The Austin American-Statesman has partnered with the League of Women Voters on this guide to the May municipal elections in Travis County. Using content gathered from candidates by the League, the Statesman designed and published the guide. In addition to being carried in the Sunday, April 28, Statesman, several thousand copies will be distributed by the League at various locations, and both the League and the Statesman will provide the content on their websites, statesman.com and lwvaustin.com.

**ELECTION DAY**
SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2013
Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**EARLY VOTING**
MONDAY, APRIL 29
TO TUESDAY, MAY 7

The League of Women Voters of the Austin Area is a nonpartisan group that works to promote political responsibility through active, informed participation of all citizens in their government. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate. The Voters Guide is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund. This education organization, associated with the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area, operates exclusively for educational purposes in the general areas of government and public policy, carrying out its objectives through research, publication of educational materials, and other appropriate projects.

The Voters Guide includes responses to a questionnaire sent to those candidates in contested races. All candidates in the same race received the same set of questions and instructions. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space restrictions, candidates were given strict limits for replies. Replies exceeding the limit are indicated by ellipses (///). Candidates were also asked to confine their responses to the questions asked and to avoid references to their opponents. Candidates without photos failed to submit one.

This Voters Guide lists candidates in local races. Because of the variety of races in different communities and school districts, governmental entities are listed in alphabetical order. Candidates running unopposed were not sent Voters Guide questions. The League of Women Voters of the Austin Area provides answers and resources for all your questions on voting. See “Informed Voters Know” below and “Contact Information” on page 2. Because this election involves a variety of municipalities, voting locations will vary by area and neighborhood. Your voter registration card shows the political districts in which you can vote.

Funding of Voters Guides is furnished by the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area Education Fund, which is supported by contributions from individuals and corporations. The Education Fund gratefully acknowledges major contributions from: American Business Women’s Association, Barbara Hanks, Carolyn Baker, Maxine Barkan, Nancy Bene, Mary Blackstock, Jeb Boyt, Margaret Drake, Joan Hilgers, Melissa Jones, Joann Lovelace, Janice May, Frances McIntyre, Margit and Arnold Orange, Judy and Ed Parken, Susan and Williams Reid, Kathy Rider, Dabney Roe.

INFORMED VOTERS KNOW
WHERE TO VOTE: You must vote in your precinct of residence on Election Day (unless your area is participating in a countywide vote center trial). Your precinct is listed on your registration card, or you may find out where to vote by calling 512-238-VOTE, or by going online with your county election division. If you report to the incorrect polling place, you will be redirected to the correct polling place, or offered a provisional ballot. You may vote by provisional ballot, but if it is determined that you are not registered in that precinct, your ballot will not be counted. 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).
In this bond package Austin voters are being asked to fund a range of projects covering all 124 schools in the district. It is designed to address improvements and previously delayed maintenance. Each proposition contains a long list of specific projects that can be found on AISD’s Web site (www.austinisd.org/bond). The $892,245,000 total bond package is spread across four propositions. Proposition 1 addresses health, environment, equipment, and technology. Proposition 2 addresses safety and security, overcrowding relief, and new construction. Proposition 3 addresses facility and infrastructure renovations. Proposition 4 addresses academic initiatives, fine arts, and athletics.

This bond package reflects the accumulating needs of AISD because of aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance to limit the size of prior bond packages. According to Austin ISD, the maximum tax rate increase as a result of the bond is 3.5 cents per each $100 assessed property value (or about $70 per year for a median Austin home valued at $200,000) by the year 2016. It is estimated that the tax rate will increase incrementally by just over a penny each year until 2016. AISD states that there will be no tax increase for homeowners over the age of 65 with a homestead exemption.

PROPOSITION NO. 1
Ballot Language
[For Health, Environment, Equipment and Technology]
The issuance of $140,566,000 school building bonds for the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, improvement and equipment of school buildings in the district, including (I) science programs, (II) technology systems and equipment, (III) promotion of energy conservation and efficiency, (IV) cafeteria and food service facilities, and (V) district maintenance and facilities services, and the purchase of new school buses, and the levy of the tax in payment thereof.

Proposition 1 ($140,566,000) is intended to bring all schools up to current technology standards. The largest item is for technology upgrades for every school, to be spent over the next five years. The bonds range from repairing food service facilities to buying new buses and energy conservation.

PROPOSITION NO. 2
Ballot Language
[For Safety and Security and Relief from Overcrowding]
The issuance of $233,950,000 school building bonds for the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, improvement and equipment of school buildings in the district, including (I) three new elementary schools, (II) promotion of safety and security, and (III) expansion, renovation and addition of classrooms, fine arts facilities, and physical education and athletics facilities, and the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and the levy of the tax in payment thereof.

Proposition 2 ($233,950,000) includes construction of three new elementary schools because of anticipated growth and new facilities for fine arts and gymnasiums. You can find the specific projects for each school at AISD’s Web site (www.austinisd.org/bond).

PROPOSITION NO. 3
Ballot Language
[For Academic and Building Infrastructure Renovations and Repairs]
The issuance of $349,165,000 school building bonds for the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, improvement and equipment of school buildings in the district, including (I) repair, improve and replace facility systems throughout the district (including roofing, plumbing, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electric, flooring, and other building systems), (II) rehabilitation, renovation and improvement of libraries, and (III) traffic safety improvements, and the levy of the tax in payment thereof.

Proposition 3 ($349,165,000) includes repair and renovation of district schools. The long list of needs ranges from fixing broken sidewalks and broken water fountains, to having enough chairs in classrooms, to HVAC (heating and air conditioning) replacements. These are basic needs that have been delayed in former bond issues. It also includes library improvements at some schools.

PROPOSITION NO. 4
Ballot Language
[For Academic Initiatives, FineArts and Athletics]
The issuance of $168,564,000 school building bonds for the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, improvement and equipment of school buildings in the district, including (I) career and technology education and development, (II) fine arts, (III) physical education and athletics, (IV) special education and (V) the Ridgeview campus (old Anderson High School campus) for the school for young men, and the purchase of new school buses, and the levy of the tax in payment thereof.

Proposition 4 ($168,564,000) includes major renovations for fine arts and athletics, as well as career and technology education programs. It also includes facility improvements for special education and renovations of the Ridgeview Campus (old Anderson High School) to make way for a school for young men.

PERSPECTIVES

OPPONENTS SAY:
The total 2013 bond package is more than the 2004 comprehensive bond and the 2008 health, safety, and performing arts center bond packages combined ($862,000,000). This AISD proposal adds to the taxpayer burden in light of recent county and city tax increases and expected future taxing requests.

Proposition 4 ($168,564,000) is intended to bring all schools up to current technology standards. The largest item is for technology upgrades for every school, to be spent over the next five years. The bonds range from repairing food service facilities to buying new buses and energy conservation.

OPPONENTS SAY:
Proposition 4 ($168,564,000) includes major renovations for fine arts and athletics, as well as career and technology education programs. It also includes facility improvements for special education and renovations of the Ridgeview Campus (old Anderson High School) to make way for a school for young men.

PERSPECTIVES

OPPONENTS SAY:
The total 2013 bond package is more than the 2004 comprehensive bond and the 2008 health, safety, and performing arts center bond packages combined ($862,000,000). This AISD proposal adds to the taxpayer burden in light of recent county and city tax increases and expected future taxing requests.

PROPOSITIONS SAY:
The bond tax rate for Austin ISD is presently the second lowest among the Central Texas area districts. Since the new bonds are sold only when the district projects are ready to start, the 3.5-cent increase is phased in over 5–8 years. Meanwhile, older bonds are being paid off, and the total bond indebtedness remains relatively stable. AISD is expected to remain the second lowest bonded indebtedness per student in the Central Texas region.

OPPONENTS SAY:
By not utilizing all of AISD’s school buildings to their highest level of efficiency, the district is not effectively utilizing its tax dollars.

PROPOSITIONS SAY:
Demographics show that low-enrollment schools are not usually located near overcrowded campuses. Some boundary changes could help. Placement of new programs in low-enrollment schools, coupled with AISD’s present transfer policies, might help address this problem. The alternative of closing low-enrollment schools is not popular in the surrounding neighborhoods, and, therefore, is controversial.

OPPONENTS SAY:
If the Legislature appropriates an additional $2.5 billion for public education this session, Austin should be able to address its maintenance, repairs, and facilities needs without such large bond funding.

PROPOSITIONS SAY:
The Legislature leaves most of the funding for education to local school districts’ property tax base. In AISD, each dollar raised by the maintenance and operation (M&O) property tax is subject to a formula that sends 40 cents of every dollar back to the state under recapture (known as “Robin Hood”) to help the state redistribute dollars to less property–wealthy districts.
Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I served the residents of Bee Cave for the past 11 years, 7 on P&Z, 4 on city council. The city council has elected me mayor Pro Temp the past four years. The opportunity to serve the city is a privilege and an honor. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and work hard over the past 4 years. I want to continue being part of the good work making Bee Cave a place where families want to live.

PAUL KLINE
Education: MBA University of Michigan BS Arizona State University
Experience: 25 years of private sector work experience at various Fortune 500 companies. Member of Home Rule Charter Commission, HOA Board Member, Tucson, Arizona.
Q: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as water, wastewater, roads and other city services?
A: The major city service requiring additional resource is our library. The programs they conduct are almost always fully subscribed and available space is pushed to the limit. We are currently studying solutions to this problem and hope to have a plan in the next few months. Parkland is another resource that we must develop so our families have more places for recreation and sports.
Q: What pressing issues are facing your community, and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?
A: The pace and scope of development has been something that Bee Cave has grappled with throughout it’s twenty-five year history, and particularly in the last fifteen years. The changes have been immense, but the city is in a very good position to remain solvent while maintaining it’s very low tax rate. My hope is that the city leaders can make smart decisions and hang tough going forward.
Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I care about my town, both it’s history and it’s future, and at this level of government I feel that I can be effective positive force without having to make those compromises which nearly every higher office demands. Like most people, I believe my judgement superior to the next guy’s, and accordingly would rather have the fate of my town in my hands rather than his.
BEE CAVE, LAKE TRAVIS ISD, LEANDER ISD

From previous page

budget and identify areas where spending cuts might be made in order to preserve an above standard service to our community. This includes maintaining our streets and city services such as wastewater and garbage services. It is important to benchmark and measure city services to ensure accountability. As the drought continues, we need to conserve water.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your community, and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?
A: Bee Cave is a fast growing community. It is important that we manage the growth correctly, be strategic in our decision-making, and have a clear vision for the future of Bee Cave. Our Focused on the Future campaign is about four key issues: 1) Keep Taxes Low, 2) Improve Our Parks and Expand Our Hike/Bike Trails, 3) Invest To Strengthen Neighborhoods, and 4) Enforce Zoning Ordinances.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I have been incredibly blessed to have so many friends, neighbors and Bee Cave businesses who have encouraged me to run, but ultimately I decided to campaign for the Bee Cave City Council because I care deeply about Bee Cave and its future. I have a heart for American values and passion to serve.

LAKE TRAVIS ISD SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES
Choose 1 for each place

PLACE 3
ALEX ALEXANDER
Unopposed

PLACE 4
JASON BUDDIN
Unopposed

PLACE 5
KENDAL FOWLER
Education: Bachelor of Arts in English Composition and Language from the University of North Texas in Denton, TX.

Experience: I taught 7th and 8th grade Pre-AP Language Arts and Intro to Technology for three years at Chisholm Trail Middle School in Northwest ISD. I'm active in the PTA, having served as VP of Fundraising and Carnival Sponsorships. I've served as Grade Level Coordinator for Pre-K at LTE and a been Home Room Mom several years. I was invited to Lake Travis Leadership during 2011 and learned how LTISD functions at all levels.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: The population in Lake Travis ISD is growing annually by 5.5 percent to 7.5 percent. New school constructions and existing school modifications are critical to the growth in the district. Hiring additional qualified educators and staff, while ensuring all classrooms are technologically advanced is necessary to maintain educational quality and excellence.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: Managing the fast growth in our district is important. LTISD is growing by about 400 new students yearly! Demographic studies combined with resident/ staff committees will help to manage equality and location of student population at schools. The continued safety of students and faculty is a shared concern for everyone. There should be a continued focus to ensure safety measures at all campuses.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I’m excited to partner with LTISD in their mission to provide educational excellence to all students. I’m gifted at working with others to find solutions. I believe my background as a Texas public school teacher, stay at home mom and resident on the Northern end of the district with three children enrolled at Lake Travis Elementary and Hudson Bend MS qualifies me as a valuable asset.

JENNIFER SPIGGLE
Education: Bachelor’s Degree in Advertising, University of Texas at Austin.

Experience: Over 18 years serving and supporting the Education market for Apple, Inc.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: All funding is based upon needs. Funding continues to be the biggest issue, with a lot of uncertainty, for Texas schools. We have a smart team of professionals in place at the district, and I am confident they are continually looking for efficiencies, without compromising quality, as we meet the demand of our district growth. I will support the goals established in the district improvement plan.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: Growth, funding, & technology. These issues are all related. LTISD is challenged, like all Tx districts, with trying to do more with less funding. We need to take a closer look at cost avoidance which translates in to cost savings for the district. How can we be more efficient with our Instructional Materials Allotment funding, as one example, & how are we leveraging technology to personalize learning?

Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I desire for our children to have the very best education, beyond teaching to the test. With my 18 yrs experience supporting the Edu market, and opportunities I am exposed to in my current role as an EdTech consultant, I believe that my perspective offers a very unique lens that the other candidates, and current board mbrs, may not bring to the table. I am excited to help LTISD stay high performing.

KIM FLASCH
Education: University of Central Oklahoma University of Oklahoma

Experience: My background and my passion lead me to believe that I would be a strong addition to the LTISD Board of Trustees. With more than 16 years’ experience in corporate financial analysis and accounting work, I am more than qualified to oversee financial accountability. As a mother of two, Branagan, 5th grader and Caleb, 2nd grader, I know how lucky we are to be part of such a great district. Having lived here for more than 8 years, I’ve seen how this district has grown. I would like to be an integral part of determining how LTISD can address the phenomenal growth with strategic, measured, and educationally focused planning.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: Quality education is of paramount importance for LTISD. One of the most difficult challenges that any board of trustees must undertaken is allocation of funds. I will consistently work with all constituents to understand the issues and to make smart, reasonable, effective financial decisions. I will commit myself to not only maintain but improve upon the quality education provided in LTISD.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: LTISD is one of the fastest growing districts in Texas. It is imperative that we maintain rigorous academics for our children in our district. We must ensure a quality learning environment, exceptional staff and strong curriculum for our students. The board must monitor changes in the district. Safety is also an important issue. We need to continue to improve upon the safety precautions.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I believe I can make a difference. I’ve taken on many positions in the community. I have come to realize how important it is to build on the educational excellence established in our schools; to be an advocate for students and to foster accountability inside and outside the classrooms. My background and my passion lead me to believe that I would be a strong addition to the LTISD Board of Trustees.

DAVID LOVELACE
Education: BS/MS Electrical Engineering, University of Missouri – Rolla

Experience: 24 years Analog/RF integrated circuit design and development

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: First, prioritize all funds for education purposes such as teacher’s salaries, education materials and facilities. Second, the LTISD has too many district-level administrators for its size. Third, the district must scrutinize the expenditure of every dollar. We do not expect our tax dollars to be used by our government to lobby our own government or sue our own government.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: The LTISD’s expenditures have significantly outpaced inflation and the student population growth. The LTISD must be more transparent about its financial dealings. Posting the check registry online would be a good start. The board should be more open and responsive to the taxpayers and parents of the district.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I am seeking this office because I believe that the LTISD should be accountable to the taxpayers and parents in the district. The LTISD has not acted in the best interest of our children and of tax payers. I want to ensure that our taxes are spent wisely and all our children receive an exemplary education. I oppose elimination of the homestead exemption and ANY tax increases.

LEANDER ISD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES
Choose 1 for each place

PLACE 3
JIM MACKAY
Education: Columbia Southern University - BS, Fire Science Program, Community College of the Air Force - AAS, Air Traffic Management, International Fire Service Accreditation Congress Certificates: (IFSAC) - Firefighter I/II - Aircraft Rescue Firefighter - Mobile Water Supply Operator - Driver Operator, Pumper National Wildfire Coordin-
LEANDER ISD, CITY OF MANOR, MANOR ISD

ing Group (NWSG) Wildland Firefighter
Experience: Former PTA President, Booster Club President, District Coordinator, Head Coach, Member of the Vista Ridge High School Site base Committee, Member of the Leander School Health Advisory Council, Member of the Leander Nutrition Advisory Council, PTA Merit Award recipient, Member of the Positive Coaching Alliance and National Association of Sports – Public Address Announcers. Numerous Military and civilian leadership awards.
Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: To ensure the best possible education of our children we must work to put every dollar of our budget as close to the actual teaching event as possible. Brand new schools that continue to sit empty, $2.7 Billion in total debt and the continued use of Capital Appreciation Bonds are not the answer. We must allocate our funds and our focus to the classrooms and to the students.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: The number one issue facing our District is lack of effective partnership. Our relationship with the Association has gone public. To reign in our debt.

PAM WAGGONER
Education: Graduated from the University of Texas Austin 1983, Journalism Degree. Received 27 hours towards my Masters in Leadership TASB with a designation of Master of Leadership TASB with an emphasis in Educational Leadership. Received 27 hours to complete my Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from University of Phoenix.
Experience: Current President of Leander ISD Board of Trustees; Current Board Member and Director of Community Relations for Four Points Pop Warner Association; Current Board member of LEEF (Leander Educational Excellence Foundation) - A Foundation which supports all of LISD Children, Parents, Teachers, and Taxpayers; Founder and two year President of Vandreight High School Football Booster Club, 2009 – 2011; 2008 Republican Candidate for the House of Representatives District 48; Past Republican Precinct Chair of 376; Member of Austin Christian Fellowship; Leander ISD Board of Trustees, 2002-2008. Re-elected to the board May, 2010 to current; PTA President of Steiner Ranch Elementary, 1999-2001; President of Canyon Ridge Middle School Athletic Booster, 2006-2009; Past member of the Nutritional Committee at Leander ISD; Texas Association of School Boards Graduate of Leadership TASB with a designation of Master Trustee; Past member of TASB Grassroots Advocacy – SBAN – School Boards Association Networks. This group actively educates and builds relations with our current politicians. I have spoken on many occasions in front of the legislature on topics such as school finance, taxation, and local control issues of School Districts.
Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: Leander ISD maintenance and operation tax has been $1.04 per $100 of property value since 2006-2007 school year. Since we have no plans for a tax increase, we partnered with our school foundations, local businesses and parent volunteers to supply materials and mentors for additional academic needs. Our curriculum is more vertically aligned than ever before while providing a world class education.
Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: A growing population in Leander ISD means more school buildings will have to be built. Texas school districts must maintain the .50 cent test per $100 of value or we are heavily penalized by the State. We need to be able to issue debt like anybody else offering our taxpayers the best return on their money. In my last 3 years on the board, we have issued less new money debt than ever before.
Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: Experience matters. As a 16 year resident of LISD, I have served as a PTA president, booster club president, and currently, president of LISD Board of Trustees. I also serve on the board of our school foundation, LEEF, and Four Points Pop Warner association. My passion is providing students with tools to engage in learning and be successful in their lives. Serving has allowed me to do just that.

PLACE 4
GRACE BARBER-JORDAN
Unopposed

PLACE 5
RUSSELL BUNDY
Unopposed

CITY OF MANOR MAYOR CANDIDATES
Vote for one
RITA JONSE
Unopposed

MANOR CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES
Vote for one in each race

PLACE 1
CHRISTOPHER HARVEY
Experience: —— Work Experience: College Admissions Counselor Case Worker Grant Math Lab Coordinator Public Health Technician III Program Manager (School Social Work) Education Consultant Substitute Teacher Teacher Assistant Principal Principal ——— Community Involvement: NAACP Texas State Vice President Youth & College Division America Corps National Volunteer Service Habitat for Humanity Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Communities in Schools, Inc. — Central Texas Austin Area Food Bank 2012 Manor Cinco de Mayo — Coordinator 2012 Project: Clean Manor — Coordinator — Task Force Experience: Middle Level Education Plan for Austin ISD Austin Voices, Inc. — Austin ISD Advisory Curriculum
Q: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as water, wastewater, roads and other city services?
A: The first thing I would do is determine what our budget is and has been. By evaluating fiscal trends and patterns, we can better determine how to manage the money of our constituents without causing them a great deal of discomfort. There needs to be a balance. Improving our city’s infrastructure will allow Manor to grow with our neighbors, which can help reduce taxes.
Q: What pressing issues are facing your community, and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?
A: Our neighborhood associations told me: there is a lack of vision, no fiscal transparency, a lack of 21st century technological applications within city government, and no resources for improving the quality of life for families. I plan to support community opportunities for our families, supporting our schools, fiscal transparency, & improve communication and customer service.
Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I want change. I believe Manor is a great place to live and raise a family. I believe we can become more. I believe that I can help open the lines of communication between the city and the community. I will advocate for the people who have to work in another city because we don’t have enough jobs. I want to reduce juvenile truancy and crimes. I truly care.

SHERRI HOOKER
No response received

PLACE 2
IKE CLARK
No response received

DAVID CRUZ
No response received

PLACE 5
REBECCA DAVIES
No response received
FRANKLIN HUTCHINSON
No response received

MANOR ISD SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES
Vote for none, one, or two

JOHN A. JONSE
No response received
MATHLY (SAM) SAMARIPA JR.
No response received
ELMER FISHER JR.
Education: College degree: BA Accounting
Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
A: The overall budget will need to be reviewed to get a firm understanding of what is needed in order for the school district (not just some schools, but all schools in the district) to be academically superior. Most importantly, we will need evaluate and compare teacher’s salaries. Teachers are the most important factors to ensure that our children are receiving a quality education.
Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?
A: Not only our school district, but all school districts are challenged by the standardized testing requirements. We must research other ways to prepare our students for the state required test to ensure each student not only meets the requirements but exceeds the standard. We must gain a better understanding of how students comprehend information in different settings and adjust teaching styles.
Q: Why are you seeking this office?
A: I am seeking this office in hopes that my efforts will make a difference in our...
From previous page

educational system. Our students deserve the best education and to ensure they receive that, there must be someone who will be the voice of our children. We must acknowledge that the parent-teacher-student relationship is essential to achieving academic excellence.

**ALLEN J. ROBERTS**  
**Education:** Graduate of Huston-Tillotson University with B.A. 2003; Graduate of St. Edwards University with MBA 2010  
**Experience:** Ten years of experience with the State of Texas where I currently serve as a Team Leader. As well as 8 years of experience with the Texas Army National Guard as a Finance Specialist and completed one tour in Iraq from 2006-2007.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?  
A: I plan to review the current processes that are in place and identify areas that can be streamlined.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?  
A: Currently, the pressing issues are the growth in Manor, Texas how to maintain academic standards and stay relevant and continue to grow and expand in a way similar to surrounding school districts. Possible action to address these issues would include reviewing the current plans for anticipated growth, developing a SWOT analysis and seeking opportunities for sponsorship.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?  
A: To maintain and improve the quality of education in

---

**PFLUGERVILLE ISD SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE CANDIDATES**

**PLACE 3**  
**MARIO ACOSTA**  
**Education:** Graduate of Marfa High School, Marfa, Texas Graduate of Sul Ross State University MED/Mid-Management Certification Southwestern Texas State University Superintendent Certification Sul Ross State University  
**Experience:** 36 years in public education as teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal and superintendent 12 years at Parmer Lane Elementary (PISD) as assistant principal (Tyrus) and principal (Syrs) 3 years at Texas Education Agency (TEA) 3 years PISD Board of Trustees  
Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?  
A: I will do this by listening to financial reports presented to the board of trustees during monthly meetings and voting to approve allocations that promote educational quality.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?  
A: Currently, the pressing issues are the growth in Manor, Texas how to maintain academic standards and stay relevant and continue to grow and expand in a way similar to surrounding school districts. Possible action to address these issues would include reviewing the current plans for anticipated growth, developing a SWOT analysis and seeking opportunities for sponsorship.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?  
A: To maintain and improve the quality of education in Manor ISD for the current students and for my 8-month old son’s future education and his future classmates.

---

**TONY HANSON**  
**Education:** R.L. Paschal High School – Fort Worth, TX; Prairie View A&M University – Prairie View, TX – BBA in Accounting; Austin Graduate School of Theology – Pursuing Master of Arts in Theological Studies  
**Experience:** I have worked with youth all of my life. If it wasn’t at the local YMCA during high school, it was during the summers at youth camps. I continued to mentor young men during my college days, as well as after graduation. While at the Texas State Auditor’s Office, I performed projects related to education, such as school district audits. I am a founding member of the PISD’s MEN’s group. I also served as a participant of the Citizens Bond Committee.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?  
A: The mission of the Pflugerville ISD is to provide a quality education to each child. My purpose, as a member of the PISD Board, would be to focus as many dollars as possible to the classrooms, where direct contact takes place with each child.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?  
A: We must challenge our students academically while simultaneously inspiring them through real-world experiences that prepare them for more than just the next test. I have worked with Legislators to advocate for greater flexibility in coursework and testing and personally championed many of the innovative courses that engage students such as Robotics, Geometry in Construction and Video Game Design.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?  
A: I am seeking a place on the Pflugerville ISD Board of Trustees for my two daughters, their classmates and friends, their parents, and my community. To be a devoted advocate for the youth, to continue my desire to serve this community and assist in building a world-class school district through prudent financial actions.

---

**PLACE 4**  
**VERNAGENE MOTT**  
**Experience:** I have a child at each level of the education system: Kindergarten to college. Eight years ago my wife and I, along with three other families came together to form a non-profit organization in Pflugerville to provide an outlet for athletics based on faith and family. We have coached, mentored and fostered relationships through football, baseball, basketball, and cheer to over 1100 families in Pflugerville and the surrounding areas. My professional career has allowed me to work with a wide variety of people, from small business owners to CEO’s of multinational companies. As an eBusiness Advisor with Dell Computer Corporation, I travel the country assisting, supporting and streamlining procurement practices for large school districts and universities to help schools become more efficient. My most rewarding experience is being a parent to four children. Next year, our family will have a child at each level of the education system: Riojas Elementary, Cele Middle School, Hendrickson High School and Austin Community College. I understand the challenges & blessings of raising children from pre-kindergarten to college.

Q: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?  
A: Each child should receive a quality education. We currently have an inequitable & inadequate school finance system. We are surrounded by school districts receiving more money per child than ours. The recent court battles have marked steps in the right direction but there is still much work to be done to ensure taxpayers of PISD are getting a fair amount of allocated tax dollars.

Q: What pressing issues are facing your school district, and what actions are needed to address these issues?  
A: Most pressing is the search for a superintendent & interim transition plan. The candidate must be capable of leading our growing district, improving safety & communication for our children, expanding technology & infrastructure. Our curriculum prepares students to attend college a fantastic goal but ignores those who do not. More vocational programs will facilitate career readiness & job training.

Q: Why are you seeking this office?  
A: My career & service has afforded me great opportunities, knowledge & experience to assist the parents, students, teachers & leadership of PISD. Pflugerville is not the same town it was ten years ago. We need strong, flexible, growth-oriented leadership, willing to face the needs of a large district in transition. We’ve been blessed by this town & the people in it. I want to represent our families.
May 11 is a big day for Central Texas. Are you ready?

Be an informed voter.

Donate to the LWV-Austin Education Fund to help Make Democracy Work throughout the Austin Area. Tax deductible contributions to the Education Fund support expanded distribution of the nonpartisan Voters Guide throughout Austin and on our website.

Call us at: (512) 451-6710 | Email us at: lwvaustin@lwvaustin.org
Go to our Web site: www.lwvaustin.org
Ad paid for by LWV-Austin Area, 1011 West 31st Street, Austin, TX 78705