. Miles talked about how their students get support through daily differentiated lessons and how students get a specialized teacher for 45 minutes. Mr. Miles shared that the 504, ARD, and LPAC meetings have to happen, but they have the Learning Coaches and Apprentice teachers to step in to cover the classes to allow teachers to attend those meetings. Commissioner Morath asked if the school uses substitutes. Mr. Miles shared that due to their staffing model they do not need substitutes, and Commissioner Morath reiterated that because the model has highly trained adults ready to step in they do not need substitutes. Mr. Miles emphasized that the model allows for quality instruction to always happen.

Mr. Miles addressed additional questions from Task Force members. A Task Force member asked about benefits. Mr. Miles shared that their employees only pay \$50 a month for dental, and vision. Another Task Force member asked about athletics. Mr. Miles shared they had sports and reiterated the diverse range of elective courses offered to their students. Another Task Force member asked about technology. Mr. Miles shared a

