

Early Voting Times and Locations

For the Nov. 3 Constitutional Amendment/Joint Election*

Oct. 19, 2009 (Monday) through Oct. 23, 2009 (Friday) 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Oct. 24, 2009 (Saturday) 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Oct. 25, 2009 (Sunday) 1:00PM - 6:00PM

Oct. 26, 2009 (Monday) through Oct. 28 (Wednesday) 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Oct. 29, 2009 (Thursday) and Oct. 30, 2009 (Friday) 7:00AM - 7:00PM

Audelia Road Library	10045 Audelia Rd.	Dallas	75238
Boze Secondary Learning Center	202 College Ave.	Grand Prairie	75050
Carrollton/Fr Br ISD Adm Bldg	1445 N Perry Rd.	Carrollton	75006
Dallas ISD Adm Bldg	3700 Ross Ave.	Dallas	75204
DeSoto Town Center	211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.	DeSoto	75115
Duncanville Library	201 James Collins Blvd.	Duncanville	75116
Fretz Park Recreation Center	6950 Belt Line Rd.	Dallas	75254
Garland City Hall	200 N. Fifth Street	Garland	75040
Grauwlyer Park Rec Center	7780 Harry Hines Blvd.	Dallas	75235
Harry Stone Recreation Center	2403 Millmar Dr.	Dallas	75228
Irving City Hall	825 W. Irving Blvd.	Irving	75060
Josey Ranch Library	1700 Keller Springs Rd.	Carrollton	75006
Lakeside Activity Center	101 Holley Park Dr.	Mesquite	75149
Lancaster Library	1600 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.	Lancaster	75134
Martin Luther King Jr Core Bldg.	2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.	Dallas	75215
North Dallas Gov't Center	10056 Marsh Ln.	Dallas	75229
Oak Cliff Sub-Courthouse	410 S. Beckley Ave.	Dallas	75203
Our Redeemer Lutheran	7611 Park Lane	Dallas	75225
Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center	8701 Greenmound Ave.	Dallas	75227
Records Building	509 Main Street	Dallas	75202
Sunnyvale Town Hall	127 N Collins Rd.	Sunnyvale	75182
Valley Ranch Library	401 Cimarron Trl.	Irving	75063
Veterans Medical Center (Main Lobby)	4500 S. Lancaster Rd.	Dallas	75216
West Dallas Multipurpose Center	2828 Fish Trap Rd.	Dallas	75212

*** Voters registered in Dallas County may vote in person at any of these locations during the early voting period.**

About the Voters Guide

This VOTERS GUIDE is published by the League of Women Voters of Dallas. It is funded by the League of Women Voters of Dallas Education Fund. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that works to promote political responsibility through the informed participation of all citizens in their government. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

The VOTERS GUIDE is designed to help voters know more about the candidates and issues. Questionnaires were sent to all candidates in contested races.

Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space limitations, questionnaires were not sent to write-in candidates or candidates in uncontested races. Candidates were given strict word limits for replies. Replies exceeding the word limit are indicated by slashes (///). Candidates were also asked to confine their responses to the questions asked and to avoid reference to their opponents. Candidates appearing with no photo failed to submit one.

You may bring this VOTERS GUIDE into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this VOTERS GUIDE, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional.

Qualifications for Voting

You must be a citizen of the United States, registered to vote, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. You must not have been declared mentally incompetent by a court. If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote *after* you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any term of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

Early Voting in Person

Any registered voter may vote early by personal appearance. Check with the Dallas County Elections Department at (214) 819-6300 or go to www.dalcoelections.org for early voting times and locations. Early voting days for this election are October 19 through October 30.

Early Voting by Mail

Only specific reasons entitle a person to vote early by mail (no longer called absentee voting). You may request a ballot by mail if you will be away from your county on election day **and** during the hours of early voting, are disabled, are 65 or older on election day, or are confined to jail. Request an application for ballot by mail from the early voting clerk at the Dallas County Elections Department at (214) 819-6300 or go to www.dalcoelections.org. Complete and return the application within the deadline period. **Your application must be received by the early voting clerk not later than October 27 (received, not postmarked).**

Where to Vote in Person on Election Day

You must vote in your precinct of residence on election day. Your precinct is listed on your registration card, or you may call the Dallas County Elections Department at (214) 819-6300 or the Dallas League of Women Voters at (214) 688-4125 to find out where to vote. If you report to an incorrect polling place, you will be redirected to the correct polling place, or offered a provisional ballot. You may vote by provisional ballot, but if you are in an incorrect polling place it will not be counted, by Texas Law.

Provisional Voting

This new voting process was created by the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002. It was designed to allow a voter whose name does not appear on the list of registered voters, due to an administrative error, to vote. If your name is not on the rolls of registered voters in your precinct, but you believe you are registered, the election judge will attempt to determine if you are registered somewhere in your county. If your registration cannot be found, you may cast a provisional vote by filling out an affidavit and a paper ballot. This ballot is kept separately from the regular ballots, and the case will be reviewed by the provisional voting ballot board. The ballot will be counted only if the voter is determined to be a registered voter in that precinct. Provisional voters will receive a notice in the mail by the 10th day after the local canvass advising them if their provisional ballots were counted and, if they were not counted, the reason why.

Voter Registration Information

You must register at least 30 days prior to an election. Your registration will remain in effect and a new certificate will be sent to you every two years. It will not be forwarded to a new address; so if you move, you must notify your County Clerk or Elections Administrator of your new address. If you move to another county, you must re-register. It is recommended that you take your registration certificate and another form of identification to the polls. The current certificate, sent in January 2008, is orange and white.

Public interest, not
special interests

DISD Board of Trustee Candidates

One trustee is elected to represent each district of the Dallas Independent School District. There are nine districts and terms are staggered so that the board maintains a number of veteran trustees as new members are elected. Trustees are elected for a three-year term of office and serve without compensation.

The Board of Trustees establishes the policies by which schools operate. The board identifies needs and establishes priorities for the school system, allocates financial and human resources among the priority areas, and evaluates school performance.

Question 1. Please describe your education and professional experience that qualifies you for a position on the Dallas Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Question 2. On what principles and measures do you believe teachers' and principals' evaluations and compensation should be based? Should compensation be determined based only on objective factors, or can other factors also be fairly included in evaluations? Please explain.

Question 3. DISD and numerous other large districts across Texas continue to experience funding difficulties and shortfalls. In 2008, DISD was forced to lay off teachers and cut programs to close a \$64-million-dollar budget deficit caused by the district's failure to maintain proper institutional oversight. What actions do you believe are necessary to ensure that the budget is properly implemented and monitored by the Board and the staff?

Question 4. If sudden budget cuts are necessary, what do you believe to be the District's top priorities that must be protected, and what programs do you think could be reduced or eliminated?

Question 5. The principal school districts of America's 50 largest cities, of which DISD is one, collectively educate 1.7 million public high school students - one out of every eight in the country, yet they also account for 23% of the 1.2 million students nationwide who fail to graduate with a high school diploma each year. According to a study by the EPE Research Center, DISD's actual graduation rate in 2003-04 was 44.4%, ranked 44th out of the 50 districts. What specific steps do you believe are necessary to halt and reverse the graduation failure crisis in DISD?

Question 6. If elected, will you pledge to communicate regularly with your constituents, such as by holding town hall meetings or teleconferences? If so, how often would you hold such events and how would you communicate the details to your constituents?

Question 7. According to statistics published by the Centers for Disease Control, obesity rates in children have tripled since 1980, leading to a recent study showing that one out of every three children born since 2000 will develop Type 2 diabetes. Although the reasons for this growing epidemic are many and complex, what changes to the District's nutrition and physical education programs will you support to improve the District's cafeteria food choices and to promote healthy lifestyles?

(Note that the word limit for EACH question is 75 words.)

DISD Board of Trustee - District 1

Melvin M. Cannon

Question 1. My formal education was Northeastern University. My experience as a district sales manager gave me the experience to teach and train salesmen.

Question 2. All factors shall be considered in judging the person for advancement.

Question 3. Outside accountants and auditors shall be used to maintain the proper use of all school funds. If necessary state and federal government shall oversee the problem.

Question 4. The essential elements on state mandated courses shall be maintained. The major subjects of math, reading, writing and history.

Question 5. Develop courses that will stimulate and interest in non performing students, and reward them for increased performance.

Question 6. Hold forums and meetings by monthly for interested people.

Question 7. Only nutritious foods & beverages should be served in the cafeteria. All food & beverages that do not promote healthy choices should be eliminated from the school environment. Exercise programs that are determined by the medical profession to stop the growth of type 2 diabetes should be implemented.

Contact the Candidate: 972-233-7118

Edwin Flores, Ph.D., J.D.



Question 1. Four years on the Dallas School Board; Education: J.D. - University of Texas School of Law; Ph.D. Molecular Immunology, Washington University, St. Louis; B.S. Microbiology UT Austin; Self-employed Biotechnology Patent Attorney (small business owner); Dallas ISD parent (2 daughters) and taxpayer; Former Assistant District Attorney - Dallas County; Service on two National Boards of the National Institutes of Health: the National Advisory Council General Medical Sciences and the Council of Councils.

Question 2. A comprehensive employee evaluation should combine the Texas Professional Development and Appraisal System (PDAS) with objective units of measure, such as benchmark, national norm referenced testing and state mandated tests. The evaluation tool should: (1) be negotiated with the Alliance/AFT to best serve the needs of the students; (2) provide a mechanism for employees to have their results reviewed; and (3) provide direct guidance for teacher professional development that is matched to student needs.

Question 3. The district must fully review and implement the audit recommendations as is being conducted by the Board's Auditor. The trustees are currently preparing a new evaluation of the Superintendent to expand the review of the financial systems and communication between the multiple systems. The Audit Committee of the Board (on which I serve) has already created a new financial reporting form that tracks expenses in multiple areas across the years, including year to date numbers.

Question 4. First, we must eliminate all trustee spending of any form and reduce staff, including all travel, mailers and any other perquisites. Funding priority must always be to maintain the levels of service at every campus by strictly enforcing teacher and staff allocation formulas for each campus. We must also continue to balance funding between schools based on the education needs of the students.

Question 5. Urban schools districts, for decades, have failed to graduate more than 70% of students (See Jay Greene, EDUCATION MYTHS (2007), Manhattan Institute). Many factors affect a student's decision to leave school, family, financial and educational progress. What are needed are personalized education plans that focus on the specific needs of the students, including, specialized academies at each middle and school that align with the jobs of the future.

Question 6. I have held regular town halls, brown bag lunches, board briefings and regularly attend PTA and SBMS meetings. I will generally report to the WTW SBDM the status of policies and implementation of the same on a monthly basis. We have also held, district wide, feeder pattern meetings with a staff report and brief comments from the trustee. Furthermore, I am a regular speaker at events throughout the district and the City of Dallas.

Question 7. The District, in fact, has a nationally recognized food services program. Presently, a parent and community task force is working on additional recommendations to further enhance the nutritional value of food at the cafeterias. As 85% of our students are on free and reduced lunch it is imperative that we provide healthy food and educate students on a healthy lifestyle, including regular exercise.

Contact the Candidate: www.edwinflores.com

Kyle Renard, MD



Question 1. I am a board certified pediatrician. I have a deep concern for the care and education of all children. I am accustomed to reading large volumes of material and am willing to continue to defer my career in pediatrics to devote my time to serve as a trustee. I have a democratic leadership style and have held many leadership positions. I am a fiscal conservative.

Question 2. We cannot rate our teachers only on the basis of achievement by their students on a test. Test scores should have a minor role in teacher evaluation, as they only measure a subset of important goals in education. Teachers' salaries are too low for a substantial portion of their pay to be based on performance. We should have comprehensive evaluation systems which will promote improvement in teaching as the ultimate goal of the evaluation.

Question 3. The Board must be given the budget with enough time to fully evaluate it prior to approval. The Board must take significant time and exercise proper oversight to ensure that taxpayer money is spent wisely. The budget must be made publicly available prior to approval so the community can weigh in on the expenditures. The accounting practices must be brought in line with sound financial standards.

Question 4. Sudden budget cuts would require a stringent review of the budget. Priority should be given to that which directly effects the education of the children, such as preserving the number of teachers. The use of consultants should be pared down and replaced by expertise which should already exist in administration. There is currently an overload of unused curriculum and unnecessary new programs which add up to money poorly spent.

Kyle Renard, MD continued

Question 5. Increased family and community involvement in the schools will result in increased student achievement, higher attendance rates, and higher rates of post-secondary education. Ideas our schools can pursue: identifying a family school liaison who works on engaging parents, structured opportunities for families and communities to focus on improving student achievement, engaging parents and community members in efforts to reform their schools, having teacher mentors, integrating non-school and school supports for children and families.

Question 6. A large portion of my training as a pediatrician focuses on listening to children and their families. I would extend this practice into my role as a trustee and find ways of regularly meeting with my constituents. I would like to visit each school in my district and hear from their teachers, principals, PTA's, and SBDM committees as to improvements they would like to pursue. The schools and neighborhood associations could publicize these meetings.

Question 7. School based programs can support increased physical activity opportunities and nutrition education and will have the most long term effect if it includes the families as well as the children. We must ensure that the foods offered meet the recommended levels of sodium and fat. Each cafeteria should expose students to new foods, present healthy food attractively, update menus, and provide nutrition information. Physical activity, including PE and daily recess, should be encouraged.

Contact the Candidate: kylerenard.com

Linus Spiller



Question 1. I attended UT Arlington and have worked at two colleges, one as a career & vocational instructor and the other as a specialist in charge of academic service learning activities. I received recognition from the White House on the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll as a "Top 6" Colleges and Universities recipient for facilitating successful math & reading tutoring programs for Hispanic and other youth in 3 area ISDs.

Question 2. I don't believe principal and teacher evaluations, accountability, and compensation should be based solely on objective factors such as test scores. Educators don't control all of the factors that end up in their schools/classrooms so to penalize them (as is being done in DISD currently with "fear-based" management techniques) is wrong. If elected, I would like to review other methods of evaluations and accountability that result in academic improvement in DISD schools.

Question 3. If elected to the Dallas ISD Board of Trustees, I would support an audit of the district's finances by an independent accounting firm to provide an honest assessment of the district's financial health. Following an audit, I support the adoption of policy establishing a permanent budget oversight sub-committee comprised of trustees, administrators, teachers, and community members to ensure district budgeting policies are sound, transparent to the public, and benefit the students of Dallas ISD.

Question 4. Instruction and Instructional Support funding amounts must be maintained to provide continuity in the successful education of DISD youth. Budget line items within these two areas that are not working should be transferred to those areas within these funding levels that do work. I would support cuts in Central Administration and Other Functions funding within the budget if it could be demonstrated those funds would be better utilized in instruction and instructional support.

Question 5. An emphasis on proficiency in math, reading and science in primary grades is needed to eliminate the persistence of graduation failure. In District 1 and other DISD districts, students often drop out because they lack the foundation in these subjects that should have been received at the K-5 level. Over 70% of DISD graduates who enroll in area colleges have to take 1-3 developmental courses in these areas. That has to change.

Question 6. If elected, I will communicate regularly with my constituents through the following means: 1) "State of District 1 & DISD" Town Hall Meeting each semester; 2) "Proposed District Budget" Town Hall Meeting in the summer; and 3) "State of District 1 & DISD" videocasts to be aired regularly on my website at www.linusspiller.net. Parents and constituents will be notified about these meetings and videocasts through District 1 schools and standard district communications.

Question 7. The district currently offers daily meal choices that meet nutrition standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture so current and growing obesity & diabetes rates of DISD students are probably the result of food consumption outside of school. I would encourage parents to utilize online tools like the district's "Nutri-Café" (www.nutri-cafe.com) and the pediatrician-recommended "Keep Kids Healthy" website (www.keepkidshealthy.org) for a balanced home & school approach in keeping their children healthy and fit.

Contact the Candidate: www.linusspiller.net; (214) 357-0542 (press 1)



Vote. It's Patriotic.



DISD Board of Trustee - District 3

Leigh Ann Ellis



Question 1. I hold a Masters in Urban and Regional Affairs from UT Arlington. My research included urban education. I led the board's effort to revise out-dated policies as DallasISD Policy Chair from July 2007-July 2009. I also attended an intensive, two-year school board training program with the Center for Reform School Systems.

Question 2. Teachers' and principals' evaluations should not be based solely on test scores. There needs to be consideration of a student's academic growth from the time they enter the classroom. We should look at how a teacher helps individual students achieve higher levels of learning, climate of a school, the training and support provided to a teacher's professional growth, and the level of the campus instructional teams.

Question 3. The DallasISD annual budget needs to be published online on www.DallasISD.org. The district's monthly finance reports and the annual audit report should also be included on the web site. The Board has requested asked for community budget meetings to take place throughout the city, and those are being planned. By the way, DallasISD board briefings and board meetings are available to view on-line.

Question 4. If unexpected budget cuts were necessary, I would consider the following before proposing any classroom personnel reductions. I would reduce or eliminate staff travel and freeze or cut the number of consultants used by the district. I would also cut out unfilled positions and combine certain administrative jobs into one position. My priority would be keeping the classrooms intact.

Question 5. Actually, the current completion rate is 77 percent based on the state's definition and 65 percent is the dropout rate based on federal criteria. The Board has asked the DallasISD administration to explore the economic feasibility of establishing campuses for over-aged students that are conveniently located throughout the city. Early on, we are instilling in our students the notion that dropping out is not an option.

Question 6. New advancements in technology have made communication a lot easier. I attend a lot of PTA meetings, Site-Based-Decision-Making meetings, and homeowners' association meetings which allows for a lot more one-to-one conversations and addressing the concerns of individuals. We are planning to hold more "Town Hall" and budget meetings this school year. I would have to explore tele-conferences, we are not utilizing that method at this time.

Question 7. DallasISD is fortunate to have hired Dora Rivas, a nationally recognized nutritionist, who heads our food services department. The District's food choices are now much healthier with practically no frying. Also, the DallasISD Teen School Board members consistently provide the district with food reviews. PE programs are successful with basketball, soccer and baseball-especially at the middle school level after school.

Contact the Candidate: laellis55@aol.com; 214-321-7159

Bruce Parrott



Question 1. I went to DISD schools and graduated from Bryan Adams High School, received a master's of science degree in technology from TX A&M. Throughout my career in Television, I worked on many educational and community instructional television programs. I have been involved with many community projects as well as being a member of the Northeast Dallas Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce.

Question 2. Not be based solely on test results. Evaluations may include other factors: Involvement in effective tools to help engage students in their work. How well they can reach students by understanding them and recognizing various learning styles of students. Effective teachers have a positive impact on student outcomes and their staying in school. Being able to motivate students and

keep students on track are important in the process of measuring the success.

Question 3. Total transparency of all Board operations is imperative. Board members must take responsibility and do their fiduciary duty by law and balance the budget and be totally aware of where all the money is. There is no excuse for not asking the necessary questions of the superintendent and his staff. Board members must ask intelligent and proper questions and understand what to ask and then understand how to look at the budget.

Question 4. The money should always go to the classroom where teachers can teach and children can learn. Everything in the DISD budget that is left over after paying for the building maintenance and the salaries should go to those closest to the children. The students in the classroom should have top priority. Programs that are fluff that have little accountability in the top level bureaucracy should be the first to go.

Question 5. Students should be taught to read and calculate early. If they are having difficulty, it's imperative for them to be taught prescriptively. If they show signs of difficulty in being successful or not being on grade level, they should be diagnosed by the professionals. When customized teaching techniques are implemented, students can be taught to succeed and learn. Students drop out if they're struggling academically and unable to understand the material.

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Bruce Parrott, continued

Question 6. Communication is paramount to creating an environment of public trust. My door is always open. I will communicate by phone, conferencing and by having meetings in the community.

Question 7. Children benefit from being educated about caloric intake and the value of daily exercise. Cafeterias have color coded the food items that can educate the students about healthy food in some of the District 3 schools. The food for the cafeteria should be baked or broiled instead of fried. More fruits and vegetables should be available for the students to select. Water and fruit drinks should also be made available.

Contact the Candidate: 214-328-6809; bruce@bruceparrott.com

Beatrice (Bea) Alba Martinez



Question 1. I attended college in San Antonio and Dallas. I have owned two restaurants and now partner in a REMAX residential real estate franchise. I know what it means to make a payroll. I have served on the DART board as a City Council appointee and have been involved with a budget of \$600 million dollars. I also have served on numerous PTA boards at my children's schools along with the Dallas City Council PTA Board.

Question 2. Teachers and principals should not be singled out to be the only ones receiving additional compensation for performance. Regarding evaluation standards, teachers, administrators or any other staff member should be evaluated with standard measures such as leadership, building management, communications, maintenance, parental involvement, classroom management, lesson

planning, student engagement and use of instructional technology, etc. Additionally, student performance should be a critical factor in determining if intervention is needed for a teacher or an administrator.

Question 3. Poorly qualified financial and administrative staff persons contributed to this major oversight. The Board must hold the Superintendent accountable in insuring that properly qualified and trained staff is in place to develop a budget that is going to be transparent and fiscally accountable. Board retreats need to take place and tough questions need to be asked with ongoing input by constituents as part of the process.

Question 4. Teachers must not be the first to be cut even if they make-up the majority of the budget. Cuts should be made at Central office, with additional cost savings in the utilization of less outside contractors and professional consultants, plus exploring other measures of waste to be eliminated. Magnet schools and other programs that provide academic excellence in our schools, should not be cut, including after school programs and other enrichment offerings.

Question 5. Recruit and hire the best and brightest principals and teachers for these failing high schools. Insure that curriculum is aligned by providing staff and professional development for these targeted campuses. Create good morale and school climate with safety, security, strong student discipline management and increasing parental and community involvement. Evaluate progress by putting benchmarks in place to ensure articulation between grade levels for a smooth transition for students from grade-level to grade-level.

Question 6. I promise my constituents to develop and implement a series of formal community meetings on a quarterly basis, in schools and throughout the community. These meetings will be posted on my web-site and I will insure that central staff attend and answer concerns, questions, and provide feedback. My role is to listen and take action on policy issues and refer all other matters to the Superintendent. I do not intend to micro-manage any school.

Question 7. I would advocate, as the American Association of School Administrators has recommended in their Robert Wood Research Grant: more parent awareness programs that teaches parents healthy living styles, establishing walking and exercise programs for schools and their families as Rio Grande ISD has done, and more rigorous curriculum addressing obesity. Review Best Practices from other cities and districts that impacts healthy living styles for our students.

Contact the Candidate: Bea for the Kids; 214-696-8700

Penny Anderly



Question 1. I have over 30 years business experience in communications, marketing, sales, manufacturing. Proven record of finding consensus solutions on tough issues: e.g. while on Dallas Homeowners League Board, we effected re-write of Dallas' zoning ordinances, providing stability for neighborhoods; member of Advisory Committee to North Central Expressway Task Force that developed plan for existing configuration.

Question 2. Evaluations and compensation should be based on a combination of objective and subjective factors. Objective factors should include student test scores and individual student improvement from beginning to end of year and evaluated over say, a three-year period that would provide a good overall indication of teacher effectiveness. But objective criteria alone cannot measure a teacher's ability to inspire, motivate, encourage. Let's find the middle ground that measures both.

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Penny Anderly, continued

Question 3. Initially, there should be a line item review of the budget to eliminate non-essentials. Then year-long projections made showing monthly expenses. There should be a budget review committee that meets monthly to review adherence to the budget and to look for any discrepancies between projected and actual figures, with those discrepancies being addressed immediately. There should be an alert component built into the software programs that notifies administration if/when budgets are exceeded.

Question 4. In tough times, it's a matter of basics vs. luxuries. Top priorities would be to keep classroom teachers (using established student to personnel ratios), and budget for teaching materials (books, etc.). My next step would be to streamline rather than eliminate programs, beginning with administration (e.g. eliminate "perks", board travel budgets, etc.). If programs had to be eliminated, I would look for those that serve the smallest number of people.

Question 5. To address the problem we have to know the cause! DISD doesn't! First step: determine characteristics of the dropout (how many were pregnant; had learning differences; were poor-performing students?). Next step: develop programs for early recognition and intervention for those at risk. We must also improve parental involvement/investment in education. Majority of DISD students are from low-income families struggling to survive. We must provide resources to help parents foster their children's education.

Question 6. DISD is responsible to two groups: the children we are charged with educating and the taxpayers who pay for it. I plan to hold quarterly town hall meetings, contingent on available funds. In the interest of keeping costs at a minimum, would develop a one-year meeting schedule, sent out to constituents at the beginning of the year. Reminders would be posted on District website, in school communications to parents, and through neighborhood newsletters.

Question 7. Nutrition: is it better for a child to eat something not-so-healthy for lunch, or no lunch at all? Individual tastes are developed before children reach school. I support "healthy" choices and preparation; let's eliminate "junk food snacks" (parents can send them from home). Physical education: should be minimum of 3 days a week for all students, plus daily recess for elementary students; will promote better mental health as well.

Contact the Candidate: 214-823-9511; penny@anderly.com; www.pennyanderly.com

DISD Board of Trustee - District 9

Dr. Juanita Wallace



Question 1. I am a retired school administrator from DISD with over 30 years of experience, with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Education. As a parent, grandparent, former teacher, reading Specialist, writing fellow, Civic leader, I have a personal and vested interest in the future of our community. It is this lifetime commitment to our city and its youth which fuels my passion for Excellence in public education, and qualifies me for a position on the Board.

Question 2. Teachers' and principals' evaluations and compensation should be based on objective factors and measuring tools such as the level of education they have attained, students' progress, (pre-test and post-test), and graduation rates. But other factors may be considered, teacher collaboration for improvement.

Question 3. The budget should be actively monitored by the Board, following policy that's in place. There should be transparency in the form of meetings with tax payers and parents to review and have input before the budget is passed. Additionally, there should be trained personnel, accountability at every level and consequences for crimes committed.

Question 4. Programs for students should not be cut. There should be a reduction in senior management, and outside paid consultants should be replaced with trained staff within, to perform the same duties and compensated for that extra work. There should be an enhancement of grant seeking and private fundraisers.

Question 5. To increase the graduation rate, we must address the problems that cause students to drop out. We must work to achieve strong parental engagement first and foremost, and address expectations for achievements, poor attendance, behavioral problems, poor academic performance and teacher retention.

Question 6. We would organize "Teach-In" with speakers of intellectual and experiential expertise around the issue, with round table discussions working toward a solution ending with a Q/A. These quarterly meetings (or as needed) can be held to address up-coming hot issues (being proactive, rather than reactive). Parents, students and other taxpayers will be notified via flyers, phones, newspaper, radio, email, Site Base Managements Teams, and PTA.

Question 7. We know that school lunches are linked to obesity; I suggest the school district connect schools with local farms to provide healthy cafeteria food. Check out Small Farms/School Meals Program. When children exercise and fitness needs are met, children have cognitive energy to learn and achieve. They spend a lot of time watching television and playing games and less physical exercise. Let's give them more exercise time.

Contact the Candidate: <http://juanitawallacecampaign.weebly.com/>

Sally Cain



Question 1. As a former classroom teacher, public education advisor in the Texas Senate, Governor Appointee to the Texas Science and Mathematics Systemic Reform Project, Presidential appointee to the US Department of Education, I have devoted my life to improving public education. I currently serve on the boards of Head Start, Hearing School of the Southwest, Texas Education Reform Caucus. I am a language therapist and am a graduate student in the Learning Therapist Program at SMU.

Question 2. As a former teacher, I know that public school teachers are on the firing line everyday. I am against the use of student test scores as a single basis for a teacher's contract or pay in a single year. If there is a problem with student scores over a period of time, I would expect procedures to be in place for the campus principal and other support personnel to help that teacher.

Question 3. The budget shortfall was ridiculous and the taxpayers deserve to know more about what happened and what is being done differently. I believe it was good to call upon private sector leaders to review the districts auditing procedures and to hire an expert with statewide experiences. I want the District to become transparent with public hearings in every district for the taxpayers to understand how their dollars are being. The taxpayers elect the Board.

Question 4. My focus will be the classroom, the teacher and whatever it takes to help students be successful learners. I was disappointed the District chose to reduce our teacher ranks, they are too critical to our student's success. Basic skills programs are the most important including those that help a child find success such as the arts and technology.

Question 5. Beginning with early grades, identify talents and gifts through formal inventories and engage students and parents in planning for their futures. A college graduate has 80% greater lifetime earnings and every student deserves success in learning- both academically and through talents and gifts. Effective identification of LD and remediation should be balanced with opportunities to excel with their creative talents. Community partnerships are a key to supporting children in school!

Question 6. The parents that entrust their children to the school, the educators that invest their lives in teaching and working at Dallas ISD and the taxpayers who pay for all of it deserve frequent and ongoing communication with the Board. I would support regularly scheduled town hall meetings with budget and program staff to address issues and concerns. Video teleconferences could be organized to allow strong communication also. Taxpayers deserve to understand goals and strategies.

Question 7. The District should explore effective menus and programs around the country and find free materials from the state, federal and local governments. Students should be given healthy choices with information to take home to families on the importance of healthy lifestyles. Community organizations, faith based, parent groups and the media need to be involved in a Dallas ISD collaborative to address the problem on many levels in various ways. This calls for systemic change!

Contact the Candidate: www.sallycain.com

Rossi Walter



Question 1. I have a degree in Afro-American Studies from Harvard University. I am a Financial Consultant by profession with over 20 years of experience in the industry. Additionally, I have over ten years of experience in PTA including PTA President at my children's local school, Past President of the Dallas Council of PTAs with over 20,000 members and Texas PTA Region VP, with over 60,000 PTA members.

Question 2. I would consult with Teacher organizations to craft a compensation and evaluation policy for teachers and Principals, however, I believe that student growth as measured by grades, standardized tests and TAKS may be considered. How much has a student improved under the tutelage of a given teacher? Additionally, I believe that peer reviews as well as parent feedback may be

used in the evaluation process both for teachers and Principals.

Question 3. The Board and key staff should devote specific time - retreat weekends, for example - to reading, asking questions and ultimately understanding the nuances of the entire budget. It needs to be gone over with a fine tooth comb continually. I wonder whether and how much current staff, administration and Board members actually understand it or, for those who do, how willing they are to share that information with key persons and ultimately the public.

Question 4. I believe that teachers should be the last positions to be cut. Cuts should come in areas - outside consultants, for example - that have demonstrated the least benefit to student learning. I would also look strongly at highly compensated administrative positions - over \$80,000 - in making these determinations.

Question 5. I believe the school district must connect with households and provide more value to them. We need to intervene and find out why students are dropping out and create interventions to address those reasons. Specifically, I would promote early childhood reading, making sure that students can read by third grade because if a student cannot read by that time, they are likely to remain behind and ultimately be at risk of dropping out.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.)

Rossi Walter, continued

Question 6. Communication with constituents is critical to the success of our District. Opt-in emails or texts can be sent on as often as a daily basis. Email addresses can be gathered when a student registers. Multilingual mailers can be used for those parents without access to email. Phone trees have been enormously successful at many campuses. Town Hall meetings should be regular, at least monthly, with the option of additional meeting times as needs dictate.

Question 7. I believe that more parent information and education should be provided at the campus level teaching them about Type 2 Diabetes, its dangers and what preventive measures can be taken in the home. Snacks and foods that are high in calories, bad fats and sugars should be disallowed on campuses. Finally, to the greatest extent possible, children should be encouraged to exercise and be active both while on and off campus.

Contact the Candidate: rossiwalter86@post.harvard.edu; 214-660-4318; www.rossiwalter.com

Bernadette Nutall



Question 1. I hold a BA in Business Management from Sam Houston State University. Executive Director of Circle of Support, Inc. a 501 (c)(3) organization. I plan, develop, and implement summer academic enrichment programming for over 250 students. I supervise a staff of 52 including teachers, interns and support staff as well as fundraise for and actively manage a budget of over \$380,000 annually. My expertise with effective academic programming, business processes and budgeting qualify me.

Question 2. I believe that teachers' and principals' evaluations should be based on the improvement shown over an academic period versus one core test result. Periodic measurements that show a standard of improvement are better indicators of the job that has been done by the staff. Too many

outside factors can influence TAKS results and subsequently make the evaluation process unfair to teachers.

Question 3. Cost containment is an active process, not a passive one. Each department should have monthly budget evaluations at the very least to insure that they are within budget. Periodic review of contracts with vendors should be considered to make sure that they reflect the district's current financial predicament and are in line with what other major school districts are paying. The district should also be using conservative revenue projections from the state and government.

Question 4. The top priority is to prevent cuts at the classroom level. Many consulting contracts can be eliminated because the district has staff in place that can and should be providing these services as part of their job descriptions and abilities. Programs delivered from 3rd party entities that have to be paid should be looked at as being replaceable if there are non-profits available to deliver the services at little or no cost

Question 5. Community outreach and innovative programming are essential to reverse this trend. The district cannot rely on outdated policies and procedures to address this crisis. The district needs to look at what is working not only with other districts but within Dallas ISD itself at some schools and look to deploy it across all schools. Active parental and community involvement combined with cutting edge programming will yield extraordinary results.

Question 6. Yes, I absolutely pledge to communicate with my constituents on a regular basis. As part of my campaign I will be hosting Conversations with the Candidate and I will continue as a trustee with Talk with the Trustee. I believe that these should be held at a minimum of once a month to correspond with the board meetings as a means of receiving feedback and providing updates to our constituents.

Question 7. The reality is that the district supplies the primary source of diet and exercise opportunities for many students. A student's health is a major contributor toward their performance in the classroom. I would strongly suggest increased enrichment activities to support existing physical education programs to promote a healthy lifestyle for students.

Contact the Candidate: campaign@votebernadette.com; www.votebernadette.com; 214-381-0593