



## Voter Guide for May 2021 Election: Kendall County

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan civic organization and does not support or oppose any candidate or candidates or political party or parties. VOTE411.org is an online database for voters to read about candidates who have filed for an office in local, state, and national elections. VOTE411.org includes the elections that have at least two or more candidates on the ballot for an office. All responses to questions come directly from the candidates and are not edited by League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas.

### Boerne Independent School District: Board of Trustees

The Boerne ISD Board of Trustees consists of seven members elected by eligible voters to serve a three-year term. Each trustee is elected for a specific numbered place for the term, but does not represent a specific geographical area. The elected trustee represents the entire school district. Elections are held annually on the May uniform election date. Boerne ISD includes portions of Kendall, Bexar, and Comal counties.

Duties: adopt goals and priorities and monitor success; adopt policies and review for effectiveness; hire and evaluate the superintendent; adopt a budget and set a tax rate; and communicate with the community.

### BIDS School Board Candidates for Place 2: term of office is 3 years

<b>Jaymie Mangelsdorf</b>	<b>Joe Tidwell</b>
Email: jaymie@electjaymie.com	Email:
Phone: 210-315-4832	Phone:
Website: http://www.electjaymie.com	Website:

#### 1. What experience and knowledge qualifies you to serve as a trustee on the school board for Boerne ISD?

**Jaymie Mangelsdorf:** I have 22 years of policy experience at the federal, state, and local levels of government. As a Trustee, I will work year-round with state legislators, state agencies, members of congress, federal agencies, and local government to ensure our public funding is enhanced and protected. I will establish contact with our local elected members and business leaders on a bi-monthly basis to keep a pulse on community needs, future growth plans, and new business establishments. These bridges in information and resources will only improve the district.

**Joe Tidwell:** Candidate did not respond.

#### 2. What is the most pressing issue facing the Boerne ISD School Board and what do you hope/plan to do about it?

**Jaymie Mangelsdorf:** In my observation, one of our greatest needs is expanding partnerships with the business community and local community colleges. Partnering with businesses and local community partnerships will provide our students invaluable opportunities to better prepare for higher education tracks and eventually enter the workforce. Providing additional professional leadership growth opportunities for administrators, teachers, and students are positive ways we can further invest in human capital. Increasing opportunities for teacher funding grants is also a golden opportunity that, as a Trustee, I can assist.

**Joe Tidwell:** Candidate did not respond.

#### 3. What are the citizens who live in the school district telling you about school problems?

**Jaymie Mangelsdorf:** The district's parents had shared their frustration with how the district responded to its students' needs when COVID-19 first struck. While there was no blueprint on how to handle a global pandemic, a lack of resources forced the quality of stress level to increase. As parents, we felt the added level of stress to compensate and make up for our students' academic touchpoints. The definition of an essential worker became quickly learned. Teachers are essential. Unfortunately, our students received a minimal level of education.

**Joe Tidwell:** Candidate did not respond.



BISD School Board Candidates for Place 3: term of office is 3 years

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Contact Information. Rows include Jessica Davila-Burnett and Kate Harrison with their respective email, phone, and website details.

1. What experience and knowledge qualifies you to serve as a trustee on the school board for Boerne ISD?

Jessica Davila-Burnett: I am a dedicated BISD parent volunteer. My commitment includes: Co-Chair of the Food Allergies committee - Student Health Advisory Council, CHS Choir Booster Club president, VRES PTO, FORES room parent volunteer, and Boerne Education Foundation board member. In 2011, I championed a Texas Public Schools' records bill' to safeguard children with food allergies with Rep. Todd Hunter. My strengths are identifying problems and creating solutions. Using my skill set as a communications and public affairs professional and my master's degree in Organizational Leadership, I will provide transparent communications and work to improve BISD's relationships external partners.

Kate Harrison: I am a mother of three teenage boys in our district and an Emergency Medicine physician. I worked to design a charter school after college and since 2004 have been teaching graduate medical education. I work daily with a multidisciplinary team to analyze and solve complex problems in the emergency department. Before I make any suggestion I carefully listen, observe and examine the problem at hand – I believe these are translatable skills to the BISD School Board. My knowledge as a physician will bring depth of understanding to our board during the rest of the pandemic.

2. What is the most pressing issue facing the Boerne ISD School Board and what do you hope/plan to do about it?

Jessica Davila-Burnett: We need to reopen our next school year safely and get our students back on campus. Also, strengthening our external partnerships would help to position our fast-growing District favorably with issues around development, mobility, zoning, and infrastructure improvements. Most of all, we need to solidify and communicate a master plan to our community. Everyone single resident within BISD deserves to know everything that is happening in our schools and campuses. I'm a parent first, and I know this firsthand. I am ready to make this happen sooner than later.

Kate Harrison: Student population growth and recovery from COVID are the issues most pressing to our Board at this time. We expect to nearly double in size over the next 10 years – planning for and meeting this need will take flexibility, careful analysis and excellent planning. We will need excellent fiscal stewardship and communication as we ask our community for bond approval. COVID has impacted student achievement and we'll need to increase individualized learning strategies, re-open the schools to parent and community involvement and enhance our summer school offerings to close the achievement gap.

3. What are the citizens who live in the school district telling you about school problems?

Jessica Davila-Burnett: Residents are asking for more transparent communication. Anything from how to manage our fast-growth district to how we will maintain our talented teachers. Our residents want to know what is happening in the district. I am a professional communicator and have been working in the communications field for almost two decades. I am a crisis communicator and work in public relations, public affairs, and governmental affairs. I am a transparent communicator. Also, most residents want a conservative voice in decision-making and a fiscally conservative approach to managing taxpayer dollars, I bring conservative values to my candidacy.

Kate Harrison: Most of our citizens are really happy with BISD. After all, we've recently won multiple awards including Best Small District thanks to the great work of our current teachers, staff, administrators, superintendent and board. I hear concerns about the variety of academic choices in high school and continued support for increased counseling and teacher support at all grade levels. Communication and in-school activities have been a challenge during the pandemic, but families tell me they are grateful for BISD schools being open and the extraordinary efforts of the district to stay ahead of the challenges of this year.



Voting Information for the Boerne ISD School Board

Early Voting in two Locations

Kendall County Courthouse Annex 221 Fawn Valley Drive Boerne

Van Raub School House 8776 Dietz Elkhorn Fair Oaks Ranch (entrance off Noll Road)

Table with 7 columns: Day, Date, and Voting Hours for April 18-24.

Table with 7 columns: Day, Date, and Voting Hours for April 25 and May 1.

Election Day: Saturday - May 1 from 7:00am to 7:00pm

Locations: voters are required to go to one of two assigned locations on Election Day - see the list below. If you need help to determine which location to use, call the Kendall County Election office (830-331-8701)

If you live in Kendall County, but do NOT live in the city limits of Fair Oaks Ranch - you will vote at the Boerne City Hall - 446 North Main Street #100 in Boerne.

If you live in Kendall County and live WITHIN the city limits of Fair Oaks Ranch - you will vote at the Van Raub School House - 8776 Dietz Elkhorn in Fair Oaks Ranch.

Dates to Remember for the 2021 Election

- Last day to register to vote: Thursday, April 1
Last day to update voter registration: Thursday, April 1
First day of Early Voting (in-person): Monday, April 19
Last day to apply to vote by mail: Tuesday, April 20
Last Day of Early Voting: Tuesday, April 27
Last day to return mail-in ballot: Saturday, May 1
Election Day: Saturday, May 1

Sample ballots and other information from the Kendall County Election Department: posted online: https://www.co.kendall.tx.us/page/Elections

Compare candidates online: www.VOTE411.org

Website sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Hill Country Texas: nonpartisan and nonprofit.