



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF COLLIN COUNTY**  
[www.lwvcollin.org](http://www.lwvcollin.org)

**Nonpartisan**

# VOTERS GUIDE

**June 13, 2015, Runoff Election  
Collin College**

Early voting: June 1 – June 9

Election Day: June 13 – 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 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 in a Runoff Election, as shown in the table of contents. It is available online at [www.LWVCollin.org](http://www.LWVCollin.org). Candidate responses for all runoff races are also available at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org). Users may enter a home address and review races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who appeared on the ballot for the May 9, 2015, election. This *Voters Guide* reprints the responses from candidates who will appear on the ballot for the June 13, 2015, Runoff Election.

Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the print deadline, "No response received" is printed. Later responses may appear in VOTE411. 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 in the order in which they will appear on the ballot.

To enter your address and see all races for that address visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org).



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## When & Where to Vote

### Early Voting

June 1-3: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
June 4: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
June 5-6: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
June 8-9: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Election Day

June 13: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

During early voting and on Election Day, you can vote at any vote center in Collin County.

For a complete list of Collin County vote centers and a sample ballot, visit [co.collin.tx.us/elections/Pages/default.aspx](http://co.collin.tx.us/elections/Pages/default.aspx) Or call 972.547.1990 (McKinney)

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

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.

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## Collin College Board of Trustees

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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.

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### QUESTIONS

**Tuition:** What would be the effects on the college of the proposed two years of free tuition for everyone?

**Infrastructure:** How can the infrastructure for an expanding student population be funded, including buildings, faculty and staff?

**Curriculum:** What different types of programs are needed at the college in order to serve the community's higher education needs, and how could they be funded?

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**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 school district in the next few years? What are your views on these issues?

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## Collin College Trustee, Place 7 Candidates (2):

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### Collin Kennedy – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 7

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**Contact Information:**  
(214) 686-4421  
CollinforCollinCollege.com  
cdk@hanshawkennedy.com

**Education:** (Baylor University - BBA, 1994 University of Arkansas School of Law - J.D., 1999)

**Experience:** I am involved in leadership positions at our church and also serve on the Advisory Board for Search Ministries. I am also a founding member of the Collin County law firm of Hanshaw Kennedy Marquis, PLLC, where we have been helping individuals and businesses with their legal needs for over a decade.

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**Tuition:** I think free tuition for everyone would actually decrease the value of an education for those pursuing one. Unless the federal government completely subsidizes the free tuition, this proposal would also have a devastating financial impact on all community colleges.

**Infrastructure:** The college's partnerships with its municipalities and local businesses is critical for the continued sustainable growth of the college. The college benefits from a rapidly expanding tax base due to the extraordinary growth of the county. It is critical that the college continue to exercise fiscal responsibility in the good times so that in the unlikely event the county's tax base stops growing, the college will still have the budgetary resources to expand, if necessary.

**Curriculum:** I believe the College is already doing a great job identifying new programs to serve the community's higher education needs.

Technology and health care are obviously rapidly growing sectors and the College is already seeking to expand its curriculum in those areas. These new programs can be adequately funded with existing reserves and the continued growth of revenues generated by the expanding county tax base.

**Business:** The college has to continue to be acutely aware of the various emerging fields of industry. Collin County has so much to offer in the fields of medicine, technology, energy and manufacturing. This is why it so important for the College to continue to develop partnerships with local industry. Doing so will naturally make it easier for students to get jobs in our community.

**Teachers:** I think the college must continue to do a great job of marketing to its constituents the high quality of the education it provides. Gone are the days when community colleges were simply a place to take "easier"

courses and spend a couple of years while the student decides what she wants to do with her life. As long as the product it provides remains elite and the college carefully nurtures the great reputation it already has, I believe it will get easier and easier to attract and keep good teachers.

**Other Issues:** Accessibility; Technology will hold the keys to making a higher education even more accessible. I wholeheartedly support research and development to find better and more efficient ways to link the education to the student.

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**Jim Orr – Candidate for Collin College Trustee, Place 7**

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**Contact Information:**

(214) 415-2381

JimOrr.us

Jim@JimOrr.us

**Education:** B.S. Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M University. MBA from Washington State University with an emphasis in Organizational Behavior

**Experience:** 24 years in global technology strategy and planning. Executive level engagement with multiple Fortune 100 companies. Managed large teams of planning and strategy professionals. Managed capital budgets in excess of \$300M. Active member of Chase Oaks church.

**Tuition:** Due to low tuition and a high availability of scholarship opportunities, it is unwise to assume there will be a major surge in students if the proposal does pass into law. With this in mind, capacity for individuals that would take advantage of the free tuition option is largely built into the current strategic plan. What must be resisted is the urge to build out extensive facilities for an unproven large surge of students. This requires the guidance of an individual with long experience in managing strategy and large-scale capital budgets. I bring this experience to the Board.

**Infrastructure:** The rapid growth of Collin County has continually improved our tax base. In combination with a restrained fiscal policy, Collin College enjoys a strong financial position. In order to maintain this fiscal conservatism, the Board must continue to form partnerships with businesses and services in our community. With this model, those partnerships can be leveraged for funding, facilities and ongoing support. I have spent my career forging partnerships between groups with wide ranges of concerns and bring this experience to the Board.

**Curriculum:** Trained Medical, Technical, First Responder and Automotive experts are highly valued in Collin County. Partnership with local business is important as they provide resources and hire students into the workforce. We must focus on developing the skills needed here in our community and resist wide expansion that depletes scarce resources. Collin College helps families reduce the financial burden of a four year degree. The options for high school students to build a

college transcript should be well communicated. Collin College must expand this effort for the benefit of all Collin County citizens

**Business:** As all of us that have competed for a job know, the best way to win a position is through a personal relationship. By enlisting the help of local employers, Collin College students will not only earn the skills necessary, but will also hold the relationships needed to make it to the top of a hiring manager's list. Collin College has built great partnerships with various community organizations and local companies. We must expand these relationships at every opportunity. My entire career is based on building mutually beneficial relationships. I bring this experience to the Board.

**Teachers:** Collin College enjoys a wealth of excellent, experienced faculty members that are passionate about teaching. It is typically politics and management conflicts that cause them to leave. Administration cannot run Collin College like a small business and expect the faculty to be happy. Likewise, a standard big-company HR department operation is not designed for a college environment. It is easy to attract strong applicants because Collin County is a great place to live. In order to retain strong Faculty, we must view them as partners as opposed to employees in the education process.

**Other Issues:** Technology integration into the classroom facilitates amazing opportunities to impact learning. Collin College must support new technologies using a cost effective model. I bring my 24 years of experience in

technology strategy and planning to the Board. President Matkin is changing the organization to fit his goals and style. I bring my extensive executive management experience to offer accountability to this process. There is a

tendency to move Collin College toward a job training model. I will ensure that we remain a strong intellectual center as we meet the needs of the entire community.

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*)

***Voters Guides* for Collin College, McKinney City Council, and Wylie City Council Runoff Elections are available on the League's website at [www.lwvcollin.org](http://www.lwvcollin.org) and at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org)**

**Your vote is your voice. Be heard.**