



VOTERS GUIDE

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Sunday, April 27, 2008

Irving City Council Questions

75 word limit for each question.

1. What are your qualifications and experience that will make you an effective council member?
2. How would you change the image of Irving to attract and retain both businesses and residents? How does the McDougal project for Irving's original town area fit in your plan?
3. What role should local government have in regard to immigrants, legal and illegal?
4. Name your top two priorities as a representative of the citizens of Irving, and identify your plan to reach those goals.

ELECTION DAY

Saturday, May 10, 2008

IRVING CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

Herbert A. Gears (i)
Roland Jeter
Rigo Reza

Place 3

Allan E. Meagher (i)
Nancy Rivera

Place 5

Rose Cannaday (i)
Sue Richardson

SCHOOL BOARDS

Irving – Place 1

Stacey Ponce
Gina Bates
Nancy L. Jones

Place 2

A. D. Jenkins
Jorge Alfonso Chac II

Carrollton-Farmers Branch

Because incumbents James Goode (Place 1) and Nancy Cline (Place 2) had no opponents, the election was cancelled.

Coppell – Place 4

Thom Hulme
Stephen Smith

Place 5

Scott Orr (unopposed)

Dallas County Community College District

Because incumbents Kitty Boyle and Diana Flores had no opponents, the election was cancelled.

Mayor



Gears

Herbert A. Gears (i)

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1. I have been actively involved in many organizations supporting our community for 25 years. First elected to the City Council in 1998, I have served as Mayor for the past three years. When elected my commitments were to focus on public safety, economic growth, and re-development. Today we have achieved the lowest crime rates in our recorded history. Tax base growth is over 30%, and we are demolishing sub-standard apartments and hotels.

2. We are growing our reputation as a safe city. Violent crime dropped over 15% last year alone and we continue to get better. We remain attractive to developers and businesses with over \$4 billion in projects underway in Irving. Thousands of single family homes are being built for families that want to be here. Although not yet firmly defined, I support the McDougal re-development concept. I won't support the destruction of historic Irving.

3. My position has been it is our duty to

work with the federal government to enforce current laws. Our 24/7 Criminal Alien deportation Program is the most successful in America. Still under attack, I have defended our program against the national media, thousands of protesters, domestic extremists, and a sovereign nation. The Consular General of Mexico issued an official warning, "Illegal immigrants avoid Irving, Texas or risk deportation".

4. Public safety, economic growth, and re-development will remain my priorities as Mayor. Safe neighborhoods are attractive to families. We continue to see optimism about our future growth opportunities. Aging parts of Irving are being re-developed as we continue to demolish sub-standard apartments and hotels. Life long residents of Irving have again become hopeful for and proud of our city. I hope to continue serving as mayor.



Jeter

Roland Jeter

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1. I served four years as an Irving City Councilman from 1995-1999. In 1999, I was elected by the Mayors and Councilpersons of Dallas County as their President of Region 13, Texas Municipal League of Cities. While on the Irving City Council, I served as Chairman of the Council's Legislative Committee, Technology Committee and Youth Activities Committee. I also served on the Council Finance, Texas Stadium and City Comprehensive Plan Committees.

2. We need to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Irving was ranked by D Magazine in July, 2006 as number 59 out of 62 Metroplex suburbs, and that is unacceptable. We need a more effective immigration policy than CAP regarding illegal aliens in Irving. The McDougal project is similar to a program that I proposed for Irving in 1998, but we cannot replace South Irving housing stock with more apartments.

3. Due to lack of action by Congress over many years, the increase in the number of

illegal aliens has forced local governments to act to preserve their cities' quality of life. The CAP program was designed for small towns. The 287(g) program was designed for large cities like Irving that have an overwhelming illegal alien situation. My opponent refused to place 287(g) on the Council agenda for discussion. I support the discussion of 287(g).

4. My top priority would be to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods, particularly in South Irving. I would immediately place the 287(g) immigration program on the agenda for discussion regarding the illegal alien issue. Regarding the McDougal project, I would not support the replacement of housing in South Irving with apartments or multi-family development. I would immediately lift the television blackout placed by my opponent on the Citizen's Open Mike Forum.



Reza

Rigo Reza

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1. As a former City of Irving building inspector and current professor at North Lake College, I have come to know and love the City of Irving. I have spent my former years serving volunteer groups such as; Hearts and Hammers, Paint the Town, and Mobile Green Team. These experiences have instilled in me a true desire to give back, and a heart of servitude.

2. Envisioning city with a winning culture, moral family values, integrity, respect, and caring for all people. Being growth minded in attracting new business and sustaining the resiliency of existing ones. Downtown redevelopment or improvements would be favorable for revitalizing south of Irving. Carefully considering such future proposals for maintaining public safety, noise, lighting, traffic, affective storm water run-off affects.

Must listen and address the needs of all those directly affected and preserve its history.

3. We need to allow our Federal Government to address and pass a much-

Continued on page 2

Mayor

needed comprehensive immigration reform law so that we can adopt local laws to support state and federal laws. Our current C.A.P program could be modified as an affective tool for removal of any undocumented immigrant who is only a felon or a serious risk to others well being and safety. Minor infractions to be addressed on a local level.

4. Provide a higher educational involvement and awareness to our children and parents. Closer coalition between city and after school programs, and existing youth outreach programs with involvements in community volunteer services.

Provide a more transparent and open government to all people. Emphasis on improving city performance measurements. We need to launch more public open forums, and town hall meetings to be actively engaged with the public.

VOTERS GUIDE

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The Voters Guide can be found on the web site of The League of Women Voters of Texas. www.lwvtexas.org (click on local leagues, and then on Irving). This site can be reached without using a password.

City Council – Place 3



Meagher

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1. I have served on the Irving City Council for the past four years and served on the Planning & Zoning Commission for five years prior to running for City Council. I have been active in our community for over 20 years while serving on many boards and volunteering for many civic organizations. I am also a Lifelong Irving resident.

2. With the new DART light rail line that will connect Dallas and DFW airport and make several stops in Irving, we have the opportunity to change our image with the Transit Oriented Development that we are building along the rail line. The Urban Center will be the destination for North Texas. The McDougal project will focus on redevelopment of an older section of our city. Irving is over 100 yrs old.

3. Since our federal and state government officials will not address the issue of illegal immigrants the local governments must address them. We have worked with our police chief and with the 24/7 CAP program we are deporting between 100 and 150 illegal immigrants each

month. The crime rate in Irving is the lowest in over 20 years.

4. My top two priorities are to continue to clean up our city and make Irving the city of choice in North Texas. Irving is my home and I would like for my children to stay and raise their families here. I will continue to support our code enforcement officers and search for new ways to make Irving a safe family community.



Rivera

Nancy Rivera
Student (full time)/
Admin. Assist. (part-time)
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1. I am in my junior year at the University of Texas at Arlington. I know that my professional experience and my ability to interact with people will make me an effective council member. I will work with every one in the community and listen to their needs. My hope is to help the residents of Irving in a way that makes them proud of their community leaders.

2. We need more infrastructures in Irving in order to attract new and existing residents. Providing more services to businesses, residents and to Ensure that their needs are addressed. Better parks and recreation facilities to make the city look more attractive. I think that the McDougal project is a good thing for the city but I'm concerned about the process of open-binding. I look forward to learning more about the McDougal Project. We need to invest . . .

3. I believe that local government should not insist on having such a divide role in regards to immigration issues, our city need to focus on providing high quality services to residents, deporting people for minor traffic violations should not be our police officers main focus. These immigration issues are of constitutional concern and should be taken addressed by the Federal government.

4. Top two priorities is to make Irving

GREEN and water conservation. In order to make Irving Green we need to have awareness programs on how to be environmentally conscious. Provide recycling bins in every house, and Promote incentives for paperless work environments. We should also provide Irving with more state of the art technology to fulfill these proposals. And we must have creative water conservation programs to Establish and conserve water resources for future shortages.

City Council – Place 5



Cannaday

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1. Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (graduated Magna cum Laude), Master's degree, Dallas Baptist University; Associate's degree in Banking; Certified in Mediation and Arbitration, member Texas State Bar Alternative Resolution Section. Formerly held Texas Real Estate license and developed commercial projects. Early career: radio/television, owner of a public relations company. The diversification of my education, careers, and problem solving abilities make me uniquely qualified to be an effective member of the city council.

2. Leadership of city council supported a strategic plan that resulted in Irving becoming known both nationally and internationally as the place to do business. We have \$4.4 billion in projects underway; 30% increased in City's tax revenue; the Nationally acclaimed 24/7 Criminal Alien Program; Violent Crime 15% reduction; Lowest crime rate in Irving's

VOTING INFORMATION

Last Day to Register to Vote in May ElectionApril 10, 2008
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (received not postmarked)April 25, 2008

EARLY VOTING

April 28-May 38:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
May 41:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
May 5 and 67:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

- Irving City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.
- Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.
- Barbara Bush Middle School, 505 Cowboys Parkway
- Dallas County Records Bldg., 509 Main Street, 1st Floor

ELECTION DAY

(at regular precinct locations — see websites below for locations)

Saturday, May 10, 2008, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p. m.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(214) 819-6358 (voter registration) www.dalcoelections.org.
Irving City Secretary's Office 972/721-2493
www.cityofIrving/Departments/CitySecretary/election
Irving School Board 972/215-5000 www.irvingisd.net
Carrollton-Farmers Branch School Board 972/466-1600 www.cfbisd.edu
Coppell School Board 214/496-6000 www.coppellisd.com

Questionnaire Instructions

Each contested candidate received a questionnaire from the League of Women Voters with the following instructions.

Responses will not be edited but will be printed as submitted. Replies received in a list or outline format will be printed in paragraph form. Underlining and italics will be deleted. Replies received in all capital letters will not be printed in capitals in order to avoid emphasizing any individual response. If the word limit for any question is exceeded, the balance of the reply for that question will not be printed. Any answers which exceed the indicated word limit will be so designated with ellipses (. . .)

history; Substandard apartments demolished; dedicated \$35 million to south Irving redevelopment; Ensure Dart arrives 2011; McDougal project is part of strategic plan.

3. Both legal and illegal immigration is a Federal issue that falls under Federal law; however, since Congress has refused to address the issue, local governments have been forced to find ways to cope with the growing problem. Irving developed the nationally acclaimed 24/7 Criminal Alien Program using current laws; however, I am open to other programs that work, but intend to keep the pressure on Congress to pass a comprehensive immigration program with no amnesty.

4. Economic development: keep \$4.4 billion of development on schedule to create 3800 new jobs and increase tax base; make sure Dart arrives by 2011; ensure water needs for future generations; focus on gateway entrances to city; revitalization of neighborhoods; corporate relocations to Irving. Public Safety: Continue nationally acclaimed 24/7 Criminal Alien Program; rewrite city ordinances; continue aggressive code enforcement; remove substandard apartments, abandoned buildings, abandoned signs; support fire and police initiatives.



Richardson

Sue Richardson

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1. Retired (20y) Administrator Railroad Law Department serving cities throughout a 5-state area; Chairman Missions, SS Teacher, VBS teacher; 17 years VP UP RR Federal Credit Union; Spokeswoman ACS/ Komen; Witness state/federal Senate/Congressional committees; State Director TFRW, President IRWC, GIRC, VP GIRC; Spearheaded crack-down on illegal immigration; Chairman Irving Youth Council; 2007 Bond Committee; Animal Shelter; IISD CIC; Battered women and homeless shelters

2. Irving deserves the best environment for people to live, work, and play. Provide the best — businesses will come! Develop respect for disabled citizens' rights to serve! Protect constitutional rights! Develop environment of trust. Denounce bad policy. Practice common sense. Enforce the law. Provide policies resulting in more/better jobs, schools, and lower taxes. Irving needs visionary development, but policies that earn the public trust are imperative. I support caution, flexibility, failsafe oversight, and qualified citizen input.

3. Legal immigration is a federal issue — illegal immigration is a local issue!

Local government's role is to focus on what unites us as Americans — not what divides us. Congress passed Title 8, 287(g) to authorize communities to enforce immigration law and protect their citizens utilizing programs ICE developed based on need. The numbers removed using the least effective program, indicate Irving citizens deserve the protection afforded by the state-of-the-art Detention and Task Force Models.

4. Continue work initiated March 2006 to diminish the safe haven appeal for illegal aliens, thereby reduce stress on schools, neighborhoods, hospitals, quality of life, and tax dollars by stepping up to the above 287(g) enforcement models. Build a sustainable unified community. Develop environment of respect for disabled citizens desiring to serve, and the constitutional rights of all citizens; focus policies on uniting, encouraging, transparent, approachable government, measured development, sustainable growth, and impact on infrastructure.

Irving ISD - Place 1



Ponce

Stacey Ponce

Human Resource Specialist
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1. I have a passion for public education and student success. I am a first generation student that attended all Irving schools and was first in my family to graduate from a university. I have a sister that teaches in the IISD. I would bring a new perspective to the board and a willingness to seek out other districts similar to Irving that are currently successful and initiate some of those programs.

2. We should continue to make our academic goals high and clear and accelerate learning in those schools and subjects needing the most attention. We should be real about accountability for results and closing gaps in performance. We should reward teachers/staff doing great work, help those who are not, and remove adults who refuse or are incapable of improving student learning.

3. Our school district's professional development efforts can and must be more focused on teacher effectiveness. There are teachers and principals who always produce results on whatever assessment we use. Let us find out who they are, visit their classroom/schools to learn exactly what it is that they do. Then, we can organize our professional development

efforts based on what we learn from them. Teachers who believe in the children do not lose their creativity.

4. I want to learn what other systems are doing that is both effective and efficient to keep their schools and campuses secure. I believe we have a good system in the Irving schools, but it can be better. Are regular security procedures clear and enforceable? Are we spending the right kinds of money on the right kind of safety measures?



Bates

Gina Bates

Substitute Teacher
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1. Lifelong Irving resident; married 25 years; five children; graduated from IHS 1981; graduated from UNT cum laude 1992, BS in Interdisciplinary Studies; taught first grade at Townley. In 1997, I left IISD to become Owner/Director of Kidquarters Day School. I managed employees, developed curriculum, trained teachers, created a budget, and experienced success in conflict resolution. I have a sincere desire to be involved and make a difference in the education of children.

2. Continue preparing students and training teachers; provide additional tutoring to at-risk students; utilize parent volunteers and mentoring programs; provide time for teachers to meet and plan not only as a grade level, but allow grade level chairs to meet and plan on a district-wide level as well. I'd like to see Texas Legislature continue revising current accountability measures to emphasize individualized student progress from year to year, rather than focusing on subgroups.

3. Utilize Instructional Specialists to work closely with teachers to identify training areas which would be advantageous; have Instructional Specialists and Principals support teachers with implementation of these ideals, modifying when necessary; encourage Principals to provide time for teachers to observe their colleagues' teaching methods during instruction in order to gain insight; promote team-building techniques and encourage more cohesiveness among staff who are ultimately reaching toward the same goal: an exemplary education for our children.

4. Continue using full-time Police Officers on duty at all secondary schools; cameras on every campus; visitor sign-in procedures must be strictly enforced; encourage students to utilize Crime Stoppers; anti-drug and anti-bullying campaigns; consistent disciplinary action to protect not only our students and staff, but the learning environment as well; practice

School Board Questions

75 word limit for each question.

1. What are your qualifications and experience that will make you an effective trustee?

2. What will you do to improve TAKS scores to enable our schools to become Exemplary?

3. What can be done to improve teacher training which allows individual creativity while still meeting state mandates?

4. How will you ensure the safety of staff and students in each school?

fire drills, lock downs drills, and disaster drills; firmly enforce zero tolerance policies for violence and drugs.



Jones

Nancy L. Jones

College Administrator
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1. Effective Trustees are involved. I am an Irving resident of 26 years and both of my sons are graduates of the district. I have served on district-wide committees: Excellence Now, Council of PTA and Citizen's Task Force for Bond Assessment. As an active parent in the schools' booster clubs, PTA and Senior Parent groups, I feel well connected to the District's stakeholders (teachers, parents and students) and qualified to serve as a Trustee.

2. I will continue the work of the district to recruit and hire the best available teachers. I will also encourage parents and business community leaders to offer their volunteer time and instruction to help our district reach exemplary status. I will encourage students to take advantage of the available tutoring services, and work to share information with parents and the business community so they understand the complexity of the TAKS rating system.

3. Input from teachers regarding content and scheduling of training sessions should be sought and considered. Community support for the Irving Schools Foundation enables teachers to receive grants for additional training in their area of expertise, and should be encouraged. Providing laptops for teachers encourages individual creativity in lesson planning through technology. Teacher mentor programs and

Continued on page 4

seminars led by teachers can be effective training tools to address the day-to-day needs in the classroom creatively.

4. As a Trustee, it will be important to monitor the continuation and evaluate the effectiveness of the district-wide safety and security plan currently underway at our campuses and throughout the district. Students and parents should be encouraged to be involved at their local campuses as well as informed about the policies and procedures as outlined in the district discipline policy. As a parent, safety of our students and teachers is a top priority.

Irving ISD - Place 2



Jenkins

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1. This is my 21st year as an active citizen in this district. I have served on the District Improvement Committee, Campus Improvement Committee, and IISD Citizen Assessment Bond Task Force Committee. I'm the founder of the B.I.G D.O.G.S. Youth Organization with the mission to provide a positive outlet to youths with mentoring, educational, and athletic programs. Also, I ran a solid campaign last year as a candidate for school board position, Place 7.

2. A key component is collaborating with other IISD school board members as a team to develop the best strategy to improve TAKS scores. Educating the community on the importance of parent involvement and to help them understand what it takes to become an exemplary district. Recruiting good teachers and paying good salaries to keep them in our district is important. Train teachers on the technology available to utilize these tools to better educate our students.

3. The laptops that are given to every student in high school as well as all teachers is a great way to utilize individual creativity. The technology is in place; we must focus on educating the teachers on the technical tools that are available while encouraging unique methods of instructing. Continual staff development is an ongoing process and efforts to improve should remain a focus. To become an exemplary district, we must have exemplary teachers.

4. Through the use of the bond for the district, many schools are being remodeled to

improve on safety concerns. V-Soft visitor registry program at all campuses is excellent because it enables administrators to maintain positive identification of all visitors. Irving police officers serve as School Resource Officers at our schools to ensure that the students have a safe learning environment. Campus Auxiliary Officers are used to aid in monitoring activities at school.



Chac II

Jorge Alfonso Chac II
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1. Being the first in my family to receive a high school diploma and an undergraduate degree, and I know by first hand experience the benefits and challenges of attaining an education. I am qualified to be a trustee because I understand where these kids come from and know how to get them where they need to be. I am passionate and highly altruistic when it comes to helping our students achieve a public education.

2. For our educational system to be exemplary, we must not only teach our children the subject material on the TAKS test, but teach them why we are teaching them the subject material on the TAKS test. They must know why before they can move on to the more difficult concepts. We should continue to identify areas where students need improvement and develop programs that each student can utilize to strengthen their performance come test time.

3. Our training for teachers should be focused on the subject matter they teach. Once a teacher has a thorough understanding of their subject they will be able use their unique talents and experiences to effectively and creatively present the curriculum to their class. Teacher support groups need to be strengthened to help teachers fully understand their subject and develop teaching methods that produce state mandated student success levels.

4. A system of diagnosing troubled students must be established to protect not only them, but also the rest of the student

body population. Students are not inherently bad, but if they feel misunderstood or alone they will seek methods of gaining attention. Secondly, we must protect our kids from unwanted intruders while they are within the school walls, but also make sure they get home safely.

Coppell ISD - Place 4



Hulme

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1. I have been on site based management teams for Pinkerton Elementary and currently serve on the DEIC committee for the school district. I have dedicated time through the Coppell Chamber of Commerce serving on the education committee and raising funds for the scholarship fund as well as serving as a member of Partners in Education. Additionally I have served as First Vice President of fund raising for Town Center Elementary for the past two years.

2. I will continue support the creation of an environment that encourages kids to learn and achieve. We need our children to not only know how to take a test but be able to think independently and creatively in order to solve real world problems and challenges. I would hope to continue the high standard of educators and education methodology we have accumulated within the district.

3. Funds that we invest in our teachers are critical. Since school districts spend 80% of their budget on personnel it is imperative that we reinvest in them to improve their knowledge with strong, state of the art programs to help them be better educators. A positive leadership role from a trustee position encourages and builds the system up which then lends to success for everyone.

4. Safety is always a concern from how kids walk or ride their bikes to schools to the

proper screening of campus visitors. As the father of a 10-year-old girl I know that I don't want her to be afraid, yet there is only one way I can encourage safety and that is through vigilance. Not only on my part but hers. Hopefully that is always on the forefront in everyone's mind.



Smith

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1. A desire to serve our community and passion for our children's education are key qualities that I possess. A ten year resident with two children in Coppell ISD, my wife and I are very involved in supporting our schools. I participate on the District-Wide Education Improvement Council, am a PTO volunteer, and Cub Scout Den Leader. My technology and business background will be an asset in planning for the future of our children's education.

2. Coppell has great ratings with 11 of 14 schools achieving Exemplary status. We should continue the curriculum development which has enabled our children to master Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills to excel at TAKS. I support continued individual school funding so each school can best assist students needing extra tutoring. We should continue lobbying TEA and the legislature to broaden ratings beyond just TAKS and to keep the same accountability standards in place each year.

3. Providing excellent professional development for our teachers and enabling their creativity are areas that help maintain the high quality education our children receive. Keeping strong teacher involvement in instructional improvements and professional development is a must. Also, each school's leadership should be diligent in pursuing paper work reduction and guarding teaching preparation time. We need to encourage teachers to continue securing excellent creative grants, and explore new ideas that have been successful in other districts.

4. Safety for our children, teachers, and staff must remain a top priority to provide excellent learning environments. Safety covers aspects from getting to and from school, to being physically and emotionally safe at school, to keeping children safe from deadly habits such as drugs. Our current security upgrades are effective, but we must also continue strong parent and community involvement so that our children will have the avenues to get the right help when needed.

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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