



VOTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Ellen Steger

"Year in Review"



Year 2012-2013 was a good one for the League of Women Voters of Richardson. Nothing could have been accomplished without your support, however. The Richardson League is indeed grateful.

In 2012-2013, besides having member meetings and board meetings, the League of Women Voters of Richardson was able to:

Program and Advocacy

- ✓ Hold a member meeting on the LWV-Texas's *Human Trafficking* study
- ✓ Attend meetings sponsored by LWV-Plano/Collin County and LWV-Dallas on *Human Trafficking*
- ✓ Co-sponsor *Much Ado About Fracking* with LWV-Dallas, LWV-Irving, and LWV-Plano

Voter Service

- ✓ Sponsor a forum between the candidates for State Board of Education District 12
- ✓ Produce a Pro-Con *VOTERS GUIDE* on Direct Election of the Mayor
- ✓ Provide a speakers bureau on Direct Election of the Mayor
- ✓ Co-sponsor with Richardson ISD Council of PTAs a forum for the candidates for Richardson ISD Board of Trustees Place 4
- ✓ Sponsor a forum for the candidates for Richardson Mayor and City Council
- ✓ Produce a *VOTERS GUIDE*, printed and online, for the City of Richardson and Richardson ISD elections
- ✓ Moderate a homeowners association forum for the Richardson Mayoral candidates

(continued on next page)

Voter Service ~continued~

- ✓ Produce a VOTERS GUIDE for the June 15, 2013, runoff election for Richardson ISD Board of Trustees Place 4
- ✓ Produce a *Guide to Elected Officials*
- ✓ Co-sponsor with LWV-Plano/Collin County a *Meet the Collin County Candidates*

CHIP (*Children's Health Insurance Program*)

- ✓ Partner with Richardson ISD Council of PTAs for one training session and 16 enrollment opportunities

Finance Drive

- ✓ Raise over \$4,000

Miscellaneous

- ✓ Sponsor the Political Science/Government table at the Friends of the Library Book Sale
- ✓ Maintain the LWV-R website at www.lwvrichardson.org
- ✓ Tweet about important election and LWV-R events. Follow the Richardson League on Twitter @lwvrichardson

As the Richardson League's President for 2013-2014, I'm looking forward to another successful year. The board will be meeting this summer to discuss plans for next year. If you have any suggestions, don't hesitate to contact me at president@lwvrichardson.org .

Hopefully, you will include the League in your plans again next year!

"L"

VOTER SERVICE

Richardson ISD Board of Trustees Place 4

June 15, 2013, Runoff Election

Have YOU voted?

Why is there a runoff election?

In the Joint Election held May 11, 2013, unopposed Richardson ISD incumbent trustees Kris Oliver (Place 3) and Karen Holburn (Place 5) were both re-elected to three-year terms.

The Richardson ISD 2013 *Board of Trustees Election Order and Notice* stated that the trustee receiving the majority of the votes wins the election. None of the three candidates who ran for Place 4, Bonnie Abadie, Rachel Chumney, or Lanet Greenhaw (*listed in alphabetical order*), received a majority of the votes cast. Therefore, there will be a runoff election on Saturday, June 15, between the top two vote-getters: Lanet Greenhaw (*who is first on the ballot*) and Rachel Chumney (*who is second on the ballot*).

Who may vote?

Any registered voter living within the boundaries of the Richardson ISD may vote in the runoff election. You did not have to vote in the May 11, 2013, Joint Election to be able to vote in the runoff election.

What ID do I need to vote?

To vote, all registered voters need their registration card **-or-** any one of the other approved forms of ID as listed below:

- A driver's license or personal identification card issued to you by the Texas Department of Public Safety. You may also bring a similar document issued to you by an agency of another state, even if the license or card has expired;
- Your United States passport;
- A form of identification that contains your photograph and establishes your identity;
- A birth certificate or other document confirming birth that is admissible in a court of law and establishes the person's identity;
- Your United States citizenship papers;
- Official mail addressed to you by a governmental entity;
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address.

Photo ID is not required to vote.

In-Person early voting

You may vote in any early voting location in Dallas County. For a full list of Dallas County early voting polling places, visit <http://goo.gl/dHJQO>. The only early voting location in the RISD is at the Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho (southwest corner of Central Expressway and Arapaho

Road). There are only 12 early voting locations in Dallas County for the runoff election. There were 44 early voting locations in Dallas County for the Joint Election.

Early voting for the runoff election has already started. Early voting continues until Tuesday, June 11:

In-person early voting period:	June 9 (Sunday)	1:00pm - 6:00pm
	June 10-11 (Monday through Tuesday)	7:00am - 7:00pm
Runoff Election Day:	June 15 (Saturday)	7:00am - 7:00pm

As of noon on Saturday, June 8, 2013, over 1,000 people had voted in the runoff election at the Richardson Civic Center. This is a higher turn-out than was expected. At that time, the Richardson Civic Center was the second busiest polling location in Dallas County, second only to Irving.

Election Day Voting:

For a complete list of election day polling places, visit www.dallascountyvotes.org.

Your election day polling place for the Runoff Election may not be the same as it was for the Joint Election.

Where can I get information on the candidates?

See below for the League of Women Voters of Richardson Runoff VOTERS GUIDE. The VOTERS GUIDE includes the candidates' answers to 4 questions. To see the candidates' answers to 16 more questions, visit the League's website:

for Ms. Greenhaw: http://www.lwvrichardson.org/files/LWV-R_5-13_Greenhaw_Lanet.pdf

for Ms. Chumney: http://www.lwvrichardson.org/files/LWV-R_5-13_Chumney_Rachel.pdf

Before the May 11 Joint Election, the League of Women Voters of Richardson held a forum for all 3 RISD Place 4 candidates. To see that video in its entirety, visit <http://www.lwvrichardson.org/RISDvideo.html>.

For more information, visit our website at www.lwvrichardson.org



Follow the Richardson League on Twitter @LWVRichardson

VOTERS GUIDE



June 15, 2013 Runoff Election
Richardson ISD (RISD) Board of Trustees Place 4

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF RICHARDSON

300 North Coit Road, Suite 125 • Richardson TX 75080

972-470-0584 • Website, including an online *VOTERS GUIDE* with more questions: <http://www.lwvrichardson.org>



Follow the League of Women Voters of Richardson on Twitter @LWVRichardson

This *VOTERS GUIDE* is a community service to voters of the City of Richardson and the Richardson Independent School District. Candidate responses published in this guide were obtained by means of a questionnaire sent to each candidate. Responses are printed exactly as received and must meet word limits. Excess words in a candidate's response have been replaced with an ellipsis (...).

This guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Richardson and funded by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund through donations from Richardson area residents and businesses. The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues.

RUNOFF ELECTION INFORMATION

Any registered voter living within the boundaries of the Richardson ISD may vote in the runoff election. You did not have to vote in the May 11, 2013, Joint Election to be able to vote in the runoff election.

Important Election Dates:

<u>In-person early voting period:</u>	June 3 – June 8 (Monday through Saturday) June 9 (Sunday) June 10-11 (Monday through Tuesday)	8:00am - 5:00pm 1:00pm - 6:00pm 7:00am - 7:00pm
<u>Runoff Election Day:</u>	June 15 (Saturday)	7:00am – 7:00pm

Early Voting: Early voting by personal appearance is conducted by the Dallas County Elections Department. Dallas County registered voters may vote at any early voting location in the county. **Early voting will be held at Richardson Civic Center.** For a complete list of early voting times and locations, go to www.dallascountyvotes.org.

Election Day: Polls are open Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 7am to 7pm. For a complete list of polling places or to find your polling place, visit www.dallascountyvotes.org. **Polling places may not be the same as the May 11, 2013, election.** For a complete list of election day voting times and locations, go to www.dallascountyvotes.org.

To vote, all registered voters need their registration card -or- any one of the other approved forms of ID as listed below:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A driver's license or personal identification card issued to you by the Texas Department of Public Safety. You may also bring a similar document issued to you by an agency of another state, even if the license or card has expired; • Your United States passport; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A form of identification that contains your photograph and establishes your identity; • A birth certificate or other document confirming birth that is admissible in a court of law and establishes the person's identity; • Your United States citizenship papers; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official mail addressed to you by a governmental entity; or • A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address. |
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Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees www.risd.org

Richardson Independent School District voters elect seven (7) board members to serve three-year staggered terms. All seven are elected at-large and serve without compensation. Service on the board is voluntary and members must complete extensive orientation as well as continued training throughout their terms.

The Board of Trustees has the executive power and duty to govern and oversee the management of RISD. Acting as a collective body, the Board sets the direction for the school district. Some of the Board's general responsibilities include:

- Setting district policies and supporting administrators and teachers in the execution of those policies.
- Employing and evaluating the superintendent.
- Adopting the annual budget.
- Levying/collecting taxes and issuing bonds.
- Performing specific duties imposed by the state.



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May 2013 VOTERS GUIDE

LWV-Richardson

In the May 11, 2013, Richardson ISD Board of Trustees election, unopposed incumbents Kris Oliver (Place 3) and Karen Holburn (Place 5) were re-elected for 3-year terms.

Three candidates ran for Place 4 (listed in ballot order): Bonnie Abadie, Lanet Greenhaw, and Rachel Chumney. None of the Place 4 candidates received a majority of the votes, so there will be a runoff election on June 15, 2013, between the two candidates getting the most votes: Lanet Greenhaw and Rachel Chumney.

RICHARDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

For candidate responses to more questions, go to www.lwvrichardson.org

Place 4, Ballot Position 1 (2 candidates on the ballot)

Place 4, Ballot Position 2 (2 candidates on the ballot)

Name 2 things that make you the better candidate for this office. (75 word limit)



Lanet Greenhaw

I have far-reaching experience and relationships in policy development and legislative advocacy, and am deeply engaged in advocating for RISD and public education on a daily basis. I am not driven by a single agenda, but rather student-centered and striving to govern RISD to reach its goals through innovative best practices, profound curriculum, high quality human capital, efficient and effective operations, high academic achievement and growth for all students in a safe and secure environment.



Rachel Chumney

I have strong ideas, a clear vision, and will be a fresh voice for the RISD Board of Trustees. I'm passionate about RISD and our children and know that I can make a positive difference.

In addition to my ideas and vision, I possess strong leadership abilities. I'm an excellent collaborator, but will staunchly defend issues for which I'm passionate. I am honest, an effective communicator, and a creative problem-solver.

What are your goals as school board trustee? (100 words)

I am committed to fulfilling RISD's vision and mission, ensuring that RISD provides full opportunities for all students to learn, grow and succeed and be prepared for their global future. RISD must continue to apply the best, most innovative educational practices to serve all students at the highest level. We must seek and retain high quality teachers and principals, and utilize profound curriculum to serve all our students and student populations. We must remain proactive on the policy/legislative fronts to fight for funding and advocate for legislation that furthers our mission rather than hindering operations and removing resources.

I want to ensure that each child has every opportunity to reach his or her full individual potential. I have an intimate understanding of our system and will bring a "parent" voice to the Board. Taxpayers deserve a return on their investment. They rightly expect graduates of our system to make positive contributions to our society as educated, productive and compassionate citizens. I will advocate for our special populations of students who need extra support. I want learning to be an exciting experience for all students and think this can best be achieved with less emphasis on high-stakes testing.

Should the school board try to influence state legislation concerning public education? Why or why not?

(100 words)

Absolutely. Advocacy and legislative engagement is a primary function of a School Board Trustee. A locally elected official "entrusted" with representing and governing our community's school district, holds the authority and direct responsibility to advocate on its behalf and on behalf of our taxpayers and shareholders with other elected officials. I have extensive advocacy experience, and the knowledge, relationships, commitment and passion to work directly with state legislators on behalf of RISD. I am currently engaging state legislators on issues of funding, personnel management, testing, the accountability system, graduation requirements, and increased local control and flexibility for district operations.

Absolutely. We should fight for localized control of our system, as our Constitution intended. We are dependent on state funding and are responsible to the State to adhere to rigorous mandates. We must demand that the State either provide adequate funding resources so that these mandates can be met, or we must demand that the State alter the mandates so that we can achieve them with the resources we are given. We should speak up when we feel the State's mandates are interfering with our ability to effectively meet the needs of our students.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Board of Trustees is managing the district's finances. What financial skills and experience do you have that will enable you to manage a \$250 million budget? (125 words)

I have extensive Texas school finance knowledge and RISD historical perspective that is invaluable in both developing and managing RISD's budget. I have represented RISD on the Citizen Budget Review Team, and the Board Budget Sub-Committee and Bond Committees. As the previous Executive Director of a national education non-profit, I was responsible for both the fundraising and management of a \$450,000 annual budget for multiple years. In this time of diminished revenues, it is vital for experienced Trustees to oversee our financial and business operations with high standards to ensure every dollar is used responsibly to fulfill our priorities. My funding priorities for the next budget cycle include increasing personnel salaries and increasing staff allotments to manage student growth and growing class sizes.

I have a bachelor's degree in business. I have experience working with a large budget from my employment with Cornell Cooperative Extension. However, I believe the most useful skill I can provide in managing a \$250 million budget is my ability to make wise, informed decisions regarding allocation of our resources. RISD's Mission Statement and District Improvement Plan set the initial spending priorities for the district. I enjoy research and feel this is a critical component to deciding how resources should be allocated. It will be imperative to have information from all departments regarding their funding needs. It can also be helpful and informative to compare RISD's proposed budget to other similar districts' budgets.