Dr. Brent Taylor, senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Carrollton, recently published a book focusing on leadership insights from the American Revolutionary period. His work, *Founding Leadership: Lessons on Business and Personal Leadership from the Men who Brought You the American Revolution*, provides snippets from the lives of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Adams, and others from that era as a means to examine how their character and leadership qualities helped them achieve their vision. As seen in the lives of these great figures from the past, effective leadership requires more than just staying the course, but also vision casting, effective communication, inspiring others to join in the process, and planning to reach the proper end.

Dr. Taylor has served as senior pastor since 1999, and he is a current member of the DBU Board of Trustees. He also serves as an adjunct professor of history at DBU.
Dallas Baptist University recently served as host for an education symposium led by Texas Education Agency Commissioner Michael Williams. The purpose of the conference was to bring together North Texas public school teachers and administrators to discuss educator effectiveness and educator evaluations.

The conference was the first of several state-wide events led by Commissioner Williams in an effort to explore new ways to measure the success of educators and employ strategies for ensuring not only growth for students, but also for teachers. The event highlighted the work of the Grand Prairie Independent School District and their new Teacher Advancement Program, which focuses on a year-long assessment and growth process, not just single day evaluations.

Commissioner Williams and Dr. Susan Hull, GPISD Superintendent and DBU adjunct professor, chose DBU not only for the close relationship that Dr. Hull has with DBU, but also for the high marks DBU has consistently received for its teacher preparation program. This past year, DBU was recognized by the National Council on Teacher Quality for its outstanding education program at both the elementary and secondary levels, the only school in Texas to receive top marks in these two categories. During his discussion with the teachers gathered on campus, Commissioner Williams pointed to the beautiful campus and the excellent track-record of DBU as marks that made DBU a wonderful location to launch these discussions.

“The College of Education at DBU was pleased to host this important event about the Commissioner of Education’s plans to revamp the teacher evaluation system in Texas,” explained Dr. Neil Dugger, dean of the College of Education. “We were honored by his public recognition of the high quality teacher preparation program at DBU.”

Through its nationally recognized undergraduate and master’s degree programs in education, DBU provides quality, Christ-centered public, private, and charter school educators throughout Texas and even the world. In addition, DBU’s Ed.D. in K-12 Leadership program continues to draw outstanding educational leaders, and recently, a consortium of North Texas school districts selected DBU to provide a cohort for select leaders in these areas. Find out more about DBU’s educational offerings by visiting dbu.edu/education.