

Approval of Contract for Election Services
Between Denton County and Denton Independent School District
February 10, 2009

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of a Contract for Election Services between Denton County and Denton Independent School District for the addition of an election day polling site.

BOARD GOAL:

- IV. Parent and Community Involvement.....In pursuit of excellence, the District will:
 - a. Foster a positive and welcoming environment that encourages parent and community partnerships to achieve success for all our students
- VI. Growth & Change.....In pursuit of excellence, the District will:
 - a. Review and adjust policies and procedures effectively to address the challenges of rapid growth and changing demographic characteristics while maintaining and enhancing our strong sense of community

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved a Contract and Joint Election Resolution between the Denton Independent School District and Denton County on August 28, 2007.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 1) The Denton Independent School District contracts with the City of Denton and the City of Corinth for trustee elections. Voters are assigned by precincts to vote at designated polling sites within the cities on election day. In the past, Denton ISD voters living outside the city limits in precincts 101, 123, 130 and 135 (along the 380 corridor) voted at the Denton City Library, North. There is not a city located along the 380 corridor for the District to contract with for a joint election.
- 2) Denton ISD voters living in the Shady Shores, precinct 118, also voted at Denton City Library, North.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- 1) According to the Elections Administrator of Denton County, there are 7,039 registered Denton ISD voters living within precincts 101, 123, 130 and 135. An additional polling site is needed due to the increased voters in these precincts. The Steven Everett Copeland Government Center is now available allowing more convenient accessibility for these precincts.
- 2) There are 1,484 registered Denton ISD voters in precinct 118. These voters will be assigned to the City of Corinth to allow more convenient accessibility.
- 3) Denton ISD voters in the affected precincts have to be notified of the change of election day polling sites.
- 4) Changes in election precincts, polling sites, and various other actions require preclearance. A letter for preclearance will need to be submitted to the Department of Justice no later than seventy-five days before the election, or February 23, 2009.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 1) The cost of adding a polling site at the Steven Everett Copeland Government Center is an estimated \$3,052.32.
- 2) The cost of notifying voters of a change in election day polling sites is an estimated \$4,000.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

The District may proceed with the required notifications for the 2009 Board of Trustees Election.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

The federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 requires that any change in any "standard, practice, or procedure with respect to voting" must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice for

preclearance. Changes in election precincts, polling places, and various other actions require preclearance.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

ALTERNATIVES:

None

OTHER COMMENTS:

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the Contract for Election Services between Denton County and Denton Independent School District for the addition of an election day polling site, and a change in election day polling site for voters in precinct 118 from City of Denton Library, North to City of Corinth.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Debbie Monschke, Executive Director Administrative Services
Jo Davis, Elections/General Accountant

ATTACHMENT:

Contract for Election Services between Denton County and Denton Independent School District
Attachment "A" – Denton county Elections Contract Worksheet

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: _____

Comments: _____

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: _____

Comments: _____

Signature of Superintendent: _____

Comments: _____