



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLLIN COUNTY
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

May 6, 2017
Local Election
Frisco

Early voting: April 24 – May 2

Election Day: May 6 – Polls open 7 am to 7 pm

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.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who will appear on the ballot. Candidates' replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the Voters Guide deadline, then "No response received" is printed. Later responses may appear at www.VOTE411.org. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This guide is available online at www.LWVCollin.org.



To see all races for your address, visit www.VOTE411.org.

When & Where to Vote

For Collin County voting locations, hours, and a sample ballot, visit http://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/election_information or call 972-547-1990 (McKinney).

Table of Contents

	Page
Frisco Mayor	2-3
Frisco City Council	4-8
Frisco ISD Trustees	8-13

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*)

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.

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.

Frisco Mayor & City Council

3-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council does strategic planning, approves annual budget, sets policy, enacts ordinances establishing municipal law, regulates zoning and development, and appoints board and commission members.

QUESTIONS

Infrastructure: What measures do you support to meet the city's infrastructure needs, including transportation and water, given the expected population changes?

Housing: What should the city council do, if anything, to ensure that appropriate housing is available for all demographics, including seniors and low income residents?

Budget: What concerns you the most about the city's finances, and what changes would you like to see in the budget?

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

Frisco Mayor

Bob Allen, Mayor



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Education: Degree in Computer Programming, Southern Ohio College, 1982

Experience: 35 year Project Mgmt, Leadership, Financial Mgmt, Business Process. 13 year City Council. 9 year Economic Development Corp. 7 year Education Foundation. 23+ year Administrative Boards at FUMC Frisco. Samaritan Inn and Medical City Plano/Frisco Boards

Infrastructure: I understand the challenges of growth. Throughout my 25 years of involvement and 17 years of city leadership, I have continually focused on the creation of and execution to our master plan. Our master plan is the product of community wide input, through a formal input process. This planning process and our relationships our partners is the key to our continued success. By our partnerships with our business and development community, we will provide a diversified tax base to ensure the investment in this infrastructure is not the burden of our individual property owners and taxpayers.

Housing: We must continue to work with our developer community to provide diverse housing products to meet the needs of our citizens. We must work with our family services partners to ensure we're meeting the needs of all demographics. And we must continue to explore opportunities to leverage resources that can be available, as long as those resources do not include state or federal mandates that do not achieve the best interests of our citizens.

Budget: Although tax rates remain stable, our effective tax rate is growing, placing a burden on our taxpayers through increased appraisal values and taxing. I will work to keep taxes low while still providing quality services. I will accomplish this through a continued evaluation of staffing level and population growth, with scrutiny toward the needs of individual departments. I will always work toward the balance of taxes from our citizen's and the value of the services they demand.

Other Issues: 1) Leadership transition. My 25 year involvement, provide me with the tools to best address this issue. I have a proven track record with our staff, partners, and surrounding communities. 3) Growth brings congestion. I will focus on vital infrastructure to alleviate traffic congestion, and continue my longtime efforts to bring best practices solutions to improve our roadways and reduce commuter impact. 4) Density will require common sense zoning to protect homeowners and families. I will continue my efforts to achieve solutions without infringing on the rights of all property and landowners.

Jeff Cheney, Mayor



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Education: Bachelor in Business Administration with high Honors Master in Professional Accounting

Experience: - 9 year City Council Member - 5 Time Mayor Pro Tem/Deputy Mayor Pro Tem - 8 Year Budget and Audit Chair - Certified Public Accountant - Registered Investment Advisor - Frisco Technology Committee - Frisco Small Business of the Year

Infrastructure: Residents are concerned about increasing density and resulting impacts to traffic, available park space, and overall quality of life. While residents do desire entertainment districts and vibrant lifestyle areas, we must be careful not to overdevelop our urban spines, and I have been a long-time advocate for open space and smart development. membership, and of ensuring we are fiscally responsible in order to have resources to invest in roads and long-term infrastructure building and maintenance. I also believe in technological innovations that allow for cost effective ways to reduce congestion

Housing: I believe that the availability of housing should be determined by the free market, and that Frisco has a broad availability of housing product already. I think the best thing we can do to ensure that housing needs are met is to continue to keep our quality of life high but our cost of living low, by continuing to find responsible ways to save money, lower city debt and lower property taxes. I was proud to be the only candidate in my race to vote in favor of the homestead tax exemption policy I crafted for Frisco senior and disabled citizens, to help keep their taxes manageable.

Budget: As Chair of the City Council Budget and Audit Committee for 8 years, I oversaw very conservative budgets. As a CPA and Registered Investment Advisor, I have the economic and financial know-how to keep Frisco fiscally healthy and believe we must continue to build up our Capital Reserve Fund. I will continue to lead the charge to diversify our tax base, increase our strategic investments, and reduce the city's debt. I do anticipate the ability to reduce tax rates in the future.

Other Issues: Frisco's police and fire lead the nation in protecting our safety and property values, but we must continue to support their efforts – with a pledge to increase training, equipment, and sufficient staffing to meet the needs of a city that hosts thousands of tourists every year. We must also be paying close attention to leadership transition and succession planning, as so many of our key leaders are nearing retirement. As a business executive and employer, I have the experience to assist in this process, and can bring the values of innovation and community connection to the recruiting table.

Frisco City Council, Place 5

Chris King, City Council Place 5



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Education: B.S. in Computer Science (Drake University--Des Moines, IA) M.A. in Practical Theology (Regent University--Virginia Beach, VA)

Experience: I have served on several professional committees and organizational boards. I currently serve as Sr. Pastor of Christ's Living Kingdom Church. I have served others for most of my life and career.

Infrastructure: There's no silver bullet to solve this issue. For starters, we must realize that the current rate of growth only exacerbates this problem. So, we should slow our pursuit for urban density. Some areas, may require road expansion (i.e. Preston Rd, Main St.). However, I am not in favor of DART bus service as the cost don't justify the means and it would only add to the problem of congestion. As for water, we will need to monitor the current contract negotiations with the NTMWD and its members as these negotiations could largely effect our ability to provide water to our growing population.

Housing: Currently, the city offers grants to first-time homebuyers. However, many first time homebuyers still can't afford to live in Frisco. Therefore, I think we could increase maximum income requirements for grant qualification. Secondly, I would want to look at certain incentives to developers that are willing to build homes within a certain price range. As for our seniors, rising property taxes often threaten their livelihoods. Therefore, we should explore tax incentives for senior homesteads. These are just a few options I would be want to explore for our housing concerns.

Budget: I am concerned with the rate at which the city is taking on debt. Currently, I believe we are over leveraged and heading down the wrong path. In our finances, I would like to see less incentives going to businesses. I would like us to review our debt needs and begin to curb our debt appetite.

Other Issues: One of the most important issues that many aren't speaking of will be the transition of leadership. Several of our city leaders are nearing retirement. Our process in bringing in new leaders will greatly determine the future of Frisco. I plan to encourage an exhaustive search that not only includes those within Frisco's management structure, but also those from the outside. We should be determined in bringing in the best talent that will help lead us to even greater days.

Tim Nelson, City Council Place 5



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Education: Bachelor of Arts in Administrative Studies, University of California Riverside, Associate of Arts in General Studies, Moorpark College

Experience: Deputy Mayor Pro Tem - 2016-Present, City Council Member - 2011-Present, Frisco Budget and Audit Committee - 2011, 2013-Present, Frisco Legislative Committee - 2016-Present, NCTCOG - Emergency Preparedness Planning Council - 2016-Present

Infrastructure: Frisco is a city expected to continue its explosive growth! Gone are the days when city leaders were reacting to growth. During my six years in office there has been a deliberate shift to a more proactive infrastructure posture. Roads such as Rockhill Parkway and Coit Road have been built to six lane thoroughfare capacity, in advance of development. Guidance has been given to staff to work with regional, infrastructure providers such as the North Texas Municipal Water District, Oncor, CoServe and Atmos to ensure that Frisco's future needs are anticipated and planned for.

Housing: Frisco has a long standing mantra of Live, Work, Play. As Hall Park and developments, such as The Star, Frisco Station, and Wade Park go vertical we ensure Work. As we continue to expand and improve our park system, expand sports offerings, attract local/regional entertainment venues and fine dining we ensure Play. With the median price of homes exceeding \$500k, middle class families are finding it more difficult to Live here; and apartments are not the answer! The Council and city staff regularly work with developers in order to explore housing choices that are appropriate and affordable.

Budget: The City's budget is the People's budget. It is critical that elected officials and city staff stay in tune with resident's needs and expectations. Frisco has a strong history of providing city services at an extremely high level of resident expectations while keeping costs below neighboring cities. Our recent change in waste collection company's show that lower rates can be negotiated, saving our residents money. It is imperative that the Council is fiscally responsible and keeps taxes low. I'm proud to have lowered the tax rate twice during my six years in office!

Other Issues: There is no question that traffic, density, and infrastructure are the issues of the day. I will continue my pledge of reducing density outside of the tollway corridor, saying "No" to new garden style apartments, expanding our city's roads and transportation networks such as hike and bike trails, and ensuring that development is right sized and right placed. Frisco shouldn't be all things to all people. But it should be a city with offerings that meet the diverse needs and preferences of a multigeneration, multicultural population that wants to Work, Live, and Play in Frisco.

Frisco City Council, Place 6

Jason Abati, City Council Place 6

No response was received by the Voters Guide deadline.
Later responses may be on www.VOTE411.org.

Brian Livingston, City Council Place 6

No response was received by the Voters Guide deadline.
Later responses may be on www.VOTE411.org.

Bobby Roberti, City Council Place 6



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Education: Bachelor's of History - Southern Methodist University, 1991

Experience: * 2012-Present - Frisco Planning and Zoning Commission (Elected Chair in 2016) * 2017 Neighborhood Design Strategy Advisory Committee * 2013 Charter Review Commission * Capital Improvement Advisory Committee * Frisco Soccer Association Coach

Infrastructure: I feel like our immediate population concern is public safety in general, traffic injuries and collisions in particular. We are responsible not only for the moving of our own residents but also for the thousands of people who commute through our city daily to Dallas, and who visit here to work, shop and play. Transportation, water, and roads are all impacted by explosive growth. I support the city's continuing to minimize density where possible, and maintaining fiscal responsibility with capital spending so we can afford to invest in our infrastructure needs.

Housing: I don't believe it is the role of City Council or government in general to be determining private market factors such as what type of real estate is developed by commercial investors. I do believe it is the limited role of our planning and zoning officials to try and manage the final product to meet the expectations of the community, within our legal ability to do so. I believe there is already a good diversity of housing for all demographics, and feel that if there was more demand, the market would provide.

Budget: My biggest concern at the present is the risk to the city's ability to retain local control of tax rates and funding, based on the state legislature's current pending bills to force rollback tax rate elections if the market shifts more than 4%. As a financial advisor, I know that this will force irresponsible budgeting and remove the ability for our departments to do long-term planning. I fear that the first cuts would have to be to public safety personnel, which I wholly oppose. I support efforts by city leadership to fight this overreaching attempt by Austin politicians.

Other Issues: Managing the growth – I can affect this by staying tough on density. We don't want to become the next Dallas; it's not why people moved here. We need to understand and remember that residents come here because they want to raise their families here, and we must not lose sight of that core constituency in order to focus exclusively on the needs of other demographics. And, we must prioritize keeping taxes low yet maintaining high-quality city services; attracting large corporate campuses to help diversify our tax base will help keep the burden off homeowners.

K.D. Warach, City Council Place 6



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Education: BS Civil Engineering - University of Nevada, Reno

Experience: Registered Professional Engineer (PE) in 4 States (TX, NV, CA and NC) - Over 20 years of experience in construction management of heavy civil infrastructure projects

Infrastructure: - Coordination with FHWA, TxDOT and NHTA to seek extra funding and greater participation - Explore innovative and alternative delivery methods such as Public Private Partnerships - Greater public input and their involvement in decision making process - Construct a robust public transportation system for all Frisco residents

Housing: - Encourage construction of all kinds of housing developments including smaller patio homes, townhomes, garden style apartment complexes, senior communities etc. - I will support constructing a homeless shelter in Frisco

Budget: - I would like to see the wealthy corporations pay their fair share of taxes. - Public Works Department's budget is not adequate to keep up with the growth. We must have funds to add adequate capacity and to maintain our existing road - I would like to see more transparency in the budget process

Other Issues: - How to continue providing the level of services and high quality of life for all residents in the coming years. The city should put greater emphasis on hiring and retaining the best people across the board including but not limited City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, PW Director. City employees' salary and benefit packages must recognize the competitive market we are in. - How to bring more jobs and businesses to Frisco. This includes keep Frisco a desirable and safe city which attracts and recruits the best talent. - How to add capacity and maintain our existing highways and streets.

Rui Zhang, City Council Place 6



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Education: B.S. Management Information Systems, Southern Illinois University & MBA, Saint Louis University

Experience: Ms. Rui Zhang has held various leadership positions in areas of vendor contracting, cost containment strategies and analytics. She brings to city council proven leadership, business acumen, critical thinking and compassion.

Infrastructure: Our infrastructure was largely built at the same time so they age at the same time. In the next 10 years, Frisco's major infrastructure challenges will begin to show signs of urgency due to escalating costs of wear and tear. Traffic congestion is going to worsen. We need to proactively inform our citizens of the implications of these impending issues along with engaging them for solution-oriented dialogues. Engagement is key to success and sustainability. Water conservation efforts need to be expanded, tracked and communicated.

Housing: The land prices in Frisco have gone up significantly. Therefore, the market directly influences housing affordability. Notwithstanding Frisco has maintained some level of affordable housing units and have a healthy development for senior living communities given the relatively low percentage of the senior population. In addition, we have a down payment assistance program that is currently in place to help low and moderate income families employed by the city of Frisco or the Frisco ISD to purchase a home in Frisco.

Budget: Property taxes represent the largest source of revenue for the city. Due to the increasing property value appraisals over the years and the expectation that the tax base will continue to grow, we need transparent and intuitive reporting to inform our citizens of expenditures and debt burdens. The citizens need to be engaged early in the budgeting cycle to have a meaningful impact. Additionally, it is important to monitor budget increases as they should not rise more than inflation and population growth.

Other Issues: The most pressing issues would be mostly related to the population growth. Communication and community engagement would need to be a key initiative. Secondly, accountability monitoring should be included as another priority so that we can track, trend and benchmark our city service performances and effectiveness. Thirdly, robust economic development contributes to diversifying the tax base, reducing tax burdens and keeping taxes low. We need to attract and retain businesses that produce a positive long term impact to the communities. Frisco competes globally. Talent engagement is crucial.

Frisco ISD Trustee

3-year term, elected district wide. Must be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen, a qualified voter, and a resident of the District. The Board of Trustees makes all final decisions regarding school district priorities, policies, personnel, textbooks, expenditures, and growth management. Trustees adopt a budget, levy taxes, and submit bond issues to finance construction projects.

QUESTIONS

Growth: What should be done to proactively address the education needs of the changing population and demographics in your district?

Testing: What, if anything, should be done by your district to reduce the focus on teaching to standardized tests?

Public School Finance: What changes, if any, should the state make to the public school finance structure in order to benefit your district?

Safety: What changes are needed, if any, to reduce bullying/violence and increase respectful conflict resolution in your district's schools?

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

Frisco ISD Trustee, Place 4

Asanga Jayatilaka, ISD Trustee Place 4



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Education: Frisco High School, Class of 2011 University of Texas, Class of 2014

Experience: None provided

Growth: We need to have open lines of communication between the students, faculty, and the board of trustees. Having eyes and voices at all levels will allow the board to address concerns and needs quickly. I believe that having a constant and reliable mode for teachers and students to communicate with the board will allow the board to address needs and concerns quickly and allow the board to understand the changing demographics of the district.

Testing: Our teachers are key to reducing time spent on standardized testing. If we can develop lesson plans that are more complete than requirements set by standardized testing, our students will be prepared for these tests with minimal preparation. I believe that the teachers in our school district are perfectly capable of creating lesson plans independent of standardized testing, yet are rigorous enough to prepare our students to succeed in these tests.

Public School Finance: The state legislature needs to work on fixing what the Texas Supreme Court has called "a recondite scheme for which the word 'Byzantine' seems generous." An overhaul to the state education funding system would be the best option to remedy the Fisd budget situation, as Fisd stands to lose \$30 million in funding in the 2017-2018 school year with the loss of state funding.

Safety: Fisd has done an excellent job by adopting one of the most widely respected bullying prevention programs in the world. With that in mind, we must remain vigilant to address causes for concern quickly. There is always room for improvement and we must remain open to new research in behavioral psychology to determine if new anti-bullying methods can be more effective.

Other Issues: I believe that the most important issue that Fisd currently faces is maintaining and improving our students' quality of education while we navigate through these tough financial times. As our district looks to limit spending in order to meet budgetary requirements, I want to ensure that future generations of Fisd students can have the same, if not better, opportunities my peers and I had. Outside of financial imperatives, I want to better equip our students to tackle the challenges they face and take advantage of the opportunities that will arise in both college and the professional world.

Anne McCausland, ISD Trustee Place 4



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Education: Baylor University: BBA, Entrepreneurship/Marketing, 1987; Collin College: Associate Degree of Nursing, R.N., 2001.

Experience: FISD Board of Trustees since 2011, President since 2014. 2015 TASB Leadership graduate. 2013 TX PTA Emerging Leaders Academy. FISD Council of PTA's President 2009-2011. Frisco Education Foundation Board: 2009-2014. TX PTA Area 15 Board member 09-11.

Growth: FISD evaluates each student individually and is committed to its mission of knowing each student by name and need. This drives how we respond to changing needs in order to maximize successes in the classroom. Our teachers achieve this by continually addressing four critical questions: What do students need to learn? How will we know when they have learned it? How will we respond when they don't learn it? How will we respond to when students already know it? FISD provides a wide range of resources to enable teachers to make instructional decisions that best meet the needs of their students.

Testing: The FISD board recently approved a resolution calling on the Texas Legislature to repeal the A-F accountability system for school districts and campuses. The TEA commissioner has acknowledged flaws in the system, and few are able to clearly explain how districts are graded within each domain in the system. The resolution passed by the FISD board asks the legislature to develop a community-based accountability system that empowers school districts to design their own internal systems of assessment and accountability, which would place less emphasis on standardize testing.

Public School Finance: The state legislature desperately needs to update school funding formulas such as the Cost of Education, Basic Allotment, and Transportation indexes. The legislature also needs to address the issue of recapture and the ending of ASATR. I have heavily advocated for, and sincerely hope that, the Legislature will overhaul the overly complex, and often unfair, school funding formulas for school districts during this legislative session.

Safety: Our district needs to continue to work diligently with parents, students and teachers to prevent and respond promptly to bullying incidents. To that end, FISD has trained all campus administrators to use the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. We should continue to host parent and student programs designed to educate about prevention and response to incidents of bullying. FISD does have a bullying policy which both students and parents are required to sign.

Other Issues: The most important issues facing FISD are funding, managing growth, and changing demographics. Our legislature should make education funding a priority and not force districts like ours to make budgetary decisions that dramatically impact the classroom experience. FISD currently has over 56,400 students, and is projected to have close to 80,000 students by city build-out, therefore state funding and our budgeting must keep pace. We must also continue to promote equity, embrace diversity and differences, and encourage active participation from our students, parents and the community as a whole.

Jeff Snowden, ISD Trustee Place 4



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Education: BA Economics, Texas A&M 1991 MBA, UTSA 2000

Experience: Consulting Economist, Founded Capex Consulting Group in 2007

Growth: FISD must provide our teachers with the resources, work environment, and support they need to excel at their chosen profession. We need to hire and retain the best in the industry, and incentive them to get better.

Testing: Emphasis should be placed on graduating well - rounded thinkers who have learned how to learn, and who appreciate the process of learning and acknowledge the life-long benefits.

Public School Finance: Funding formulas need to be simplified and recapture and wealth redistribution must be eliminated.

Safety: Children who are victimized should have the ability to report abuses without any fear of recourse.

Other Issues: Our children deserve the highest quality of education in exemplary schools, and our teachers deserve all of the resources they need to deliver this quality education. We need to end the "taxpayer versus teacher" narrative and work together. FISD should thoroughly explore cost savings, revenue uplifts, use of unrestricted surplus taxpayer cash on deposit, and surplus tax revenue generated under existing tax rates before any tax increases are proposed.

Frisco ISD Trustee, Place 5

Debbie Gillespie, ISD Trustee Place 5



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Education: Southwest Texas State University, Bachelors of Science Certified, Configuration Management, Policies & Procedures

Experience: Current Frisco ISD Board Trustee-6yrs Current TASB Director, Region 10-3yrs LTASB Master Trustee 17+yrs PTA/PTO-board member 3 yr PTO President FISD Citizen Bond Comm.. 2003,06 Frisco Fastpacs National Charity League Young Men's Service League Other

Growth: Frisco ISD continues to be the fastest growing district in TX. We value our neighborhood school model and strive to offer choice opportunities for all students on a responsible, yet shrinking budget. Our CTE programs continue to increase along with ISM, Humanities, Dual Credit and online courses. We have many opportunities for parents and community members to be involved through PTA, parent engagement, committees and Partners in Education. I have visited with many community members from all religions and demographic groups to share goals in keeping our students active and involved.

Testing: We have our own curriculum writers in FISD which allows us to be creative in using the TEKS to focus on the needs of our students. Testing should be used to monitor progression from the first of the year to the end of the year. Standardized tests do not measure a student's involvement, learning challenges or social and emotional challenges. Our PLC's have been very successful in identifying the needs of individual students and the best way for grade level teams and campus staff to meet the needs of those students. I am very active in the efforts to make any assessments meaningful and useful.

Public School Finance: As Texas continues to recruit businesses and the student growth continues to rise, the finance structure needs to also accommodate the increases. The CEI has not been updated since 1990 when Frisco was a rural, farming community, therefore we are funded less than many of our surrounding districts. The money collected by the state through recapture needs to stay with public education, not disbursed to other state funded agencies or programs. Districts need to be fully funded for any state mandate that takes extra time and resources out of the classroom.

Safety: We want our students to feel capable, cared for and connected so safety is a high priority. FISD has programs such as the SAFER System with City Police/Fire, as well as Olweus that teaches about bullying. We have parent engagement programs that speak about a wide ranges of topics, some specifically about how to report a bully and how to speak to students about the consequences of being a bully. Our schools have been very active in inclusivity discussions that make a big difference in teaching acceptance and respect of others beliefs and opinions.

Other Issues: We struggle with those that want to say FISD and public ed are failing. We have a great district, not perfect, but we have success stories every day. We are faced with funding shortfalls and a failed TRE, but we are working through those issues including community perception and education of what we do on a day to day basis. We are working at the state and national level to make changes to the current funding formulas. We have some difficult decisions to make, but we have amazing teachers that will make our students top priority and keep FISD the best place to live, learn and grow!

Bryan Powell, ISD Trustee Place 5



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Education: Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University;
Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) with a focus in Finance & Operations from The University of Texas at Dallas

Experience: Serve as the lead executive and Vice President for Westwood's Land Division which consists of over 130 employees. Demonstrated experience managing a large organization in areas such as finance, budgeting, operations, strategic planning, etc.

Growth: The population continues to become more diverse and from more cultural backgrounds. For these reasons, the education system should focus on educating students academically, where more common ground can be found, and leave managing the emotional, physical and cultural needs of the child to the parents and the community of people they belong to. The district can partner with and support parents but it is not economically feasible, or realistic, to expect a school district to lead on meeting all the child's needs with such a diverse demographic of people.

Testing: It will be very difficult to move away from teaching to standardized test as long as the majority of schools and students are ranked based on test scores and teachers are evaluated based on those test scores. Standardized testing can be effective but shouldn't be the only thing that measures a student's and teacher's success.

Public School Finance: Operating a fiscally efficient organization should be a districts primary focus regardless of the state's public school finance structure. This lowers the amount of tax dollars a district needs to operate which saves taxpayers. There could be benefits to revisiting the amount of funds a district must pay in "recapture" to the state but that could become a distraction for poorly run districts. The focus of the school board should be on limiting the amount of taxes citizens are paying, regardless of whether those funds come from local or state funding, by operating a fiscally sound district.

Safety: We could benefit greatly from more male involvement in the schools. Especially in a culture where you have a many fatherless homes. Watch DOGS is a great program that introduces dads on campus to interact with students. This has proven to decrease the incidents of bullying/violence at schools. We should look for other creative ways to get men involved. Also, when children are caught bullying or inciting violence they must be held accountable by enforcing disciplinary consequences.

Other Issues: The most important issues Frisco ISD faces are challenges around fast growth and the financial crisis that result from budget shortfalls. To address these challenges, we will need new leadership on the school board with demonstrated skill sets that have managed large organizations in areas such as finance, budgeting, operations, strategic planning, etc. because these skills align with the challenges before the district. I utilize these skill sets everyday as the lead executive and Vice President of Westwood's Land Division. I will apply those skills to help the district navigate these times.

Grace Wang, ISD Trustee Place 5

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Your vote is your voice. Be heard.