



VOTERS GUIDE

Irving City Council – Mayor



Joe Putnam

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1. Resident of Irving since 1968. B.A. and LLB from University of Texas. Self-employed attorney. Member of City Council 1973-1983, 1995-1998, Mayor 1999-2005.

2. All neighborhoods benefit from good city services. This includes libraries and parks, as well as Police and Fire protection, street maintenance and improvement and water and sewer service. Community Development Block Grant Funds are available through the Housing and Human Services Home Assistance program for repair of homes that qualify. This has been a successful program. I have a strong interest in maintaining home values in all neighborhoods.

3. Irving is required by law to have a

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Tom Spink

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1. Being an effective listener and action taker while on the City Council for three years, I continue working closely with the Chamber to engage commercial businesses to come and stay in Irving while developing residential real estate in North Texas. I am a multi-cultural and multi-generational employer. I have a proven track record. Education consists of Law, Business and Engineering.

2. Working with neighborhood incentives through the Associations to match funds for improvements, encourages citizens to be part of the solution. Another method is to bring in developers, and use city properties as incentives for them to develop. Example: give unused land or structure to an existing, successful business that

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Herbert A. Gears (i)

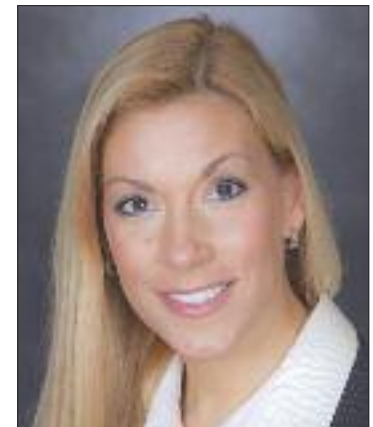
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1. An Irving resident for 28 years, I was first elected to the City Council in 1998, serving as Mayor since 2005. Progress in our city best illustrates the value of experienced leadership. Over 1000 sub-standard apartment and hotel units have been demolished in Irving. Through our Criminal Alien Program, over 6,300 illegal immigrants have been deported from our jail, more than any city jail in America. Violent crime has plummeted 40%.

2. The City has been successful securing funds for a variety of housing rehabilitation programs. Serving mostly seniors, hundreds of homes have been improved in our neighborhoods by using grant funds and by engaging in partnerships with neighborhood associations. Clean, safe, crime free

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Beth Van Duyne

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1. I was honored to be elected as an Irving city council representative from 2004-2010. I provided a consistent balance on the council, listened to homeowners, business leaders, concerned citizens and brought their opinions to City Hall. I am a dedicated volunteer, experienced professional and involved homeowner. I graduated magna cum laude from Cornell University with studies in City and Regional Planning and Government and now run corporate communications for a multi-national corporation.

2. The City should create a task force that would include police, fire, code enforcement, the CCBGD departments and volunteers. We would concentrate on small areas at a time, bringing a substan-

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Questionnaire Instructions

Each 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 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 (. . .)

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. What actions would you support to improve the older neighborhoods and older houses needing repair in Irving including the Heritage District.
3. With City revenue at a low level because of the sluggish economy, what initiatives would you support to achieve a balanced budget and where would you focus reductions?
4. What do you consider the top two pressing issues in Irving and what are your solutions or recommendations?

Irving City Council – Mayor (continued)

Joe Putnam

Continued from page 1

balanced budget and always has. Spending priorities need to be reexamined. We can eliminate non-essential consultants, beautification projects, economic development payouts and reduce the excessive Chamber of Commerce contract. As Mayor I would personally examine every item of spending in detail to insure that our priorities are right. Taxes and fees have been increased such that there is no room for additional revenue sources.

4. The most pressing issue for me is protecting Irving’s R-AB ordinance. This requires repeal of the October 2009 ordinance granting an exception to the proposed Entertainment Center and canceling the Entertainment Center project as well. Of great importance also is the present mismanagement of the City government. Employee morale is at a forty year low and numerous problems and issues are apparent. The solution is new management, beginning with the election of a Mayor who . . . [over 75 words]

Tom Spink

Continued from page 1

will bring 500,000 customers a year to Irving, like Babe’s Restaurant owner Paul Vinyard. Burying power lines and improve signage add to the esthetic value.

3. Most importantly, is to stop the City from engaging in areas of private business! Current projects involving taxpayer’s monies need refocusing in private enterprise and involve those who have funds and expertise to manage. Irving is a great location, has an outstanding Chamber, and ICVB with dynamic leadership. I would not support new taxes or fees. A full-time mayor with extensive, proven business experiences knows how to create an effective budget and manage it.

4. Convention Center Hotel/Entertainment Center. While there are several important issues, we must not allow the \$29 million already invested be wasted. I have secured total private financing for a Convention Center Hotel, which is a necessity. I presented this in 2009. I join citizens calling for a complete forensic

audit to determine actual financial status of Irving. The funding source could then privately finance the Entertainment Center. I support 60/40 and bringing in . . . [over 75 words]

Herbert A. Gears

Continued from page 1

neighborhoods will remain a fundamental priority for me as I serve in this role.

3. Irving has achieved a balanced budget every year of my service as Mayor. Managing drops in revenues begins first by reducing inefficiencies and redundancies that are costly. We have learned to do more with less through process improvements and with better management of our resources. We continue to deliver excellent city services to our residents without suffering program reductions, closures, or employee layoffs.

4. The most pressing issue in Irving is our over abundance of sub-standard apartments. We must remain diligent in our pursuit to demolish decaying, unhealthy, unsafe multi-family complexes. These demolitions, our criminal alien deportation program, and other strategic initiatives have empowered us to attend to what were rising crime rates. As Mayor, our city has achieved new record low crime rates for five consecutive years with violent crime dropping 40%

Beth Van Duyn

Continued from page 1

tive and sustainable change before moving onto newer developments. By focusing grant dollars, project management, volunteers and students looking for volunteer hours on specific projects, noticeable change would occur and those who most need help could receive it.

3. Without question, there are essential city services like police, fire, water, sewer, streets and libraries that I have and will continue to support. I believe the City can save millions of dollars by reducing their use of unnecessary and overpaid consultants, decreasing the number of commissioned studies that go unused, cutting back on the subsidizing events outside the City and cutting funds that go to unrealized and over-managed projects.

4. The top issue facing the City is how to avoid potential bankruptcy from mounting debt and unrealized, but already spent, tax dollars. The City has spent millions of dollars on the Entertainment and Heritage Districts with little to show for it. A fiscal audit, reconsideration of financial liabilities and contractual obligations and penalties for missed deadlines should occur immediately. The City Council should also adopt an ethics policy to guide its interactions with developers.

POLLING LOCATIONS

- 4621, 4622, 4623, 4630, 4634, 4638, 4641Thomas Haley Elementary
3601 Cheyenne St.
- 4624, 4625, 4631, 4647A. S. Johnston Elementary
2801 Rutgers Dr.
- 4626, 4632, 4633, 4635, 4636, 4646, 4648, 4649MacArthur High School
3700 N. MacArthur Blvd.
- 4611, 4618L. B. Barton Elementary
2931 Conflans Rd.
- 4612, 4613, 4614, 4615, 4619Irving High School
900 N. O’Connor Rd.
- 4608, 4616, 4617, 4620J. R. Good Elementary
1200 E. Union Bower Rd.
- 4605, 4606Otis Brown Elementary
2501 W. Tenth St.
- 4602, 4603, 4604, 4607Lee Britain Elementary
631 Edmondson Dr.
- 4642, 4643, 4644, 4651Cimarron Park Recreation Center
201 Red River Tr.
- 4637, 4639, 4640, 4650Mustang Park Recreation Center
2223 Kinwest Pkwy.
- 4609, 4610J. O. Davis Elementary
310 Davis Dr.
- 4600, 4601Sally B. Elliott Elementary
1900 S. Story Rd.
- 4627, 4628, 4629Fire Station No. 8
650 E. Las Colinas Dr.
- 4645Grand Prairie Fire Station No. 8
3017 Roy Orr Blvd., Grand Prairie
- 4708Coppell Town Center
255 Parkway Blvd., Coppell

VOTING DATES AND TIMES

Last day to register to vote in May 14 electionApril 14
Last day to apply for ballot by mailMay 6
For information about voting by mail call Dallas County Elections at 214/819-6359.

EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

May 2 – May 10

When:
Monday, May 2 – Saturday, May 78:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 81:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Monday, May 9 – Tuesday, May 107:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Where:
City Hall, 825 W. Irving Boulevard
Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.
Valley Ranch Public Library, 401 Cimarron Trail
Or any Dallas County early voting site

ELECTION DAY INFORMATION

Saturday, May 14 — 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

At designated precinct sites (check voter registration card for precinct number). See websites below for locations

For additional information:
(214) 819-6358 (voter registration) www.dalcoelections.org
City Secretary’s Office 972/721-2493 cityofirving.org
(then go to: Departments/City Secretary/election)
Irving School Board: 972/600-5000 www.irvingisd.net
Carrollton-Farmers Branch School Board 972/968-6100 www.cfbisd.edu
Coppell School Board 214/496-6000 www.coppellisd.com

Irving City Council Place 3



Dennis Webb

Fire Fighter
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dwebb@gmail.com

1. I have extensive leadership experience which includes founder and present Pastor of a local church, co-founder and ex-president of the Grand Prairie Firefighters Association, ex-trustee board member of the Renaissance Charter School, ex-executive director and present president of the board of the Bear Creek Development Corporation. I served six years on the Planning and Zoning commission for the city of Irving. Served on the Mayors human relations advisory committee.

2. Continue the use of CDBG Funds and HOME funds to target older neighborhoods. Promote an awareness to individual property owners that they are part of a team effort to improve their neighborhoods. Provide grants, incentives, and any support feasible to help the property owners in that effort. To encourage non-profits organizations to use its resources to help restore substandard homes of people who can't afford it.

3. Initiatives that provided revenue from user fees. Initiative that will bring more people to the Irving area where they will spend disposable income such as restaurants, entertainment opportunities,

convention business etc. I feel we need to focus on creating new revenue streams to make up for the loss of revenue from declining property taxes and sales tax revenue. Reductions must come first from non-critical service areas

4. We must recognize that Irving is a very culturally diverse city and that dynamic needs to be accepted by all citizens, and then ensure as much as possible everyone in Irving feel they can take ownership of their city.

Economic Development is critical. Tax revenue, Federal, and State funding is limited so we need to find other ways to supplement funding our government.



Kensley Stewart

Healthcare Professional
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www.KensleyStewart.net

1. I've been an active participant as a voter and campaign volunteer. I've engaged hundreds citizens across the city and have a sense of what's wrong as well as what's right with the city. My lack of connection to city hall allows me to say without reservation, I owe no favors. I have no agenda and represent no special interest group or public employee union.

2. As a REALTOR® (Inactive) I understand the need to maintain structural and aesthetic integrity to maintain a property's value and that of the surrounding homes. I would engage HHSB to prioritize homes needing structural maintenance to avoid repairs. Available

funds are limited so priority according to need are of utmost importance.

3. I would not raise taxes (property nor sales) the way council has done previously.

Police Protection and Firefighters are off the table. All other non-essential personnel, services and departments need to be considered for adjustments. Real cuts could then be shared dollar for dollar with tax-payers.

4. The Entertainment District

I am in favor of the Entertainment District in it's concept, however, the exorbitant spending on a project which has no sound basis in prudent economic theory or business model can put Irving citizens on the hook for \$100 millions. Public/Private Partnerships must be limited in scope from the City's perspective to minimize risk to taxpayers.

I'm very concerned that the 60/40 will be challenged and we'll lose this.



David Gutierrez

Owner, Can Do Woodprojects
& Repairs
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1. As a candidate I bring 24 years as an Irving City resident as well as a small business owner in Irving, Texas. As a 5th generation Texan, former U.S. Marine and Vietnam veteran as well as member of the Texas Army National Guard for over 21 years of military service; I bring the values we all share in common—"Love of one's country, and a desire to serve the greater good!"

2. I will drive through the older neighborhoods in my district and look for houses in need of repair, inform the home owners of cities monies available for repairs. I will go to the private sector in our city, requesting funding for a summer youth work program. I will seek out for retired tradesman to teach and supervise these youth in home repairs. I will ask for a status report on progress of the The Heritage District.

3. Having run a business for over 20

years I know the importance of a balanced budget. First, I will eliminate waste in the current budget. I will look to other cities with similar dilemmas and seek out solutions that have worked for them. However, I will not cut the budget of the Police, Firemen, nor the libraries or swimming pools. I will propose to raise the temperature in cities buildings to lower electrical costs.

4. I think there are two pressing issues facing the city, besides the safety and welfare of the citizens of Irving. The first issue is the entertainment center. I think that when the city started this project the economy was different than it is today, I would like to relook at the funding and not take on a debt that relies on revenue that is not there. The second is empty lots which needs developing.

CANDIDATES IN BALLOT ORDER

(i) = incumbent

IRVING CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

Joe Putnam
Tom Spink
Herbert A. Gears (i)
Beth Van Duyne

Place 3

Dennis Webb
Kensley Stewart
David Gutierrez

Place 5

Rose Cannaday (i)
Julie D. Grant

IRVING SCHOOL BOARD

Place 1

Nancy L. Jones (i)
Steven Jones

Place 2

A.D. Jenkins (i)
Gail Conder Wells
Dinesh Mali

CARROLLTON-FARMERS BRANCH SCHOOL BOARD

Place 1

James Goode (i)
Randy Shackmann

Place 2

David Yarbrough
Nancy Cline (i)

COPPELL SCHOOL BOARD

Place 4

Thom Hulme (i) – unopposed

Place 5

Amy Dungan
Tracy Fisher

VOTERS GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters of Irving. Funded by the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce, the Las Colinas Association, the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund, members and friends of the League of Women Voters of Irving.

The Voters Guide can be found on the website of the League of Women Voters of Texas, www.lwvtexas.org (click on Local Leagues, and then on Irving).

Irving City Council Place 5



Rose Cannaday (i)

Mayor Pro Tem;
President, Cannaday & Associates
Mediation Services
rcannaday@verizon.net

1. I am President of Cannaday & Assoc. Mediation Company. I am a Mediator/Arbitrator. I also have an Assoc. Degree in Banking and held a real estate license for many years. I have a Master's Degree in Psychology/Counseling. My educational skills have been invaluable in dealing with the city's finances, budgets, real estate developments and infrastructure. I analyze situations, find resolutions, and communicate with citizens. I like people.

2. Irving's Housing and Human Services receives CDBG funds. These funds allow the city to build new low-income housing for families and repair older homes roofs, painting, plumbing, etc., which improves neighborhoods and quality of life. City staff, church and corporate groups also help the elderly with problem homes. City code enforcement notifies the owners of abandon homes to repair the structure or remove it. Updating city ordinances is a vital tool in revitalization of neighborhoods . . . [over 75 words]

3. Continue to use the Lean 6th Sigma program, (used by corporate America), that prepared our city for the economic downturn. This program provides good city management and delivers better service to citizens. Good Management Results: a balanced budget and received the AAA Bond Rating again. We have already "leaned" our city operations and our focus is on attracting new economic development while maintaining the business we have. Business provides 75% of tax base.

4. Transportation: Completion of DART to DFW, Hwy 183, the Diamond Interchange, and Hwy 114. This will lay the groundwork for economic development in our 7 Transit Oriented Developments which will generate more tax revenue for the city.

Water: 52 million people are moving to Texas by 2040. Water is and will be a major problem. We have identified new water sources and working through the politics to close deals. We are also expanding our ability . . . [over 75 words]



Julie D. Grant

Owner, The Pet Chauffeur
469-360-2774

www.citizensforjuliegrant.com

1. Lived in Irving for 37 years. Small business owner, 2 ½ years as President of Arts District Neighborhood Assoc. with over 2,000 homes, member of Poverty & Homeless Coalition, Area Director/Advocate for national charity, Pets of the Homeless, for Dallas and Tarrant counties, volunteer with Code Dept., election judge, and current President of Heritage Advisory Council. Also represented the City and senior residents in many venues as Ms Mature Irving 2009-10.

2. Partner with owners to refurbish homes through the City's program for lower income families. Work with Code Dept and owners through property improvement education; utilize high school programs for landscaping, increasing property values and owner pride. Partnership between small business owners and City eliminating home made signs with Heritage-themed fronts at a minimum of cost and labor.

3. Life, security, and educational systems are essential to the well being of our City's residents. Balancing the budget is keeping expenditures within the City's revenues. Improving the City's efficiency is the first step toward a balanced budget. The second step is to streamline delivery of the City's services.

4. Residents are seriously concerned about South Irving Improvement Project contract breaches, delays, and expenses along with the proposed Entertainment Center's financing. The South Irving Project needs to be placed for re-bid and started quickly to finish enhancing the neighborhood in a timely manner. To go forward, the Entertainment Center needs private funding with fees to the user and not the Irving tax payer.

School Board Questions

75 word limit for each question.

1. What are your qualifications and experience that will make you an effective member of the school board?
2. What should your school district do to assist homeless children to stay in school until they graduate?
3. What factors would you consider in setting your school district's budget? Please include specific recommendations about programs such as arts, athletics, and pre-K, as well as personnel cuts.
4. What do you consider the top two pressing issues in your school district and what are your solutions or recommendations?

Irving School Board Place 1



Nancy L. Jones (i)

Director of Student Services
Concorde Career Institute
817/792-2559

1. As the current Board Vice President, and mother of two IISD graduates, I feel very qualified. I am effective because I ask the tough questions, want to ensure a return on investment and I work hard to support all students and teachers in the district. As a volunteer in this district for 21 years, I have displayed my support and leadership by serving as a Trustee, PTA Officer/Life Member, campus and district committee member.

2. Homelessness is a community issue and we ("the village") must be compassionate and proactive. Once identified, the district does an admirable job of responding to this population by offering outreach/agency services, housing and clothing. The district must work with the city volunteers, through the homeless mentoring project, and partner together to help these students graduate. The district's job is to provide an environment in which all of our students learn, no matter their home . . . [over 75 words]

3. I believe that extracurricular activities (arts, athletics, etc.) are beneficial to all students. What we must do is be prudent in spending and look at keeping our

qualified teachers. We need to evaluate our stipend process, program qualifications, and offer a rigorous curriculum that is needed for our students to graduate and be competitive. We must continue to do more with less, from top to bottom, while having the least impact on the classroom.

4. The budget and the STAAR assessment are top issues. Although we have unresolved questions for the state, we must make strategic fiscal decisions for the immediate and long-term future. Thorough assessment of budget items is necessary and we will have to spend some of the fund balance. The STAAR assessment is very rigorous and we must offer a curriculum to match the rigor. Students and parents must become well educated on the new assessment.



Steven Jones

Lyric Stage Founding Producer
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Drscj@aol.com

1. I completed twenty years of formal education: six at Brandenburg, two at Travis, four at MacArthur, four at Baylor University (BBA) and four at Baylor College of Dentistry (DDS). I founded a nationally recognized, critically acclaimed and financially successful business during the economic downturn of 1993. It continues to flourish during the current economic crisis,

and has a children's educational component. I have taught children's Sunday school (grades K-5) for the past seventeen years.

2. I volunteered to mentor a homeless IISD student during the current academic year. After completing a mentor training class last September, I was told I would be paired with a homeless high school student. I have yet to hear back from the IISD. As a trustee, I will work to actually implement an effective mentor program. Helping homeless children is important; however, the IISD's primary responsibility is to provide all students with a quality education.

3. There is only one factor - the education of Irving's students. The number of teaching positions should not be cut. Cuts should begin in the administration building with non essential administrative and support positions, and a hiring freeze on all administrative and support positions. Pre-K should be English immersion and available to all age appropriate children in the district. I am a strong advocate for visual arts, music, drama and physical education in the curriculum.

4. Language and discipline. I will implement an English immersion option to the state mandated bi-lingual education. Spanish speaking students are at a disadvantage by not being taught in English. All teachers must be proficient in English. Success in the US is unlikely without mastering the English language. Lack of discipline is a major learning deterrent. Everyone must feel safe in the classroom. Principals must insure that every classroom is a safe teaching and learning environment.

VOTING INFORMATION

- You must be registered to vote. Last day to register for this election was April 14. Registration cards are available at Irving public libraries.
- The current voter registration certificate is light blue.
- You may vote without your certificate by signing an affidavit at the polling place that you do not have your certificate but are a registered voter and by showing the required identification.
- If you have moved from one Texas county to another, you must re-register in the county of your new residence. If you have moved within the county, you may vote in your former precinct for one year.
- For more information contact Dallas County Elections Department at 972/819-6300.

Irving School Board Place 2



A.D. Jenkins (i)
Software Engineer
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1. As the incumbent for Place 2, I have working knowledge on being an effective Trustee. I have official board training which I have obtained locally, on the state-level and nationally. I have served on the Campus Improvement Committee as well as District Improvement Committee. I have worked hard to bring attention to and advocate for issues that matter to the parents, citizens, teachers, stakeholders and mainly, students of IISD.

2. IISD is very active with assisting homeless children to stay in school. We have a clothes shelter that provides school uniforms, shoes and clothing for high school students. We also provide essential school supplies such as paper, pencils and pens, notebooks and backpacks. Furthermore, we have trained employees that monitor student attendance and participation. As a community, we should put our resources together to help all homeless students stay in school until completion.

3. This is a serious challenge because most of our funds come from the state or federal government. Personnel cuts is a recommendation but deciding what positions will be targeted is a sensitive matter. Arts, athletics and pre-K are all essential programs and I'm not in favor of cutting any of it. Arts can be very rewarding to youth, athletics keeps students and families engaged and Pre-K is the building block of educational foundation.

4. Financial budget shortfall is a huge mountain to climb. Recommendation is to look at every position and program to see how we can cut back without sacrificing the needs of our students. Tough times call for tough decisions.

Students' performances to improve test score and mastery of core subjects is a challenge. New grading policy has been implemented which is effective. We should keep the focus on core subjects that display areas of concern.



Gail Conder Wells
Certified Public Accountant
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1. As an Irving student for 12 years of public schooling and a mother of former students, I have a deep commitment to Irving's public institutions. I hold a BBA in Accounting and am a CPA with an understanding of financial matters relevant for fiscal issues affecting the District. I am active in the community and in my church where I currently serve on the finance committee.

2. I believe there are two primary ways the community (not just the District) can help. The first of those is seeking teachers who truly care for the at-risk students and who are supported by (and not hamstrung by) the administration, which is a problem now by most accounts. The second way is already in process. Local churches already provide some volunteer help and are invaluable in making our children feel important.

3. Budgeting in the current environment should focus on more core classes, no Spanish-only classes, and far less administrative personnel. Our children are not moving from elementary grades to middle school with anything close to mastery of core classes. By that time, we've already lost the battle. English immersion is essential. Otherwise, we are holding our children back. Arts and athletics are great if the core classes are shored up first.

4. The most pressing issues include teacher morale in middle and high schools, and lack of student involvement. Board, administrators, parents, students, faculty must coalesce around agreed-upon common objectives for each issue as all are intertwined. Until

fundamental issues are addressed, other concerns such as perception of the competitiveness of our schools, and employing sound financial policies to help reduce an eroding tax base cannot be fully addressed. Our task is huge, but not impossible.



Dinesh Mali
Professional Mechanical Engineer
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469/585-2888
dineshmali@aol.com

1. Current challenging economical situation requires difficult choices to make. I am volunteering time for Asian Indian community that spare time can be put better use for IISD and local community I have BSME & MSME. As founder of Engineering company 1980 dealing with large organization for engineering projects. Prepared cost estimates for projects and completing within budget. Selecting/recommending subcontractors to complete the projects in timely manner/within budget. I can analyze the situation and come up with reasonable solutions

2. Current challenging economical situation requires difficult choices for board and will impact on homeless children. It will be more burden on them to stay in school and make their great effort. I struggle lot to get good education coming from poor family. Hard work do not go to waste. Good education is key to success in life. Communicating with them to stay in school.

3. IISD superintendent has prepared good plan of action and has well thought out proposal. As board member I will explore those and implement what is feasible.

4. How to stream line/manage district over all operation and how to keep good teachers from let go. IISD superintendent has prepared good plan of action and has well thought out proposal. As board member I will explore those and implement what is feasible. IISD facilities can be rented out to corporation to generate extra revenue.

Carrollton-Farmers Branch School Board Place 1



James Goode (i)

President, Applied Data Sciences, Inc.
214/212-2780 (Cell)
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www.jamesgoode.com

1. I have 30+ years engineering management experience and 20+ years serving on boards for civic organizations, MS degree in Management, Chamber of Commerce Leadership program, Leadership TASB Master Trustee, TASB Board of Directors, 12 years of local Board service, member & participant in Regional Board organizations. I have served on numerous PTA boards, AGT Board, Educational Foundation, etc. All my children graduated from R.L. Turner High School.

2. Homeless children are identified on a recurring annual basis by campus liaisons. Therefore, cannot ensure a program of support "until-they-graduate." Currently 435 students are provided a confidential, accepting and stable temporary environment. We will continue providing transportation within and outside of our district, food, uniform clothing, shelter, school supplies, and summer reading material. Because of a growing homeless population, we are expanding our Donors program to provide resources beyond Federal Government funding.

3. First must maintain academic success. Assuming a major budget deficit, reduce funding uniformly in all programs without forced personnel reduction. Limited or no pay raises for personnel. Temporarily increase student to teacher ratio. Review all extracurricular activities using parents as a resource. Increase or establish participation/entrance fee for fine arts and athletics events. Increase school facilities usage fee for non-educational use. Continue to limit pre-K to half day. Reduce auxiliary staff.

4. Funding constraints – Continue to work with legislators regarding adequate & equitable state funding and funding all

mandates. Work with our 6 communities to convey the financial challenges and the impact on our students. Trustees must continue to build strong relationship with our administration, city leaders and community members.

Student Success – By supporting teachers and remembering the diversity of our students, make high achievement for all students our goal.



Randy Schackmann

Fundraising and Management
Consultant, Schackmann
Philanthropy Support, LLC
www.RandyforSchoolBoard.com

1. I have 30 years of experience with nonprofit, board of director run organizations. I understand what boards do and how they work. I've served on national and local boards plus trained boards and board members across the U.S. I am a small business owner with strong managerial and accounting skills. My life's work has helped organizations to thrive in lean times and to budget and communicate effectively when spending donor (or taxpayers) money.

2. I have worked with 84 homeless shelters and service organizations in 26 states. There are two major problems serving homeless students: identifying (finding) and stabilizing them (conquering transiency). The district must build strong partnership alliances with local resource agencies and act as an integral part of the services "supply-chain;" provide targeted resources through programs such as Communities in School; and train local on-site staff/teachers to know and watch for signs that indentify homelessness.

3. A district's fundamental, "core business" is educating students. Budgeting priorities must focus on classrooms and schools. Strategically targeting taxpayer revenues to maximize learning, support teachers and provide resources that directly assist student learning and growth is imperative. Secondary to academics athletics, arts, early childhood, pre-K, etc. are vital to student development and deserve support within local schools. The lowest budgeting priority is

personnel and programming that does not directly enhance student's daily learning.

4. The biggest issue is the funding crisis. Significant budget adjustments and cuts are needed to reduce costs and create long-term sustainability. Reducing the 1.2 "other" employees per teacher ratio is one step. This should start with non-teaching personnel who make 50%+ more than teachers. Budgeting must be classroom focused. Another issue is not raising property taxes. New taxes negatively impact housing and discourage families from moving here, and this reduces future student revenue.

Carrollton-Farmers Branch School Board Place 2



David Yarbrough

Account Manager,
ASP Global Services
electdavidyarbrough.com

1. I bring a fresh vision and unique leadership to the board. I have lived in CFBISD for 31 years. My kids attend the same schools that I did. I want our kids to have the best education possible and I am not afraid to roll up my sleeves and find out what it takes to achieve that goal. Together, as a community, we can take our district from "Good to Great".

2. We need to have parents, community, and the district all working together. With that energy, we would have so many resources to help kids of all backgrounds to be the best they can be. Now more than ever, we need "all hands on deck" to support our students. We need to take action to help our students want to stay in school through high school graduation, at least.

3. A budget is just that, a way to prioritize how money is spent and by whom. The goal of every school district is the students. Anything that doesn't directly affect the kids, needs to be looked at carefully. The district cannot afford to rubber stamp a request for more money. I won't be afraid to question each budget request to

make sure those funds have a direct impact on the education of our students.

4. We must keep our budget under control and stay prepared for tough times. The days of spending as fast as you can are gone. Secondly, our students' achievements must be a priority. Aside from money, it takes a commitment to seek what works and getting it done. Spending more money has not proven to work. We need a fresh vision for the district to lift our kids from being good to being great.



Nancy Cline (i)

Director of Public Works
972/898-4668
nancy@votency.com

1. Over five years Board service – currently Vice-President, participation in regional and state level trustee activities and programs. 24+ years experience in civil engineering design, construction and program management, and municipal government.

B.S. and M.Eng. in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University, Metrocrest Chamber Leadership alumni, service on numerous PTA boards, Council of PTA Board, Band Booster Board. Our oldest graduated in 2009 from Creekview High School, also have 11th grade son and 8th grade daughter.

2. CFB has been singled out by Region Ten for the care and service with dignity that our Homeless families receive. The district has approximately 400 students who are considered homeless. Each campus has a designated campus homeless liaison who helps to identify and meet the needs of these students. This includes mandated free breakfast / lunch and transportation. District staff personally follow-up on all homeless families and visit new families to assess their needs.

3. Over 80 percent of the district's budget is personnel costs. We have experienced savings through attrition, reductions in administrative staffing, energy management, and reduction in number of campuses by two. Another example is full-day pre-K which was reduced back to half-day due to inadequate funding.

The Board sets the targets for the district's student achievement and we review programs for impact on students. We will prioritize and determine which programs we can live without.

4. High Student Achievement for all students is our top priority that requires maintaining and supporting quality teachers to address our student diversity.

Fiscal Responsibility/ Funding: Board works with the administration and staff on prioritizing programs to ensure we are spending limited dollars wisely and effectively. Funding projections indicate drastic reductions in school funding from the state, communicate with legislators and community regarding status of funding and challenges on continuing programs for academics, arts and athletics.

**Coppell School Board
Place 4**

Thom Hulme (i)
No response.

**Coppell School Board
Place 5**



Amy Dungan
Media Management
972/409-0900
www.amydungan.com

1. I feel I am uniquely qualified to be a member of the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees because of my extensive experience and involvement in this district for the past 16 years. I look forward to working with Coppell ISD administrators and the board of trustees to maintain and enhance the exemplary educational standards of CISD for all students resid-

ing within the district, while striving to ensure that the concerns and opinions of the community are represented.

2. I am dedicated to ensuring all students enrolled in Coppell ISD are given the best possible opportunities for educational success. I will capitalize on my experience and interpersonal relationships to strengthen communication between administrators, teachers, parents and students.

3. Working closely with board members and administration to minimize spending while protecting programs that are essential to quality education will be my top priority. I plan to involve teachers and the community in spending strategies that impact classrooms directly while continuing to investigate creative educational approaches that engage students in the learning process.

4. Funding and redistricting are the two key issues I see for Coppell ISD and as a board member, I will work very closely with our local and state representatives and neighboring districts to ensure adequate educational funding from the State is achieved. I will make certain that the concerns of Coppell ISD's teachers, administration and most importantly its students are represented.



Tracy Fisher
TracyFisher.org

1. My qualifications: Fourteen-year leadership career in management development, marketing and operations (up to 400 employees); fourteen-year education advocate and volunteer at local and state level, including leadership roles in local PTOs, participation on numerous CISD district committees and on a state legislative task force; have attended CISD School Board meetings for five-plus years and maintain collaborative relationships

School Board Questions

75 word limit for each question.

1. What are your qualifications and experience that will make you an effective member of the school board?
2. What should your school district do to assist homeless children to stay in school until they graduate?
3. What factors would you consider in setting your school district's budget? Please include specific recommendations about programs such as arts, athletics, and pre-K, as well as personnel cuts.
4. What do you consider the top two pressing issues in your school district and what are your solutions or recommendations?

with all board members and superintendent. See TracyFisher.org for additional information.

2. We should provide responsive services to intervene on behalf of any district student whose immediate personal issues put the student's continued educational, career, personal, or social development at risk. I served on the CISD 5-year strategic planning committee that developed the district mission which includes: "...to ensure our students achieve personal success." How could a child learn or be successful if his basic needs of shelter are not being met?

3. Increase enrollment (revenue) and/or decrease salaries (82 percent of costs). With the Northlake build-out, CISD will continue to see increased revenues over time. Selecting the optimal moment to open new schools to accommodate these students will be critical. We need to continue to examine creative and innovative ways of educating students (i.e. leveraging technology). I am a strong supporter of fine arts and athletics and understand the importance of the pre-K program.

4. There are three pressing issues facing our school district: 1. Potentially devastating loss in state funding; 2. Balancing populations between existing neighborhood elementary schools; 3. Possible retirement of our visionary superintendent. Recommendations: 1. Make tough contingency plans while encouraging innovation; 2. Consider options, including "open enrollment;" 3. Work closely with other board members and an executive search firm, if necessary. CISD board members are excellent problem solvers and fiscally conservative. Taxpayers expect nothing less.

NEW VOTING DISTRICTS

See **Page 8** for a map and more information on the new Irving City Council single member districts.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

CANDIDATES FORUM

Irving City Council Candidates and Irving, Carrollton-Farmers Branch and Coppell School Board Candidates

**Wednesday, April 27
7:00 p.m.**

**Irving City Hall
825 W. Irving Boulevard**

**Live on ICTN 2
Verizon - Channel 31
Time Warner - Channel 95**

**Repeats on ICTN 1
Verizon - Channel 30
Time Warner - Channel 16**

- 4/28 - 5:30 p.m.
- 4/29 - 4 p.m.
- 4/30 - 5:30 p.m.
- 5/1 - 5:30 p.m.
- 5/2 - 4 p.m.
- 5/3 - 5:30 p.m.
- 5/4 - 9:30 p.m.
- 5/5 - 5:30 p.m.
- 5/6 - 4 p.m.

On demand at www.ictn.tv
Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce and Las Colinas Association

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF IRVING
(972) 785-8683 Voice Mail

IRVING CITY COUNCIL SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS

The City of Irving has a new system for conducting City Council elections. The solely at-large voting system has been changed to a six single-member voting system, with two city council seats and the mayor's seat remaining at-large.

Voting system definitions are as follows:

Single-member – only registered voters living within a specified district's boundaries may vote for candidates who run for a seat in his/her respective district

At-large – any registered voter may vote for candidates who run for a seat that is at-large

Single-member districts include Places 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Places 2 and 8, as well as the mayor's seat, remain at-large

This year, council seats for Place 3, Place 5 and Mayor are up for election. Places 3 and 5 are single-member districts. The Mayor's position remains at-large and all voters in the City may vote in this race. District maps have been redrawn; therefore, before going to the polls, residents are encouraged to verify whether or not they reside in Place 3 or Place 5 in order to see if they are eligible to vote for Place 3 or Place 5. Again, all voters are eligible to vote for Mayor.

The district map is also available at www.cityofirving.org. Click on Departments on the Home Page and then click on City Council. Select Council District Map on the left side of the City Council page. Click on the title of this page Irving District Map, and the actual map will appear. Residents who have questions or need to verify their district may call the City Secretary's Office at (972) 721-2493.

