Follow Up to January 7, 2020 Inquiry From Trustee Hardin

Re: Campus Election Locations

Question:

Trustee Hardin forwarded an inquiry from primary elections administrators regarding moving the campus elections locations to the college's conference centers

Answer:

Currently, Collin College facilities used for Collin County elections include:

- Open Foyer at CHEC
- Open Foyer at the Plano Campus
- Hallway at the McKinney Campus near the Bookstore
- Hallway at the Frisco Campus in University Hall

A concern was raised that the currently allocated spaces at the college may be insufficient to handle the anticipated high voter turnout for the 2020 primaries and upcoming elections.

Upcoming election dates include:

•	Primary Election:	Early Voting February 18 – 28 Election Day March 3
•	City/School Election:	Early Voting April 20-25; 27-28 Election Day May 2
•	Primary Runoff Election:	Early Voting May 18-22 Election Day May 26
•	City Runoff Election:	Early Voting June 8-13; June 15-16 Election Day June 20
•	Uniform Election	Early Voting October 19-30 Election Day November 3

A request was presented to use conference centers at all campuses for upcoming elections. However, Collin's conference facilities are heavily utilized and are already booked for various events that are difficult to relocate or reschedule.

After a careful review by the campus Vice President/Provosts, the following locations are recommended as polling places on Collin College campuses:

• At the Frisco Campus, the voting area that has most recently been used is in University Hall. The concern with this area is that there is limited space to accommodate lines and there has been some disruption of classes noted in the past when long lines form.

In considering potentially workable options, there is a very large classroom in Building J, room J113. This classroom is near an exterior door and near the Conference Center. There is also a large hallway extending from that classroom to accommodate any lines that may form, and a large covered walkway between Building J and the Conference Center for overflow in the unlikely event the interior space is inadequate.

In addition, parking in that area of the campus is more accessible and avoids construction traffic when entering the campus toward the northwest. The parking garage is also fairly close by to assist with any parking overflow that may be needed.

Collin County Elections staff have reviewed the space and agree that it is a workable area that meets their requirements.

- At the Plano Campus, the currently used foyer is open and large with indoor space for lines that may form by voters. There are no other suitable areas at the Plano Campus, which is currently utilized at its capacity. Voter parking is a challenge at the Plano Campus regardless of the location.
- At the McKinney Campus, the current voting area is located in a wide walkway near the Bookstore. The current location has multiple entrances and has accessible parking. After a review of the McKinney Campus facilities, the current location is determined to be the most accessible and appropriate space.
- At the Collin Higher Education Center, the elections area is in the first floor open foyer that includes a substantial area for lines to form. The elections are currently conducted in the largest space available in this facility.