KILLEEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Superintendent Search Proposal for Killeen Independent School District

Thompson & Horton LLP proposes to assist the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees in conducting a state or national search for a new school executive to lead this outstanding school District. The search consultants include Mr. David Thompson and Dr. Mike Moses. Mr. Thompson is an attorney with Thompson & Horton LLP. He is a former Associate Executive Director for the Texas Association of School Boards and served as general counsel for the Texas Education Agency. His clients include many districts in the greater Houston area and across the state of Texas. Dr. Moses previously served as the Texas Commissioner of Education from 1995-1999, was Deputy Chancellor and Professor of Educational Administration for the Texas Tech University System from 1999-2000 and Superintendent of Schools for the Dallas Independent School District from 2000-2004. Dr. Moses has served as superintendent of schools in four school districts in Texas including a small, mid-size and large district.

We believe that our professional experiences and work in public education have helped us develop an outstanding network of qualified professionals who are prepared to provide exemplary service as a school executive in the Killeen Independent School District. The obvious goal of the search is to identify the most qualified school executive available to lead the District. We will work with the Board of Trustees to identify the appropriate selection criteria. Furthermore, we will not only accept credentials, but we will actively recruit outstanding individuals for the position. This proposal also speaks to interviews, identification of finalists, communication and other considerations.

As consultants who are extremely familiar with Texas school superintendents and national school leaders, we believe that we are qualified to assist the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees in securing a truly outstanding individual to lead the District.

We do not have a "predetermined" list of candidates to bring forward to the Board. This would be a search that would be conducted strictly for the benefit of the Killeen Independent School District. Our role is to serve at the pleasure of the Board and ensure that trustees do, in fact, drive the search for a new superintendent for the District.

The reputation, history and future prospects of the District are excellent. It would be our honor to participate in the search for a recognized school executive to lead the instructional process for the boys and girls in the Killeen Independent School District.

WHY THOMPSON & HORTON? "our professional experiences & work in public education have helped us develop an outstanding network of qualified professionals."

ABOUT THOMPSON & HORTON LLP

The name of the firm submitting this proposal is Thompson & Horton LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2000, Houston, TX 77027. This is the office from which the proposed search would be conducted.

The firm is unique in that Mr. Thompson is a school attorney who represents school districts and school boards. Mr. Thompson has also worked with the Texas Association of School Boards and general counsel for the Texas Education Agency. Dr. Moses is a former school superintendent in four Texas school districts and has also served as Texas Commissioner of Education.

The firm has had experience in conducting executive searches and recruiting superintendents since 1999. Since that time, the firm has assisted top school districts in Texas in their search for a new superintendent.

The firm has never worked with a district in which case a superintendent was not successfully hired.

The consultants are available and fully committed to serving the Killeen Independent School District. The consultants respectfully request that meeting times and dates be scheduled well in advance to allow trustees and the project team members to appropriately calendar.

Extensive Search & Recruitment

The consultants will actively solicit and contact qualified individuals and encourage them to apply for the position. The position will be advertised through publications and on websites of organizations such as the Texas Association of School Administrators and the American Association of School Administrators. Executive Directors of all Texas Education Service Centers will also be contacted in order to secure any nominations that they might deem appropriate.

National organizations will be contacted if desired by the Board of Trustees. Announcement of the vacancy will also be placed on the highly viewed website www.TexasISD.com for the duration of the search. Likewise, an ad may be placed on the website www.topschooljobs.org, which is a part of the online edition of "Education Week", which displays the ad to potentially 300,000 viewers per month. Respected members of the educational community, including those of higher education, will be contacted. All individuals who are nominated will be contacted and asked to consider making application.

During the entire search, the consultants will furnish reports to the Board of Trustees with regard to the status of the search. The search consultants will expect to be in periodic contact with the President of the Board of Trustees throughout the entire process.

Extensive Search & Recruitment (cont.)

The consultants will contact outstanding individuals who meet the desired profile and request that they submit their resume and credentials for consideration by the Board of Trustees. The consultants will only contact individuals who are serving successfully in their current assignments.

The firm will rely on its extensive network of trusted professionals to solicit outstanding candidates. Additionally, the firm will talk with respected educators and other school leaders with regard to nominations. References that are listed by candidates will be reviewed and contacted. In all cases, the firm will want the President of the Board of Trustees or other Board members to talk with references once a finalist has been identified. This is important in order to ensure the community that the Board has been fully engaged in the process and that members of the Board are fully satisfied with regard to the background and qualifications of the successful candidate. Members of the firm will help facilitate discussions between Board members and appropriate references for the candidates identified for interview purposes or for the finalist that may be identified.

Community Engagement

The firm began the process of working with community focus groups over twenty years ago. From the time the firm began doing superintendent searches, we have actively assisted the Board of Trustees in soliciting input from the opinion leaders and stakeholder groups in the districts we have served. We would request that each member of the Board of Trustees nominate eight or nine individuals to serve on focus groups. Ideally, each member of the Board would nominate a parent, non-parent, business person, representative of a faith-based institution, teacher, administrator, student and other community member. If each trustee nominates eight or nine individuals, a total of 56-63 persons will be involved. The firm will come to the community and work with the District staff to break these individuals into three or four groups. The principals of the firm will meet with each of these groups for approximately two hours and give a late afternoon or early evening report to the members of the Board of Trustees with regard to the comments and findings that are derived from these meetings. Additional community input will be solicited and received through the internet and shared with the board.

The consultants also will meet with other District and community leaders as requested by the Board.

This process ensures that constituents and opinion leaders have an opportunity to give input into the search for a new school superintendent. The consultants simply act as the conduit and help interpret the information back to the Board of Trustees. Members of the Board are encouraged not to attend these focus group meetings to allow honest and thoughtful communication between the consultants and the focus groups.

Candidate Review, Interviews and Selection

Following the application deadline, consultants will meet with the Board of Trustees to share the name of each individual who has expressed an interest in the position. The firm will provide a spreadsheet for the Board to review that summarizes the candidates and their credentials along with resumes for each individual who has submitted an application for the position. The firm will work with members of the Board of Trustees to review the candidates and identify those individuals who will be invited to meet with the Board of Trustees for purposes of an interview. This number usually ranges from five to seven. The firm will have vetted the candidates and talked with individuals both on the reference list and not on the reference list for each candidate.

The firm will communicate with each of the individuals identified to be interviewed and make all of the necessary arrangements for those candidates to be present at the appointed time to meet with the Board of Trustees. The firm will also present a battery of questions that the Board may use or modify in the oral questioning of candidates in the interview process.

Candidate Review, Interviews and Selection (cont.)

The firm will work with the Board to complete two rounds of interviews. The second round usually is with the top one or two candidates. Once the Board has made a decision, the firm will assist the Board with any site visits, further reference checking, background checks and contract negotiations.

Post Appointment

If for any reason the individual whom the Board of Trustees hires to become the Superintendent of Schools leaves the District within one year of assuming the position, the firm will work with the Board of Trustees to conduct another search at no charge to the District. Should the Superintendent who is selected by the Board leave the District any time in the second year of service, the firm will work with the Board of Trustees to conduct another search at one-half of the agreed upon fee, plus Incidental Charges.

The firm has never had this type of situation occur. We recognize the importance of the appropriate match and fit and we always strive to work with the Board and the successful candidate to create a lasting relationship.

FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

If the Board elects to conduct a full recruitment and search process, the proposed fee for services is \$24,000.00 plus expenses. Expenses will include consultant travel, printing expenses and advertisements. Obviously, the broader the search, the more expensive the endeavor may become. Therefore, if the Board should consider employing our services for this search, we request the opportunity to meet with the Board to discuss its intent regarding the scope of the search and related costs.

The proposed fee and reimbursable expenses will be submitted to the Board following the completion of the search. It is our desire to make sure that trustees are completely comfortable and satisfied with the selection before our fee and expenses are paid.

The approximate cost breakdown of the categories of costs that the Killeen Independent School District would include the following:

- 1.) Consultant fee \$24,000
- 2.) **Consultant expenses** \$1,500 to \$2,000 (Approximate)
- 3.) Advertising fees \$1,000 to \$3,000 (Depending on national or Texas advertising)
- 4.) Candidate travel expenses \$1,000 to \$4,000 (Depending on candidates the Board chooses to interview)



Whitehouse Independent School District

903-839-5500

Approximate Student Enrollment – 5,803 Superintendent: Dr. Casey Whittle

Lufkin Independent School District

936-634-6696

Approximate Student Enrollment – 7,300 Superintendent: Dr. James Hockenberry

Willis Independent School District

936-856-1200

Approximate Student Enrollment – 8,577 Superintendent: Dr. Kimberley James

Region 10 Education Service Center

972-348-1700

Executive Director: Dr. Jana Melsheimer

2022 - 2023

Wimberley Independent School District 512-847-2414

Approximate Student Enrollment – 2,560 Superintendent: Dr. Greg Bonewald

Northside Independent School District

210-397-8500

Approximate Student Enrollment – 102,644 Superintendent: Dr. John Craft

McKinney Independent School District

469-302-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 23,272 Superintendent: Mr. Shawn Pratt

Region 4 Education Service Center

713-462-7700

Executive Director: Dr. Rodney Watson

Kerrville Independent School District

830-257-2200

Approximate Student Enrollment - 4,777

Superintendent: Dr. Brent Ringo named finalist on

April 5, 2023

Duncanville Independent School District

972-708-2000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 12,800 Superintendent: Dr. T. Lamar Goree

Royse City Independent School District

972-636-2413

Approximate Student Enrollment – 9,391 Superintendent: Dr. Amy Anderson

Pflugerville Independent School District

512-594-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 25,000 Superintendent: Dr. Quintin Shepherd

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District

817-232-0880

Approximate Student Enrollment – 25,388 Superintendent: Dr. Jerry Hollingsworth

Sunnyvale Independent School District

972-226-5974

Approximate Student Enrollment - 2,020 Superintendent: Dr. Mike Kimball selected and currently serving

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

281-897-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 118,592 Superintendent: Dr. Doug Killian hired

San Angelo Independent School District

325-947-3700

Approximate Student Enrollment – 14,500 Superintendent: Dr. Chris Moran hired

Montgomery Independent School District

936-276-2000

Superintendent: Dr. Mark Ruffin named finalist

2020 - 2021

Belton Independent School District

254-215-2000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 12,200 Superintendent: Dr. Matt Smith

Carroll Independent School District

817-949-8222

Approximate Student Enrollment – 7,745 Superintendent: Dr. Lane Ledbetter

Birdville Independent School District

817-547-5700

Approximate Student Enrollment – 23,503 Superintendent: Dr. Gayle Stinson

La Porte Independent School District

281-604-7000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 7,743 Superintendent: Dr. Walter Jackson

Texas City Independent School District

409-916-0100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 6,244 Superintendent: Dr. Melissa Duarte

Region 7 Education Service Center

903-988-6700

Executive Director: Mr. Todd Schneider

Lake Travis Independent School District

512-533-6000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 10,387 Superintendent: Mr. Paul Norton

Montgomery Independent School District

936-276-2000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 8,857 Superintendent: Dr. Heath Morrison

Texarkana Independent School District

903-794-3651

Approximate Student Enrollment – 8,257 Superintendent: Dr. Doug Brubaker

Region 3 Education Service Center

361-573-0731

Executive Director: Mr. Morris Lyon

2018 - 2019

Plainview Independent School District

806-293-6000

Approximately – 5,600

Superintendent: Dr. H.T. Sanchez

Leander Independent School District

512-570-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 37,000 Superintendent: Dr. Bruce Gearing

Aldine Independent School District

281-449-1011

Approximately – 69,700

Superintendent: Dr. LaTonya Goffney

Alvin Independent School District

281-388-1130

Approximate Student Enrollment – 19,809

Superintendent: Mrs. Carol Nelson

College Station Independent School District

979-764-5400

Approximate Student Enrollment – 13,453

Superintendent: Mike Martindale

Tomball Independent School District

281-357-3100

Approximate Student Enrollment – 12,444 Superintendent: Dr. Martha Salazar

Texas City Independent School District 409-916-0100

Approximate Student Enrollment – 9,000 Superintendent: Dr. Rodney Cavness

2016

Kerrville Independent School District

830-257-2200

Approximate Student Enrollment – 5,000 Superintendent: Dr. Mark Foust

Allen Independent School District

972-727-0511

Approximate Student Enrollment – 20,780 Superintendent: Dr. Scott Niven

Keller Independent School District

817-744-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 34,000 Superintendent: Dr. Rick Westfall

Hays Consolidated Independent School District 512-266-2141

Approximate Student Enrollment – 20,000 Superintendent: Dr. Eric Wright

Leander Independent School District

512-570-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 37,000 Superintendent: Dr. Dan Troxell

Katy Independent School District

281-396-6000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 70,300 Superintendent: Dr. Lance Hindt

Klein Independent School District

832-249-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 50,400 Superintendent: Bret Champion

2015

Sheldon Independent School District 281-727-2000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 7,963 Superintendent: Mr. King Davis

Pasadena Independent School District 214-740-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 54,382 Superintendent: Dr. DeeAnn Powell

Brazosport Independent School District

979-730-7000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 12,000 Superintendent: Mr. Danny Manning

Spring Branch Independent School District

713-464-1511

Approximate Student Enrollment – 35,108 Superintendent: Dr. Scott Muri

Highland Park Independent School District

214-780-3000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 7,091 Superintendent: Dr. Tom Trigg

Allen Independent School District

972-727-0511

Approximate Student Enrollment – 20,381

Superintendent: Dr. Lance Hindt

Spring Independent School District

281-891-6000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 36,484

Superintendent: Dr. Rodney Watson

Georgetown Independent School District

512-943-5000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 10,554

Superintendent: Dr. Fred Brent

Alvin Independent School District

281-388-1130

Approximate Student Enrollment – 19,809

Superintendent: Dr. Buck Gilcrease

2013

Garland Independent School District

972-494-8201

Approximate Student Enrollment - 58,000

Superintendent: Dr. Bob Morrison

Ector County Independent School District

432-456-9879

Approximate Student Enrollment - 29,649

Superintendent: Mr. Tom Crowe

Burleson Independent School District

817-245-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 10,500

Superintendent: Dr. Bret Jimerson

Tomball Independent School District

281-357-3100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 9,000

Superintendent: Mr. Huey Kinchen

McKinney Independent School District

469-302-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 24,565

Superintendent: Dr. Rick McDaniel

2012

Northside Independent School District

210-397-8500

Approximate Student Enrollment – 90,000

Superintendent: Dr. Brian Woods

Keller Independent School District

817-744-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 34,000

Superintendent: Dr. Randy Reid

Fort Worth Independent School District

817-814-2000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 83,000

Superintendent: Mr. Walter Dansby

Plano Independent School District

469-752-8100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 60,000

Superintendent: Mr. Richard Matkin

Goose Creek Independent School District

281-420-4842

Approximate Student Enrollment - 22,000

Superintendent: Dr. Sal Cavazos

Wichita Falls Independent School District

940-235-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 16,000

Superintendent: Dr. John Frossard

Texas City Independent School District

409-916-0100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 5,900

Superintendent: Dr. Cynthia Lusignolo

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

281-897-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 105,000

Superintendent: Dr. Mark Henry

Nacogdoches Independent School District

936-569-5000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 6,500

Superintendent: Dr. Fred Hays

Lake Travis Independent School District

512-533-6000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 7,809

Superintendent: Dr. Brad Lancaster

2010

Abilene Independent School District

325-677-1444

Approximate Student Enrollment -17,000

Superintendent: Dr. Heath Burns

Bastrop Independent School District

512-772-7100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 8,000

Superintendent: Mr. Steve Murray

Midland Independent School District

432-240-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 21,000

Superintendent: Dr. Ryder Warren

Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District

817-251-5200

Approximate Student Enrollment - 13,000

Superintendent: Dr. Robin Ryan

Clovis Municipal School District

575-769-4300

Approximate Student Enrollment - 8,300

Superintendent: Mr. Terry Myers

2008

Leander Independent School District

512-570-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment – 37,000 Superintendent: Dr. Bret A. Champion

Alamo Heights Independent School District

210-824-2483

Approximate Student Enrollment - 4,500

Superintendent: Dr. Kevin Brown

Highland Park Independent School District

214-780-3000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 6,000

Superintendent: Dr. Dawson Orr

Killeen Independent School District

254-336-0006

Approximate Student Enrollment - 36,000

Superintendent: Dr. Robert Muller

2009

Hays Consolidated Independent School District

512-268-2141

Approximate Student Enrollment - 14,000

Superintendent: Dr. Jeremy Lyon

McKinney Independent School District

469-302-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 24,000

Superintendent: Dr. J.D. Kennedy

Lubbock Independent School District

806-766-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 30,000

Superintendent: Dr. Karen Garza

Wichita Falls Independent School District

940-235-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 14,000

Superintendent: Dr. George Kazanas

Lufkin Independent School District

936-634-6696

Approximate Student Enrollment - 9,000

Superintendent: Mr. Roy Knight

Tyler Independent School District 903-262-1000 Approximate Student Enrollment - 18,000

Superintendent: Dr. Randy Reid

2004

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

281-897-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 100,000

Superintendent: Dr. David Anthony

Richardson Independent School District

469-593-0000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 35,000

Superintendent: Mr. Jim Nelson

2003

McKinney Independent School District

469-302-4000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 24,000

Superintendent: Mr. Tom Crowe

Hays Consolidated Independent School District

512-268-2141

Approximate Student Enrollment - 20,000

Superintendent: Mr. Kirk London

Alvin Independent School District

281-388-1130

Approximate Student Enrollment - 12,000

Superintendent: Dr. Greg Smith

2002

Northside Independent School District

210-397-8500

Approximate Student Enrollment - 90,000

Superintendent: Dr. John Folks

San Angelo Independent School District

235-947-3700

Approximate Student Enrollment -17,000

Superintendent: Dr. Cole Pugh

Judson Independent School District

210-945-5100

Approximate Student Enrollment - 16,000

Superintendent: Dr. Michael Zolkoski

Wichita Falls Independent School District

940-235-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 16,000

Superintendent: Dr. Dawson Orr

Tyler Independent School District

903-262-1000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 18,000

Superintendent: Dr. David Simmons

Lewisville Independent School District

469-713-5200

Approximate Student Enrollment - 50,000

Superintendent: Dr. Jerry Roy

Corpus Christi Independent School District

361-695-7405

Approximate Student Enrollment - 40,000

Superintendent: Dr. Jesus Chavez

Brazosport Independent School District

979-730-7000

Approximate Student Enrollment - 14,000

Superintendent: Dr. Rudy Olkrulich

REFERENCES

Lufkin Independent School District

Ms. Kristi Gay, Board President

Cell: 936-222-2841

Royse City Independent School District

Mr, Scott Muckenstrum, Board President

Cell: 972-533-6872

Sunnyvale Independent School District

Mr. Brad Cravens, Board President

Cell: 214-244-4505

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District

Dr. Marilyn Tolbert, Board President

Cell: 817-692-2007

Kerrville Independent School District

Ms. Rolanda Schmidt, Former Board President

Cell: 830-739-4181

Leander Independent School District

Ms. Trish Bode, Former Board President

Cell: 512-413-5235

Pflugerville Independent School District

Ms. Renae Mitchell, Board President

Cell: 512-940-8904

CONCLUSION

The opportunity to present a proposal to the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees is deeply appreciated. Our role is to serve at the pleasure of the Board and to ensure that trustees do, in fact, drive the search for a new superintendent. It would be an honor to participate in the search for a recognized school executive to lead the instructional process for the boys and girls in the Killeen Independent School District.

Mr. David Thompson
Dr. Mike Moses



CONSULTANTS

Mr. David Thompson



David Thompson represents public school Districts, junior colleges and other educational entities in the Gulf Coast area and across Texas. He is a frequent speaker on a variety of school law subjects at legal and educational meetings. He is a former member of the Board of Directors for the NSBA Council of School Attorneys, a national organization of over 3,000 attorneys who represent public school Districts.

Mr. Thompson serves as legislative counsel for the Texas Association of School Administrators, Houston Independent School District, other school Districts and education organizations, and has been actively involved in most legislative activities affecting public education in the past 20 years. Previously, Mr. Thompson worked for the Public Education Committee of the Texas House of Representatives, as briefing attorney for the Ninth Court

of Appeals, as associate executive director of the Texas Association of School Boards, and as General Counsel for the Texas Education Agency. He also has been an adjunct professor at the University of Texas School of law, University of Houston - Clear Lake, Texas A&M University, and the University of Houston-Main Campus.

In addition to his expertise concerning the general areas of school law listed above, Mr. Thompson has extensive experience in school finance matters, legislation, board/superintendent relations, contracts, conflicts of interest, nepotism, student residency and attendance, competitive bidding, school board policy development, and employment matters. Also, he regularly assists school boards in searches for superintendents.

On behalf of the TASB Legal Assistance Fund, Mr. Thompson represented 263 school Districts in *Edgewood ISD v. Meno* (Edgewood IV), challenging the constitutionality of the Texas public school finance system. Mr. Thompson represented the Plaintiffs in *West Orange-Cove v. Neeley*, challenging the constitutionality of the Texas public school finance system. Mr. Thompson also represented 84 school districts with over 1.8 million students in *Fort Bend ISD*, *et, al. vs. Williams*, again challenging the constitutionality of the Texas public school finance system.

Mr. Thompson is a partner in the firm Thompson & Horton LLP, and previously practiced law with Bracewell LLP, one of the oldest and most prominent law firms in Texas.

Dr. Mike Moses



Dr. Mike Moses has been an educator for over forty years. He served as the general superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District from 2001 until 2004. From 1999 through 2001, he served as the deputy chancellor for Systems Operations at the Texas Tech University System. Dr. Moses was the Commissioner of Education for the state of Texas from 1995 through 1999. Prior to that service, he was the superintendent of schools in three Texas school districts including Lubbock, LaMarque, and Tatum. He also served as a teacher and principal in the Duncanville and Garland Independent School Districts. Dr. Moses holds a bachelor's and master's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University and a Doctor of Education degree from Texas A&M University at Commerce.

Additionally, Dr. Moses serves in a variety of other roles. He has served as a member of the board of directors for the Trammell Crow Company, one of the largest real estate and property management companies in the world and Southwest Securities. Dr. Moses also serves as special advisor and consultant to corporations and entities interfacing with elementary, secondary, and higher education. He also serves as the senior educational advisor to the Center for Reform of School Systems. His unusual blend of business and education experience gives him a unique perspective regarding matters of public policy.

Among awards that Dr. Moses has received are the Texas Business and Education Coalition's "Distinguished Service Award" and the "Golden Deeds in Education Award" from Texas A & M University. The Texas School Public Relations Association awarded Dr. Moses the "Key Communicator for Public Education Award." Both the national and Texas PTA organizations have presented him with lifetime memberships. Dr. Moses has been named distinguished alumnus in two of the state's universities. He was also selected "Superintendent of the Year" in two Texas Education Service Center Regions and has been one of the four national finalists for "Superintendent of the Year". An intermediate school in his hometown, Nacogdoches, also bears his name.

His wife, Debi, is a former public-school teacher and the couple have two sons.