



VOTERS GUIDE

Nonpartisan

MAY 4, 2019, LOCAL ELECTION

COLLIN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Early voting: April 22-30

Election Day Polls: May 4 – 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.

This guide is available online at www.LWVCollin.org, along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, where you can enter an address and view a personalized ballot with races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This Voters Guide is organized by office sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order.

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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.

Collin College Board of Trustees

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 its 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.

Question (Uncontested Races)

Priorities: Even though your race is not contested, please share your priorities for the next term and how you will address them.

Questions (Contested Races)

Workplace: How can the college better serve the community's job skills needs and prepare students to find jobs and be high performers in the workplace?

Campus structure: What are the challenges associated with the college's distributed campus structure, and what, if anything, should be done to ensure that classes are readily available to students?

Safety: What programs or policies are needed to prevent violence on campuses and ensure the safety of the students, faculty and staff?

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?

Jay Saad
Collin College Trustee, Place 2 (Unexpired)
Uncontested

No response received

Greg Gomel
Collin College Trustee, Place 4



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Campaign Phone: (469) 573-4448

Education: PhD scholar at University of Texas at Tyler – Human Resource Development (Organizational Change Management) Masters of Arts in Teaching - Jacksonville University Bachelors of Science (History and Humanities) - Jacksonville University

Experience: My work experience includes 20 years with the US Coast Guard Reserve (retired); and 20 years in private sector; founded The Gomel Group, an IT consultancy; and co-founded Agile for Patriot, a 501c3 that trains veterans and spouses for IT employment.

Workplace: While all the priorities called out in the Collin College Master Plan are important, the one that strikes me as the most pressing is “Add Workforce and Academic Programs to Align with Projected Collin County Labor Market Needs.” Determining how we’re going to maintain focus on scaling the growth of Collin College to align with where the county is headed while balancing the other initiatives will call for a level of governance that is challenging. One of the reasons businesses are locating to our area is the quality of the workforce, and we'll need to maintain a focus on this outcome.

Campus structure: The growth in our county is reflected in the buildout of our campuses, and the second largest is now our online programs. The ability to offer a blended approach of onsite and remote learning is one of the ways we'll continue to leverage our faculty to meet the needs of our student demand. The need to expand our use of technology, such as the recently launched mobile app for students or in the creation of the new role of Chief Innovation Officer, are indicative of the changes we will have to embrace as we move forward. The College will have to continue monitoring demand needs accordingly.

Safety: Regarding safety on campus, I'll refer readers to a presentation made during the January 2019 Board meeting:

http://inside.collin.edu/collegeupdate/20190129_SafetyPlanUpdate.pdf. You'll notice that several improvements have already been made and the College takes the need to continuously upgrade security very seriously. The decision to adopt the School Marshal program was a sensitive one and had a great deal of community feedback; the goal now is to develop a policy

that takes these considerations into view as part of an overall security program that protects those that work and study here.

Other issues: Partnerships within the community will continue to be our opportunity to improve ourselves. For as much as the College has accomplished, we can't relax and say we're done; our growth is our challenge and we have to continue to stay engaged (and relevant). My desire is that we become known as the first choice within our county in finding ways to address the educational needs we face. And by partnering with our high schools, businesses and community organizations that we will stand together as we take on a future that we have successfully prepared ourselves to embrace.

Buzz Kolbe
Collin College Trustee, Place 4



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Education: Western State College Bachelor of Arts 1979 Sociology & Psychology. Corporate Coaching Business Program & Coach U 2001 Graduate. Certified Professional Behavior and Values Analyst. Certified Protocol ,Etiquette and Civility Professional,

Experience: 1999- current: Leadership Coach and Facilitator, including program director for Leadership Allen Fairview, facilitator for Leadership McKinney & Wylie, ED for Leadership Plano(past) 1981-1999: corporate business experience in operations management.

Workplace: Educate our community on the numerous benefits provided by Collin College. Expand the Independent School District dual-credit programs so they are accessible for every student in Collin County. Increase and enhance relationships with all stakeholders including small and large businesses, Workforce Solutions North Central Texas , recruiter agencies and other educational institutions. Continue to attract outstanding award winning faculty with state of the art academic facilities. Always LISTEN!

Campus structure: Ensure efficient, transparent internal administrative communication within the college's distributed campuses. Efficient structure and efficient utilization of classrooms. To ensure classroom readiness, expand the night and weekend offerings and the distance learning offerings. Continually improve all processes to make the student experience exceptional!

Safety: Complete the 2017 board approved comprehensive campus safety plan. This includes improved signage, emergency phones and locking systems on all campuses. Collect information from other educational institutions on “best practices”. As you know, the board recently approved the school marshall program. Efficient implementation of this program is essential during the next few months. Educating the students, faculty and staff about the signs and behavior of potential safety concerns and speaking up to the proper authorities

Other issues: Successfully managing the fast growth and needs in Collin County, especially workforce development. At the same time continue to keep Collin College affordable and accessible. Technology is continually changing as well as the business and work environment. Collin College must have the resources to continue to build relationships and partnerships for the betterment of our community.

Raj Menon
Collin College Trustee, Place 5
Uncontested



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Twitter: twitter.com/RajMenon

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/v/t91xgt44v50>

Education: MBA, UT Austin PhD, UT Austin, Engineering MS, UT Austin, Engineering M.Tech, IIT Bombay, Engineering

Experience: Served on Collin College Board of Trustees since 2016. Currently elected by peers to serve as Treasurer and also serve on the Finance and Audit Committee. Board Member of Collin College Foundation. For more details, please see website.

Priorities: My vision is for Collin College to be the #1 community college in the nation. We can accomplish this lofty goal by: 1. Continuing to hire and retain the best people - faculty and staff - to provide a quality education, 2. Attracting as many students as we possibly can and providing a welcoming and nurturing environment for each and every one of our students, whether they are college-bound or want to become gainfully employed by joining the

workforce, and by 3. Continuing to operate efficiently and flexibly at the lowest possible tuition and tax rate. We can do this! And you can help!

Stacy Anne Arias
Collin College Trustee, Place 6



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Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/StacyArias4CollinTrustee/?modal=admin_todo_tour

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/v/dM-dU1tM0SQ>

Campaign Phone: (214) 679-6738

Education: Associate of Arts, Psychology - Collin College; Bachelor's of Arts, Historical Studies, University of Texas at Dallas

Experience: Served over 12 years on the Collin College Board of Trustees, former Celina EDC President, K-12/community college educator, business owner, and community servant. I have a strong and in-depth understanding of how to lead Collin College.

Workplace: Preparing students for the job force needs to be an organic effort. It is imperative to develop innovative pathways of education to elevate our students to the forefront of the demanding global economy. By developing programming that will not only address the needs of today, but also in preparing individuals for the jobs of tomorrow, we will lead the way in sustaining a healthy local economy. Collin College can also work closer with public schools in streamlining students into the workforce from our community with disabilities or those having nonstandard ways of learning.

Campus structure: Several years back, I pushed to make all of our campuses comprehensive. This guarantees that you could find the same classes District wide. Our Central Park Campus in McKinney, remains our Center of Excellence in Healthcare and our Collin College Technical Campus in Allen will house specific IT courses, but the intent is to offer all core classes at all campuses. We also instituted Provosts over each campus that work directly with the President in achieving District goals. This has proven successful in upholding our core values and our teaching excellence.

Safety: Safety of our college communities remains at the forefront of all conversations. No one has the right answers, as we are reacting to a national epidemic. This issue needs to be addressed from many different directions, not just through the Marshal Plan. We are nearing a

60,000 student count. Our Collin College community is larger than several cities in our boundaries. This alone gives us cause to uphold a seamless safety plan for the protection of all.

Other issues: The challenge remains on balancing our budget, innovative programming, and meeting the needs of our global economy, with the focus on Collin County, through affordable education and enhanced job mobility. With proposed property tax caps, we could face over a \$4 million dollar shortfall. This will require Trustees to identify innovative collaborations and effective utilization of resources. As a seasoned Collin Trustee, former EDC President, and business owner, I possess the skillset to navigate through these challenges efficiently.

Tim Chappell
Collin College Trustee, Place 6



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Education: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, BS University of Nebraska Medical Center -Omaha, MD UTSouthwestern Medical School - internship, residency Internal Medicine fellowship Pulmonary Medicine

Experience: Assistant Professor UT Southwestern Medical School Vice Chief Pulmonary Division and Director Respiratory Care Dallas VAMC Private Practice Plano, Texas Medical Director Collin College Respiratory Care Program

Workplace: Business and employer outreach about specific workforce needs and employee career development and advancement. Continued development of online access by the Collin Virtual Campus and expanded weekend and night offerings Distributed College campuses for student convenience and shorter commute times Continued partnership with 4 year universities for easy workforce transitions from license required programs and industry based certificates into post associate bachelors and advanced degrees

Campus structure: Maintaining academic excellence at each different campus will require solid administrative guidance and strong faculty. While learning results from student and teacher interaction and having our excellent faculty at all campuses will preserve that aspect, both will need adequate resources at each campus location and every location should have comparable facilities and staff support. Another challenge will be flexibility to make changes if there are

changes to projected growth and must be able to adapt to rapidly changing business and work requirements and even student body changes

Safety: The 2017 Comprehensive Campus Safety Plan needs complete implementation. Since each campus is unique, the challenge is that the Plan works across all College locations. Most details of the Plan focus on prevention and hopefully the State Legislature will follow through on improved mental health funding statewide to help campus counselors support our students. However, if ever needed, and all preventative measures prove inadequate, having multiple well trained school marshals on site to help defend our campus is a responsible option

Other issues: Online competition, particularly for students out in the workforce Expanding dual credit programs to be accessible to every eligible high school student in the County Keeping tuition affordable Moving forward with approval processes to establish the 4 year programs in Nursing and Cyber security Education that addresses our rapidly changing business and work environment Adding more partner 4 year Universities at the Collin Higher Education Center

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.