

*How do we teach and lead from a place of well-being, rather than a place of stress and burnout? That is the question at the core of **thirdspace**, a one-of-a-kind initiative at UNT Dallas that focuses on prioritizing wellness and mental health for pre- and in-service educators.*

Each year, roughly 1 in 6 teachers and 1 in 5 principals will exit their roles as public educators, exacerbating challenges with achievement among many of our most vulnerable students.

The Principal Impact Collaborative (PIC) and The Educator Collective (TEC) are organizations with common missions:

- to improve outcomes for students by investing in the teachers and leaders that serve them;
- to sustain educators in their roles by investing in their personal wellbeing;
- to provide rigorous opportunities for growth that empower them to do more on their campuses and in their communities.

Through its partnership with PIC and TEC, **thirdspace** is committed to cultivating within educators at all levels of the pipeline the competencies and skills necessary to flourish in their lives, especially as they encounter adversity associated with their roles as urban educators.

Fast Facts: Educator Burnout

- Teaching is the 4th most stressful profession in America, according to NPR, falling only behind: (1) Active duty military; (2) First responders; (3) Working parents.
- 7,000 new teachers were needed in DFW last fall. After interviewing teachers who left, “stress & burnout” and “toxic work environments” played a role in their exit.
- 1,023 new school leaders were needed in DFW last fall. Many school leaders interviewed exited simply because the role was too stressful.

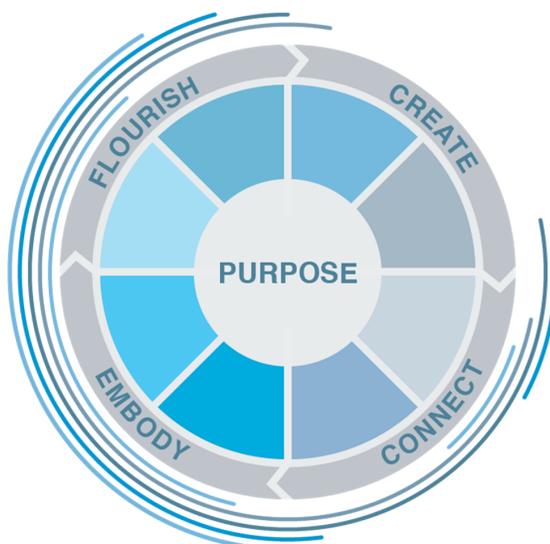
Source: Best In Class Coalition, 2019

The **thirdspace** Framework

thirdspace seeks to cultivate educator wellbeing by providing a space for deep contemplation aimed at regrounding teachers and leaders in their sense of purpose, and focusing on dynamics integral to human development.

- Flourish
- Create
- Connect
- Embody

All programs offered through **thirdspace** align with one of the four core dynamics, and are designed to strengthen educators’ level of inspiration, commitment, healthy self-concept, and overall wellbeing.



About our Organizations



In DFW, less than a third of all principals have been on their campus for 5+ years. The Principal Impact Collaborative (PIC) is a two-year, innovative fellowship program that seeks to sustain experienced principals. PIC's programming focuses on cultivating personal resilience and building principals' capacity to be more innovative and transformative leaders within their school communities. PIC provides leaders with a space to come together monthly for focused professional development, to learn alongside other like-minded peers, and to create a profound network of support as they navigate the complex realities of the urban principalship.

To learn more, visit our website www.principalimpactcollaborative.org.



On average, the 50 largest U.S. school districts lose roughly 10,000 high-performing educators every year. In Dallas County, one of the leading causes of this talent drain is stress and burnout. The Educator Collective (TEC) is a nonprofit professional association working to reverse this trend by providing teachers with a space to link arms and build a vibrant professional community. Our members have access to an annual program that provides educators with the tools they need to become healthier, happier, and more successful inside and outside of the classroom. Thanks to generous philanthropic support, TEC's services are provided to teachers at no cost.

Visit our website at educatorcollective.org to learn more and secure your membership.

