



League of Women Voters
of Plano/Collin County
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

Voters Guide

May 11, 2013, Local Election
Collin College

Early voting: April 29 – May 7

Election Day: May 11 – Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

About This Voters Guide

This *Voters Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Plano/Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide lists candidates for Collin College Board of Trustees, as shown in the table of contents.

This *Voters Guide* is available online at www.lwvcollin.org, along with separate guides for City Council and/or ISD in Allen, Frisco, Plano and McKinney. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, including an "On Your Ballot" feature that allows voters to enter an address and review races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who will appear on the ballot for the Collin College Local Elections, even those who are uncontested. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Responses were limited to 600 characters.

Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This *Voters Guide* is organized by office, with candidates listed as they appear on the ballot.

Table of Contents

	<i>Pages</i>
Collin College Trustee Questions	2
Collin College Trustee Place 4	2-4
Collin College Trustee Place 5	4
Collin College Trustee Place 6	5
Collin College Trustee Place 9	5-6

Qualifications for Voting

To vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, registered to vote, a resident of the county, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law. If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

Where to Vote

During **early voting April 29 – May 7**, you may vote at any early voting location. Early voting is open to all voters, no excuses necessary. On **Election Day May 11**, you must vote in the precinct in which you reside. Your precinct is listed on your voter registration card.

For polling locations and sample ballots, visit www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/index.jsp or call the Collin County Elections Office at 800-687-8546 (toll-free).

To enter your address and see all races for that address visit www.VOTE411.org.



The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Collin College Board of Trustees

Description

6-year term, elected countywide. Must be a US citizen, at least 18 years of age, a qualified voter and a resident of Collin County. The Board of Trustees, in collaboration with the District President, establishes the vision for the future of the college, its mission and strategic direction. The Trustees establish college policy, providing rigorous fiscal oversight and leadership for the college’s continued growth and success in meeting the needs of its students and community.

Questions

Tuition: How can the college keep tuition affordable for its students?

Other Revenues: Is the college’s non-tuition income adequate to fund its infrastructure and programs? Why or why not?

Business: How can the college prepare students to work in the current business and professional community and find jobs?

Teachers: How can the college attract and keep good teachers?

Other Issues: What are the most important issues you think will come before the college in the next few years? What are your views on these issues?

Collin College Trustee, Place 4 Candidates (3):

Adrian Rodriguez – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 4



Contact Information

Campaign Phone: (972) 517-5275

Web Site: www.VoteAdrianCampaign.com

Email: adrian.rodriguez17@verizon.net

Education: Bachelor Of Music Education from Texas State University, 1975. Master of Science in Social Work, 1990

Experience: I have worked 29 years in education as a teacher, social worker and behavior specialist. I also worked in the insurance industry as a commercial property underwriter for seven years.

Tuition: Collin College already has the lowest tuition in the entire state at \$37 a credit hour. The current board and Collin College leadership has maintained fiscal responsibility through a very efficient system. The Collin College Foundation has excelled at raising funds for scholarships to offset tuition costs. We must continue the example of the leadership and grow it by, for example, looking at group rates for electricity or sharing services with other organizations. Another essential part of maintaining affordability is the funding brought in from contract training.

Other Revenues: The state legislature failed to accommodate the 20% growth in community college enrollment during the past two year budgeting process. In the current session, legislators are looking at a 6% decrease for the next two years. Despite these actions, and unlike other community colleges in Texas, Collin College continues to be very fiscally efficient, and this is due to the outstanding leadership we have with Dr. Cary Israel. Another essential part of maintaining affordability is the funding brought in from contract training.

Business: According to state legislators, over half of all jobs will require a college degree in the very near future. The college can utilize internship and mentoring programs with small and large businesses in the area to assist in developing pertinent job skills. This will allow students an opportunity to gain knowledge of the work involved and develop relationships with area businesses and corporations. Innovative programs and partnerships with area school districts that offer up to 50 credit hours to high school students, such as the Health Science Academy, are essential for the future.

Adrian Rodriguez – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 4

Teachers: Collin College has already developed a reputation for having excellent instructors. Five of the past national "Professors of the Year" have been from Collin College. Excellent teachers will want to be at a college that has a positive reputation and nationally recognized for efficiency, community service and innovation. Creative use of technology and distance learning will also assist in attracting new teachers, as well as well thought out benefits.

Other Issues: University costs will continue to climb and this will make it very difficult for some to attend a four year institution. Collin College must remain viable in offering courses attractive to students while maintaining modest costs. Over 50,000 students have enrolled in Collin College this year. According to demographers, we will not be seeing growth in the 20% range for the next couple of years, however there will be some growth to manage. We must be more creative in programming to assist with retention and graduation rates. I see this as an economic imperative for the entire region.

Buddy Minett – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 4**Contact Information**

Campaign Phone: (972) 679-9488

Web Site: buddyminett.org

Email: buddy@specialtyland.com

Education: BBA Management - UT Austin **Experience:** 8+ Years School Board (3 as President), 6+ Years City Council (1 as Mayor Pro Tem), 4 Years Planning and Zoning Commission (2 as Chairman), 5 Years Heritage Assoc Board (2 as President), 5 Years Main Street Board.

Tuition: Collin College currently offers an education at the lowest tuition rate in the entire State of Texas and possibly the Country. To continue this success, they must capitalize and expand on programs such as Dual Enrollment for HS Students and Pre-Enrollment to 4 year Colleges and Universities. They should continue to work on expanding their 4 year "offerings" where appropriate, since the 3rd and 4th years of tuition, at even a State College, can easily be 10 times the cost of Collin College.

Other Revenues: The current, non-tuition, income is adequate to fund infrastructure and programs. But Dr. Israel and the Board need to continue their excellent, fiscally conservative, approach to growth. The College currently has enough money "saved" that they can construct new buildings without going into debt (i.e. selling bonds) like most Cities and School Districts. Additionally, they have programs like the "naming foundation" for scholarships, designed to attract benefactors and donors, that helps offset tuition costs for eligible students.

Business: Collin College enjoys an outstanding reputation in the Medical and Dental fields - an area with ever increasing demands for trained personnel. Additionally, they have wonderful programs in Hi Tech, Culinary Arts and the Hospitality disciplines. Collin is currently the "lead" College in a nationwide program to evaluate networking and Cyber security needs in the coming years. Coordinating with area employers and School districts will yield additional direction on curriculum offerings to satisfy 21st Century career needs.

Teachers: Collin College has an outstanding faculty and continues to attract great people. Many of the instructors have real world business experience rather than simply theoretical training. In addition to the traditional requirement to be an excellent communicator and teacher, they are required to continue their own education, and to "give back" by being actively involved in the Community. At many Universities, advancement and tenure are subject to the phenomenon in academia known as "publish or perish". Not so at Collin. They expect more, and reward results.

Other Issues: The most important issue, is to continue to offer an outstanding education at a great price to as many Collin County students as possible. The College should be constantly evaluating the career areas in highest demand and tailor their disciplines to match. The "trades" will become increasingly important and we should expand offerings for those students. However, Collin County is the most populous county in the US without a 4 year university/college. We shouldn't make our students go elsewhere, at 10 times the cost, to complete their education.

Jim Orr – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 4**Contact Information****Campaign Phone:** (214) 415-2381**Web Site:** www.orrfor4.org**Email:** jim-orr@att.net

Education: B.S. Electrical Engineering, Texas A&M, Attended on Presidential Academic Scholarship MBA - focus on Organizational Behavior, Washington State University **Experience:** I have spent much of my career in technology Business Development. Business Development requires strong understanding of your environment and an ability to work with very diverse personalities to deliver long term value.

Tuition: For Collin College to continue to provide excellent value, the College must carefully manage investment in infrastructure. Focus must be on quality instruction and core assets. As your Trustee, I will ensure that your funds are invested wisely and in support of instruction. By building partnerships industry, Collin College will serve residents of the county by providing educational opportunities for all ages and by providing educated and trained people ready to take on the careers needed in our changing society. These partnerships can minimize direct cost to the students.

Other Revenues: It is important to continue to work with the state legislature to be sure that they understand the value of community colleges in general and specifically Collin College. Our school should be rewarded for the sound decisions that have been made. Most importantly, Collin College must live within its means. Once the revenue for a period is determined, the funding is a set number. The challenge face a Trustee is to make the right choices with the funding that is available.

Business: Collin College has done an excellent job in bringing outside investment into our school. The receipt of a \$20 million NISGTC federal grant to prepare students for four critical IT disciplines is a great example of how to reach for the funding available to programs designed to meet the needs of industries with real jobs available today. As a member of the high tech community, I will expand our relationships with the key growth industries that continue to deliver high value employment opportunities.

Teachers: I have managed many diverse teams through the last few decades and the rules for motivation are the same, no matter the industry. Provide a stable work environment. Support continued growth for all of the professors in the form of intellectual stimulation and professional development. Support rigor in the classroom to allow the professors own their work. Provide competitive pay and benefits. Most of all, treat the professors with the respect and dignity that they deserve. They are the front line. Give them the tools they need and let them teach with pride.

Other Issues: The pace of change in education has a profound impact on how our students learn and interact with our instructors and administration. Collin College must keep pace with changing technology or risk becoming irrelevant. My experience will help guide Collin through this period of change. Instructional integrity is key. No one should expect A when the incentives are B. As an example, it is not possible to expect high rigor when the professors and administrations are rewarded for retention. As a Trustee, I will advocate for common sense policy that drives true value for Collin County.

Collin College Trustee, Place 5

Candidates (1):

Stacy Anne Arias – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 5

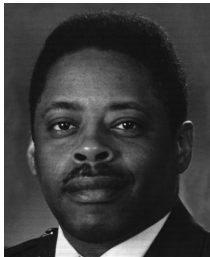
No response received

Collin College Trustee, Place 6 Candidates (1):

Mac Hendricks – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 6
No response received

Collin College Trustee, Place 9 Candidates (2):

Richard R. Anderson – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 9



Contact Information

Campaign Phone: (972) 704-4893

Email: rianders_46808@yahoo.com

Education: Bachelor of Arts Degree from Louisiana Tech University along with Post Graduate Work in Management and Public Administration from Webster University **Experience:** Commissioned Officer with the United States Air Force in Logistics, Administrative Assistant with the Parish Governing Authority in Shreveport, Louisiana, Commissioned Executive with the Boy Scouts of America along with Optimist Club Membership

Tuition: Ensuring the costs that is received is being managed properly by the administration and its supervisory board in a visionary manner. Ensuring that a proactive effort is continuing made to get more funding from traditional and nontraditional sources. Working to ensure a more equitable allotment is received from the state and to ensure that the highest quality of professors are recruited and retained so partnerships are developed with the private sector to establish more grant funding to provide new opportunity for future prosperity and growth.

Other Revenues: Yes . Primarily because it allows the facility to stay open and to maintain quality employees to serve its students

Business: Soliciting and including Business partner advice in the curriculum. Continuing real world labs and work environments in the technology areas. Including even more student work opportunities while the students are in school along with networking with alumni after graduating to ensure real progress with those to come behind the alumni.

Teachers: I think the college programs are strong and the only area outside of salary that really affect teacher attrition is the outside the classroom leadership opportunities. These are the areas that will attract the great teachers who are very interested in full development of the students.

Other Issues: The Management of the growth of the County which will call for expansion in the college and maintaining an adequate labor supply challenges for its people and businesses. Bold foresight by supervision will be required to ensure that any progress/growth are not stymied by a lack of vision and resting on current laurels.

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 (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

Andy Hardin – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 9**Contact Information****Campaign Phone:** (214) 893-0900**Web Site:** www.VoteForHardin.com**Email:** Andy@VoteForHardin.com

Education: TCU - BBA, U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Institute of Organization Management, Natl. Alliance Insurance Education & Research - Certified Insurance Councilor **Experience:** Collin College Trustee, U.S. Army, State Board of MHMR, City of McKinney - City Council, EDC, P&Z, Park Board, Traffic Commission

Tuition: Having the lowest tuition in the State of Texas, we have worked diligently to manage our money. This has paid huge dividends for both the students and the taxpayers. It has been accomplished by keeping our debt low and approaching every spending decision with a keen eye toward our bottom line which factors into what we charge for tuition. One example is the use of our buildings for classes on the weekend, since facility utilization is one indicator of expense management.

Other Revenues: Our non-tuition income is an area where we do not have as much control as tuition income. Forecasting funding from the State of Texas continues to be a challenge. Last session our funds were cut and there is only 50-50 chance that we will have those cuts restored. We also receive some governmental grants, but they only cover the cost of the grant with very little overhead expenses included. The bottom line is that because of our foresight and strategic planning, we will be able to continue to offer leading edge programs in superior facilities with exceptional faculty.

Business: By not resting on our laurels, we continue to introduce curriculum that anticipates the needs of our students and businesses that will hire them. This fall we will pilot the Health Science Academy with the Plano ISD. This collaborative effort will offer high school students an opportunity to graduate with up to 50 hours of college credit and certifications in many disciplines. These types of programs in conjunction with being proactive about when and where classes are held, yield exceptional results for preparing our students for the future.

Teachers: Money. Facilities. Attitude. No single attribute attracts and keeps good faculty, but as a member of the board I feel our attention to these types of factors contribute to our having extremely qualified professors. I was pleased last year when we were able to give the facility and staff a well deserved raise, but money will only get you so far. We also strive to provide our facility with opportunities and support that enhances their careers. They have responded and Collin College has had 5 U.S. Professors of the Year. More than any other two or four year college in the State of Texas.

Other Issues: It is hard not to consider funding as the most important issue, but for the future our ability to stay ahead of the curve in both funding and performance is paramount. Because of the boards insistence in keeping our expenses low we have been able to build a reserve that give us the flexibility to approach financial challenges with the a long term strategy. There is no doubt that how quality education programs are delivered is changing every day. Our relevancy demands that we continue to equip our facility and students with the most modern tools at our disposal.

This Voters Guide and guides for Allen, Frisco, McKinney and Plano are available on the League's website at www.lwvcollin.org and at www.VOTE411.org

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.