

Candidate Scorecard (D1)
May 12, 2012 Trustee Election



District	Location	Voting Date	DKF Review Completed
1	Northwest Dallas	Saturday May 12, 2012	March 2012

Candidate Name	Michael Greenberg	Elizabeth Jones	Jennifer Levy	Roland Love
Profession	Project Manager	Professor	Nurse (ret.)	Attorney
Status	Open Seat	Open Seat	Open Seat	Open Seat
Survey Completed?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Interview Completed?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Key Additional Info	-	-	-	-
Experience	B	A	B	C
Awareness	B	B	A	B
Perspective	A	A	B	C
Urgency	B	B	B	C
Candidate Score	B - Strong	B - Strong	B - Strong	C - Moderate

Defining Issues	
District in crisis	Dallas ISD has seen meaningful improvements but is still primarily defined by challenges. SAT/ACT scores still lag most Texas districts (90%+ not college ready), and Dallas parents are struggling to deal with underperforming middle and high schools. Trustees must honestly assess these challenges and aggressively move from status quo thinking to student-based decisions.
Budget woes	State budget challenges have made managing Dallas ISD's \$1.5 billion annual operating budget extremely difficult. Trustees must work together instead of casting blame, and focus on balanced, student-based budgeting.
Central staffing	Recent departures of key personnel (e.g., superintendent, head of instruction, chief of HR) provide the district with a unique opportunity to accelerate progress, which highlights the importance of electing the best possible Trustees in this critical time for Dallas ISD's future.

What valuable traits would the candidates bring to the DISD Board of Trustees?

Trait	Michael Greenberg		Elizabeth Jones	
	Description	Score	Description	Score
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant professional experience with IT and project management, which would likely add value to the board. Has insight from service as a member of DISD's Technology Focus Group. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very similar experience as a commissioner on the 2011 Dallas Redistricting Commission. Substantial experience in board oversight roles involving financial management, which would likely add immediate value to the Board. Relevant professional experience as a professor. Has a long history of broad civic engagement. 	A
Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Values communication and has stated that he will actively engage stakeholders if elected. May underappreciate the complexity of DISD's problems based on assessments/goals. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiar with complex existing policies. Spoke at length about every existing Trustee and respectfully articulated appreciation and common ground with each. 	B
Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience as a DISD parent anchors his awareness of the gravity of DISD's challenges. Understands the importance of attracting top talent, but didn't discuss strategies to implement related policies. 	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was an outspoken supporter of non-partisan solutions that preserved neighborhood bonds as a redistricting commissioner, which suggests she would aggressively support similar community-based positions as a Trustee. 	A
Urgency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frames education issues from a perspective as a father of a young daughter, and seems to appreciate the need for immediate progress. Is focused on much needed administrative reform, but unclear about if classroom-related policies will be top priority. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is reportedly focused on DISD reform because Dallas public schools provide many families with the only opportunity for transformational economic advancement. Was the only candidate focused on administrative problems due to their negative impact on teacher effectiveness. 	B
Total	Greenberg is a strong and candidate that has applicable experience and a valuable perspective as a DISD father. His critiques are common but well supported (e.g., fix administrative problems, hold decision makers accountable, etc.).	B	Jones is a rare candidate that has a proven specialty that fits a dramatic need (financial oversight), communication skills and applicable experience in a similar public role.	B

What valuable traits would the candidates bring to the DISD Board of Trustees?

Trait	Jennifer Levy		Roland Love	
	Description	Score	Description	Score
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has applicable experience bringing together divergent constituencies while advocating for a common goal (nurse administrator). Has experience navigating complex challenges and implementing adopted strategies (organ transplantation and donation coordinator). Lacks a long history of civic involvement. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant experience in a complex field (law). Relevant experience on a governing executive committee in his law firm. Relevant experience on a governing board of a local private school. Has served on a non-profit board (YMCA). 	C
Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very familiar with complex existing policies. Familiar with existing Trustees. 	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully explained the important differences between board management. Lacks a thorough understanding of existing policies and Trustees. 	B
Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience as a DISD parent anchors her awareness of DISD's challenges. Familiar with some problems due to experience creating educational paths for special needs children. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is anchored by personal experience as a DISD parent and alumni. 	C
Urgency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressed an intense desire to establish solutions immediately. Appears to have a unique passion and sense of urgency based on her experience as a mother advocating for a child with special needs. 	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressed a belief that new Trustees could be relatively ineffective as new board members in terms of advocating for aggressive progress. 	C
Total	Levy lacks a long history of related civic or board experience, but expressed a respectable command of nuanced policy issues as well as a seemingly genuine passion for an improved DISD. Although difficult to explicitly evaluate, Levy's sense of humility was uniquely notable and, if elected, would likely give her an advantage as a coalition builder.	B	Love is a skilled professional who could bring value to the Board, but his lack of directly applicable experience and relatively limited knowledge of key policy issues would likely limit his ability to aggressively and immediately pursue effective reforms.	C