

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALLS CHURCH



The League of Women Voters®

## SPRING 2010 VOTERS' GUIDE

**LOCAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010**  
**POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

### THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

The City of Falls Church was incorporated as an independent city in 1948. It is now home to about 11,200 people living within its 2.2 square miles. Falls Church operates under the Council-Manager form of government. Falls Church has its own school system and police department, and provides for its own water services. The City of Falls Church has its own district court, but combines with Arlington County to make up the 17th Judicial District of Virginia; there is one Circuit Court for the two municipalities, located in Arlington. The Falls Church school system is comprised of four schools: Mt. Daniel Elementary School (K-1), Thomas Jefferson Elementary School (2-4), Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School (5-7), and George Mason High School (8-12), with a combined enrollment of 1,991. The City's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of each year. A complete list of city services and information can be found at: [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov).

### ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The League of Women Voters of Falls Church (LWVFC) produced this Voters' Guide to help citizens in the City of Falls Church choose candidates for election to the City Council and School Board. The 8,300 registered voters who live within the City of Falls Church are eligible to vote at the appropriate polling place for their residence:

<b>Ward One</b>	Thomas Jefferson School 601 South Oak Street
<b>Ward Two</b>	Oakwood Apartments 501 Roosevelt Boulevard
<b>Ward Three</b>	Scout House 128 South Spring Street
<b>Ward Four</b>	Falls Church Community Center 223 Little Falls Street
<b>Ward Five</b>	American Legion Post 400 North Oak Street

Polling places are accessible to persons with disabilities. The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LWVFC sent a questionnaire to all candidates whose names were qualified to appear on the May 4, 2010 ballot. Biographies and responses to the questions appear as written by the candidates and are not edited except to comply with Voters' Guide style and stipulated word limitations. The candidates' original responses are on file with the League of Women Voters of Falls Church. Candidates are listed in the order in which their names will appear on the ballot.

LWVFC is a nonpartisan organization, founded in 1951, whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and

active participation in government. The League of Women Voters does not support any political party or candidate. For additional information on the League of Women Voters of Falls Church, go to [www.lwvfallschurch.org](http://www.lwvfallschurch.org).

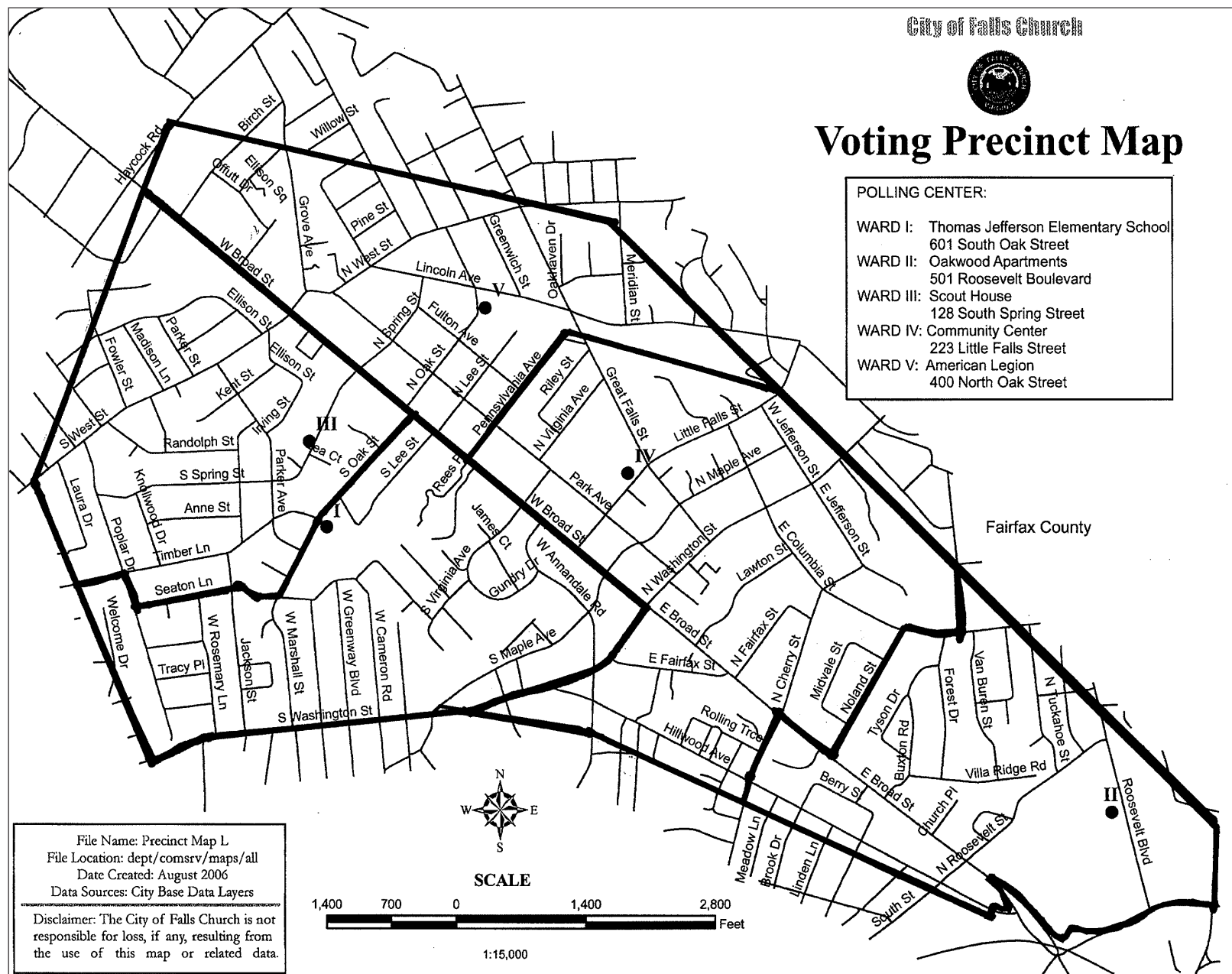
For additional information on the May 4, 2010 election, voter registration, or where to vote, contact the Falls Church Office of Voter Registration & Elections at 703-248-5085, [vote@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:vote@fallschurchva.gov), or visit [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov).

### IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE

Officers of Election are required to ask voters for identification. Acceptable forms of identification can be any **ONE** of the following:

- Virginia voter identification card
- Original Social Security card
- Valid Virginia driver's license or special identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Military identification card
- Any federal, state, or local government-issued identification card
- Valid employee or student identification card containing your photo

If you do not have an acceptable form of identification, you must complete an Affirmation of Identity form **BEFORE** you can vote.



# FALLS CHURCH CITY COUNCIL

## THE OFFICE

**TERM:** The City Council is comprised of seven members who are elected at large for staggered four-year terms. However, with this year's Council decision to change City Council elections to November from May, this will be the last May election and terms of office will be shortened by six months: the four members elected this May will serve until their successors take office after the election in November 2013, and the three elected in May 2008 will serve until their successors take office after the November 2011 election.

**SALARIES:** \$9,200 per year for Council Members, and \$9,800 per year for the Mayor.

**DUTIES:** The City Council enacts ordinances and resolutions, approves City budgets, sets tax rates, hires the city manager, and establishes policy. In formulating decisions and policy, the Council members act as a group.

## BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

**BIOGRAPHY:** Background provided by each candidate.

### THE QUESTIONS

Given Falls Church's uncertain fiscal future, how should the **CITY POSITION** itself?

What **PARTICULAR SKILLS** would you bring to the City Council?

## CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH CITY COUNCIL FOUR COUNCIL SEATS WILL BE CONTESTED



### Johannah Barry *Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Johannah Barry is a career conservationist and founder of Galapagos Conservancy, a non-profit conservation organization promoting biodiversity protection and sustainable societies in Galapagos. Her background as chief development officer for both domestic and international organizations also includes writing on environmental citizenship and governance reform. She has a master's degree from University of Virginia and undergraduate degree from Washington State University.

**CITY POSITION:** Our City is immensely attractive and has the excellent underpinnings in its long range Comprehensive Plan to poise itself for coherent future development. We

need intelligent commercial development consistent with the City's character, new revenues streams, and strong fiscal management to rebuild reserves and infrastructure, as well as rebuild relations with our neighboring jurisdictions. The City's financial planning should follow its development model – looking at longer perspectives and budgeting in a manner more closely aligned with past performance and likely future scenarios. The City's two biggest economic drivers – schools on the expense side and residential property tax on the revenue side – must be aligned. The health of each is critical to the other. Despite the difficult budget cuts ahead, and the likely, significant increases in property taxes, the City must maintain its excellent services in education, public health, and safety. With these foundations in place, the City can and will rebound.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** I am the only candidate for City Council who is a private sector CEO, a career conservationist,

a professional fundraiser, and who has founded and run my own organization. I have direct experience in creating and delivering new and diverse revenue streams, developing alliances with a variety of institutions and individuals, and managing daily operations. I understand the legal and ethical obligations associated with receiving public funding and reporting on those funds I hold in trust. Working multi culturally has provided excellent exposure to diverse viewpoints, and created a lifetime commitment to clear and respectful communication. As founder of Galapagos Conservancy, I am responsible for its vision, its mission, and its values. I understand the value of charting a course and seeing projects to completion. In conservation, victories are hard won and take decades. They are rarely achieved alone. I am committed to building partnerships to achieve shared goals.

**CONTACT:** [www.barrykaylinforcouncil.com](http://www.barrykaylinforcouncil.com)



### Barry Buschow *Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** I moved here with parents in 1951 and have owned a house in the city since 1987. Married to Kathleen Clarken Buschow with one son James Marvin Buschow. I have been a technical assistant contractor for TASC, Inc. since 1985. BA in Economics from Virginia Tech and a Graduate Certificate, Procurement and Contract Management, University of Virginia.

**CITY POSITION:** We must make every effort to position ourselves for the future. Commerce is currently contributing 22% to our revenue and residential is paying 78%. We need to expand our commercial tax base so homeowners don't contin-

ue to shoulder the burden of maintaining our excellent school system and city services. Without a better balance our taxes will continue to be a problem for many citizens. Articulating our economic development needs will help stimulate meaningful development with good design. The best economic development is not necessarily "more" or "bigger", but commercial that is "better". Better is better. We must form partnerships with developers. The essential ingredient for making a partnership successful is attitude. Let's put in place the tools we will need to succeed -- legislation, a revised zoning code, design alternatives, marketing and an attitude that we will work together and get it done.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** We all have skills to bring to the table. I plan to bring a positive attitude, and a can do approach that uses everyone's skills to their fullest. In my day job my

skills are those that most of us use; program management, budgeting, scheduling and strategic. What works best for me is a can-do attitude, rolling up my sleeves and getting the job done. In some regards the economic downturn can benefit our city. It gives us the time to focus our skills on economic development, sector planning concepts and sound land management techniques. We must take on this challenge now so we can be ready for the future. Many communities across the nation are engaged in enhancing and revitalizing older commercial areas as we would also like to accomplish. Articulating a clear course of action will provide tangible results. We must all use our skills and work together.

**CONTACT:** 703-533-8610



### M.R. "Lindy" Hockenberry *Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** B.S. Spalding University, M.A. George Mason University; Teacher, Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, George Mason Middle School, 1969-2000; Long-term substitute, Mary Ellen Henderson, 2000-present; Falls Church City Council 2000-2006; Vice Mayor, 2006-2008; Planning Commission, 2008-present; CBC, VPIS, League of Women Voters, Falls Church Housing Corporation, Chamber of Commerce, Falls Church Arts, Tinner Hill Blues Festival, Arts/Cultural Task Force.

**CITY POSITION:** I hesitate using the words "uncertain fiscal future" to portray the status of the City of Falls Church-

--that sounds too gloom and doom. I would prefer stating it as "how to keep a steady course" until the economy improves. We will have a couple more rocky years, but with tight budgeting accompanied by vigorous economic development, we will be on a strong foundation when times are better. We can't afford to crawl under a rock and do nothing. We need to keep planning for the future by strongly rewriting the zoning code and working with the Economic Development Office on a more aggressive marketing plan for empty commercial sites. We must bring in new business development! The good news is that BJ's is coming in along with four new restaurants. The Wilden with the new office building will help stimulate further new development along the S. Maple/S. Washington Street corridor. Approved plans for streetscape improvements along N. Washington Street

will be implemented with matching grant money enhancing our north entrance. All of this positive activity and growth will bring more interest in our City and bring future development. We all need to cooperate and pull together to provide for our future sustainability and our continued independence of our City and wonderful schools.

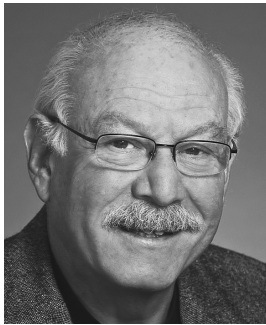
**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** I feel that I bring to City Council knowledge, skills and the ability to get things done. I'm a proven leader. I have stayed very involved with all aspects of City government and will have little in the way of a learning curve. I have always had a positive "can do" attitude with a visionary, big picture point of view that will add to a team approach on City Council. I am an attentive listener, work hard and have always represented our City and citizens well.

**CONTACT:** [lindyfallsch@aol.com](mailto:lindyfallsch@aol.com)

# VOTE

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# CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH CITY COUNCIL – CONTINUED



## Ira J. Kaylin Challenger

**BIOGRAPHY:** Lived in Falls Church since 2004, prior residence, Arlington for 24 years. Married, two (adult) children. Board of Directors Economic Development Authority; Consultant, Financial Risk Management; Former Chief Financial Risk Officer Inter American Development Bank (IDB), Auditor General (IDB), Member IDB Pension Investment Committee. B.S.F.S. Foreign Service, Georgetown University. Completed course work for PhD in International Economics, University of Oregon.

**CITY POSITION:** The City's has a fundamental economic structural imbalance; revenues, primarily based on real estate taxes, even if the current crisis did not occur, are not sufficient

to cover revenues needed for projected school system expenditures and critical City services. The school system, in turn heavily influences housing values on which residential real estate taxes are based. On the other hand, taxes can only be increased so far before its impact becomes negative. There is really only one source sufficiently large to generate revenue volumes that can cover projected budget gaps. That is, developing a long term comprehensive urban revitalization plan that focuses on commercial/office space and related retail development. Development would be directed to existing business corridors particularly metro areas and South Washington Street along route 29. The City's residential core would remain intact thus preserving the City's unique "Little city" appeal. Instead of waiting for developers to make proposals, the City would provide, and proactively market, its plan in order to attract high quality developers. The City is fortunate

that surrounding jurisdictions have implemented world class urban revitalization programs and could serve as excellent benchmarks for the City.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** I am the only candidate for City Council, who has extensive expertise and experience in finance. I was the chief of Financial Risk Management and Long Term Financial Planning for the IDB (with assets valued at \$100 billion), including responsibility for investment guidelines, risk mitigation for \$15 billion in investments and establishing interest rate charges on \$50 billion of loans. As IDB Auditor General I was responsible for establishing and maintaining cash management control mechanisms as well monitoring adherence to selected financial policies. As a member of a \$2.4 billion Pension Investment Committee I have hands on experience in determining Pension Plan funding requirements.

**CONTACT:** [www.BarryKaylinforcouncil.com](http://www.BarryKaylinforcouncil.com)



## John D. Lawrence Challenger

**BIOGRAPHY:** I head Congressional Affairs for the International Foundation for Electoral Systems. I have two degrees from Georgetown University and have lived in the City for 10 years with my family. Community activities: Chairman, Planning Commission; Trustee, Mary Riley Styles Library; Vice Chair, Day Care Task Force; Member: Citizens for a Better City, Parent-Teachers Association, and FC League of Women Voters.

**CITY POSITION:** As the chair of the PC, I can tell you that bad economic times are ideal for planning because you can

focus on ideas without (unfortunately) worrying about implementing most now. Although we should not stop looking at new developments and courting them, we need to ask ourselves what will we do differently should they be built? We have enough empty space now. How do we attract business?

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** The Council lacks a strong planning voice. Tension arises between the Council and the Commission because the Council doesn't seem to understand our role and doesn't seem to take our advice very seriously. It's gotten better, but rather than use our experience and expertise, the Council treats us as an annoyance to be gotten over. I would bring a strong planning voice to the Council. I would also bring an assertiveness that we need to deal with developers. Years ago, Falls Church had a reputation of being hostile to developers.

Now we've gone to the other extreme and have even changed our Comprehensive Plan -- the City's view for the City -- to meet individual projects. We need to be more assertive in controlling our own fate and pushing our agenda. Developers are not here because they're altruistic. They're here because they can make money. We need to work with them to get what we need not just bow to their demands for what they need. I've shown myself to be willing to be very aggressive when needed. Finally, I think I would bring an ability to work with others collegially that is sorely lacking on the CC now. I've disagreed with everyone on the PC, but that's never generated the kind of bitter hostility I see on Council today. Disagreements need not mean anger and agreement need not mean surrender.

**CONTACT:** [www.CBCcampaign.com](http://www.CBCcampaign.com)



## Harold B. "Hal" Lippman Incumbent

**BIOGRAPHY:** Currently, international development monitoring and evaluation specialist. Previously, 30 years working in Congress and the executive branch (USAID). Past member of School Board and currently Vice Mayor. B.A., American Studies; M.A., Ph.D., International Studies. With wife, Sue, have lived in the City for 30+ years; step-son, Mouncey (1988) and daughter, Danna (2004) educated K-12 in the FCCPS.

**CITY POSITION:** There is no magic formula to assure our City's ability to quickly overcome the effects of the worst recession since the 1930s. In many respects, we are dealing with economic

forces far beyond our immediate control. That said, what we should and can do is build on and expand the fairly solid foundation we already have in place. For example, the just-approved Wilden project promises to help jumpstart development activity in the surrounding area and elsewhere in the City simply because it is being done at this economic low point. Our Little City branding effort is another important means for solidifying our position by raising our visibility in the region's retail and commercial marketplace. Lastly, three major projects are either under construction (the BJs store) or have been approved or are about to be submitted (Northgate and Gateway). In addition to these efforts, emphasis has to be placed on stabilizing key parts of our City's financial structures; most notably, restoring our depleted fund balance to the required level so that we can maintain our solid bond

rating. In addition, we must craft carefully conceived budgets in coming years to replenish our CIP fund in anticipation of the major needs looming ahead, such as a new school and/or City Hall.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** First, is the combination of my long experience working in government and what I have learned and done while serving on the School Board and City Council. Second, is my ability to get things done by working collaboratively with my Council colleagues and assuring there is public understanding of and involvement in the decision-making process. Third, I believe I possess key attributes that are an inherent part of good governance and effective public service -- being thoughtful, analytical, and caring, along with knowing how to be a good listener and team player.

**CONTACT:** [www.halforfallschurch.com](http://www.halforfallschurch.com)



## Ronald W. Peppe II Challenger

**BIOGRAPHY:** Chair, School Board of Falls Church City; Former President, GMHS PTSA; Former President, Board of Education of Frederick County, Maryland; Former board member Frederick County Chapter American Red Cross; Vice President Legal and Human Resources, Canam Steel Corporation; BA, The Johns Hopkins University, MA The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; JD, University of Maryland Law School.

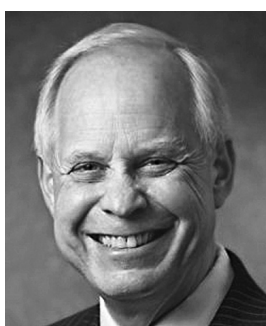
**CITY POSITION:** The current fiscal challenges are not just a one year blip. The city needs to engage in longer term financial

and strategic planning. During my years on school boards, we used the budget as a tool to achieve our strategic goals -- we articulated a vision of where we wanted to be, set measurable goals, and used the budget process to allocate resources to achieve those goals. We also regularly monitored progress towards the goals as well as revenues and spending. The city needs to do the same thing, including goal setting, better monitoring, and constant review of what is working and what is not. Just cutting costs and raising taxes will not get us where we need to go -- we need to engage in a longer term process to plan on how to get there. Part of that plan should include multi-year budgeting and long term capital planning.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** I bring a unique mix of experience to the table. Most people in Falls Church know about my long

term involvement in our schools. In addition to my four years serving on the school board in Falls Church, I spent 7 years on the school board in a 40,000 student district in Maryland, and I have served as PTSA President. What many people do not know is that I have significant experience in many other areas, including time as a bond lawyer assisting city and state governments and development authorities finance projects ranging from education and health care facilities to water, sewer, waste, transportation and other infrastructure projects. I currently oversee all legal and human resources issues for the US operations of an international construction, engineering and manufacturing company. Above all, I have worked for years with boards and councils helping groups of people work together.

**CONTACT:** [www.ronpeppe.com](http://www.ronpeppe.com)



## David F. Snyder Incumbent

**BIOGRAPHY:** Falls Church citizens have elected Dave to City Council four times—the last three with the most votes, and he served as Mayor (1998-2000). Regional officials have elected Dave chairman of Northern Virginia and Washington area transportation, public safety, and environmental bodies. He is an international trade attorney, volunteer EMT, husband of 33 years, and father of two FCCPS-educated children.

**CITY POSITION:** First, preserve what we do well—strong schools, safe neighborhoods, public safety, and cultural and community resources and events. Second, address deficiencies—lack of civility and respect due all citizens, long-range financial planning, low-cost civic improvements that will attract

more commercial activity, such as parking, landscaping, and making the City more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly, and cooperation with our jurisdictional neighbors to solve common problems and prevent such adverse consequences as the City recently experienced in its failed water system litigation with Fairfax County. Third, plan now for the kind of commercial development we need to provide a sound financial future for our City. As the economy recovers and if current projections are valid, we need to begin putting money aside for a new school. I would also make sure that our public safety services are adequately equipped and housed and that basic infrastructure, such as storm sewers, is provided for adequately. Parking capacity and other transportation facilities are needed to support more commercial activity. We must continue to acquire open space and maintain and connect our existing parks and cultural and historic resources. Finally, I

would engage Fairfax County in serious discussions to architect a win/win regarding the water system and also invite Fairfax, Arlington, and our other neighbors to explore cooperative ventures involving transportation and development corridors, such as South Washington Street.

**PARTICULAR SKILLS:** I believe in and apply the Falls Church tradition of citizen-based government and showing respect to all citizens. I have significant ties to the leaders of neighboring jurisdictions that can help Falls Church achieve more benefits from regional cooperation to solve common problems and capitalize on mutually beneficial opportunities. And, I bring to bear significant experience in law, transportation, public safety, and local and regional as well as state and federal government.

**CONTACT:** [www.snyder-for-the-people.com](http://www.snyder-for-the-people.com)

# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH SCHOOL BOARD

## THE OFFICE

**TERM:** The School Board is comprised of seven members who are elected at large for staggered four-year terms, just like the City Council. Just as for the City Council, this year's Council decision to change City Council elections to November from May also reduced the terms of School Board members to three and a half years through November 2011. This will be the last May election and the four members elected this May will serve until their successors take office after the election in November 2013, and the three elected in May 2008 will serve until their successors take office after the November 2011 election.

**SALARIES:** \$1,200 per year for Board Members, and \$1,800 per year for the Chair.

**DUTIES:** The School Board's primary responsibilities are to set policy for the school division, approve the annual budget, develop a strategic plan and hire a superintendent to operate the school division in accordance with board policy.

## BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

**BIOGRAPHY:** Background provided by each candidate.

### THE QUESTIONS

Revenue streams have declined and the school population is growing – **NOW WHAT?**  
What do you believe the **ROLE** of a school board member should be?

## CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH SCHOOL BOARD FOUR BOARD SEATS WILL BE CONTESTED



### Rosaura Aguerrebere *Incumbent*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Rosaura Aguerrebere serves on the School Board. She has a successful career in education. Professionally, Rosaura has worked in two states at all levels of education, from pre-school through college. Rosaura's honors include selection as district Bilingual Teacher of the Year. She is the mother of five children and lives with her husband Joe and their two youngest children.

**NOW WHAT:** We continue to strive for excellence, regardless if the school population grows. Every step of the way, we have to examine our goals and make sure that we approve

a budget that never forgets that we are making decisions using the public's money. Our excellence cannot be taken for granted without a sustained focus on the needs of children. I will continue to work to ensure that the needs of all students in our community are being met – including the needs of special needs children whether it is children with disabilities, gifted and talented, English language learners, or the so-called children in the middle – they all deserve our best. I am very proud to serve on our school board. We have had many successes -- We have the highest graduation rates in the state. Our division is first in the Washington Post Challenge index that compares schools across the region. These honors are not accidental. Our board has been strategic in our planning and addressing these issues. I ask that you support my candidacy at a time

when this community needs an experienced and steady hand to weather this economic storm and sustain the progress we are making now and in the future.

**ROLE:** The most important role of a SB member is to hire a superintendent that will provide the leadership and vision for excellence in our schools and community. A school board is also responsible for setting the policy for the school district, responsible for oversight of budget, curriculum, personnel, and overall management of a school district. The SB's challenge is to approve a budget that meets the needs of our children and is respectful of our citizen's pocket books. I ask and thank you for your vote.

**CONTACT:** [www.CBCcampaign.com](http://www.CBCcampaign.com)



### Susan Kearney *Incumbent*

**BIOGRAPHY:** I have lived in the City for 23 years with my husband and 2 children. My profession is marketing; I am currently Chief Marketing Officer for the Council of Better Business Bureaus. My passion is educating children. To this end, I serve on the School Board as well as the Board of Directors of the Women in Technology Education Foundation.

**NOW WHAT:** Revenue streams have declined and the school population is growing but we must not compromise our commitment to the excellence of our schools for two reasons. First, we are bound by our values and our aspirations for our

children to equip them for the future in the best way we can. Second, we must protect the economy of our City from the inevitable decline in housing values should our schools not be the best. What then is to be done? First, the School Board must continue to find innovative ways to deliver a quality education with fewer dollars while keeping small classes, a challenging curriculum, and the best teachers. Second, the community must demand that City Council provide funding more in line with surrounding jurisdictions. We invest about 43% of our operating budget in education while, for example, Fairfax County invests 54%.

**ROLE:** The role of a school board member is to marshal the resources required to assure that every child achieves their potential; and to do it in the most cost effective way. What does

that mean? The official role of a school board member is to work with the entire board to hire and manage the Superintendent, adopt a budget, and make and enforce policies to govern the operations of the division. To be an effective school board member you must also be a Listener: Hearing what parents, staff, students, and the community think about the schools; Learner: Studying what is happening in K-12 education to find innovative ways to meet our challenges; Communicator: Advocating for our schools in the community; Collaborator: Working with colleagues, the City Council, and the community to acquire resources; Strategist: Looking ahead to envision and plan for the programs, people and facilities the schools will need in the future.

**CONTACT:** [www.CBCcampaign.com](http://www.CBCcampaign.com)

### Gregory R. Rasnake *Challenger*

**GREGORY RASNAKE DID NOT COMPLETE HIS QUESTIONNAIRE IN TIME FOR THIS VOTERS' GUIDE.**



### Patrick R. Riccards *Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** I have spent most of the past two decades fighting for community improvement. After working on Capitol Hill, I have served as an education policy strategist. Founder of a Falls Church-based education consultancy, I also currently serve as executive director of the American Institutes for Research. The father of two, I am a proud graduate of the University of Virginia.

**NOW WHAT:** The strength of our public schools should be priority number one for Falls Church. In these difficult budget times and with a growing student population, we need to en-

sure our education dollars are being spent on those programs and priorities that are proven effective in boosting classroom learning and student achievement. Many families came to Falls Church because of the strength of our schools. If I should be fortunate enough to serve on the School Board, I will work tirelessly toward three goals. First, all Falls Church City families should have access to a high-quality, competitive K-12 education. Second, all of our students should graduate with the knowledge and skills to succeed in college and career. And finally, all City teachers should be equipped with the education, knowledge, and support necessary to ensure the highest levels of student performance. For me, it begins and ends with student success. As a small businessman, education activist, City resident, and father of two, I believe all Falls Church kids

deserve the best education we can possibly deliver. The simple fact is strong public schools now ensure improved revenue streams and a stronger community tomorrow.

**ROLE:** An effective school board member must be a tireless advocate for our students and for the continued improvement of our public schools. If elected, I will work with my fellow Board members, as well as parents and citizens across Falls Church, to ensure we continue to provide all of our students the world-class education they both need and deserve. Despite the current economy, I want Falls Church to remain an ideal place to live, work, worship, grow a business, and raise a family. And that begins with our schools. I ask for your vote this May so that I can work, on your behalf, toward achieving these goals.

**CONTACT:** [www.riccards.com](http://www.riccards.com)



The Spring 2010 Voters' Guide was prepared by:  
League of Women Voters of Falls Church  
P.O. Box 156  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
[www.lwvfallschurch.org](http://www.lwvfallschurch.org)

# VOTE

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