

Office Use Only

Docket Number

**SWORN COMPLAINT
BEFORE
THE TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION**

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§
§
§

(Multi Count)

I. IDENTITY OF COMPLAINANT:

Fred T. Blanton
3011 E. Richey Rd.
Humble, TX 77338-3357
Ph 832-526-7979

II. IDENTITY OF RESPONDENTS:

Alan Hall; North Harris College ACD 217G; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Velma Trammell; North Harris College WNSP 174; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Bruce Machart; North Harris College ACD 217A; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Robert Locander; North Harris College ACD 270; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Alan Vogt; North Harris College ACD 264 C; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Vivian Brecher; North Harris College LIBR 114; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Patsy R. Gray; North Harris College ACAD 217-H; 2700 W. W. Thorne; Houston, TX 77073

Richard Almstedt; Kingwood College FTC 100-G; 20000 Kingwood Dr., Kingwood, TX 77339

Laura Yates; Kingwood College SFA113-D; 20000 Kingwood Dr., Kingwood, TX 77339

Richard Becker; Tomball College E-271-D; 30555 Tomball Parkway; Tomball, TX 77375

Julie Alber; Montgomery College SSC 205-A; 3200 College Park Drive - Conroe, TX - 77384

Cheri Riggs; Montgomery College C 100-C; 3200 College Park Drive - Conroe, TX - 77384

Robert McGehee; Cy-Fair College ART-113-H; 9191 Barker Cypress Rd. - Cypress, TX - 77433

Heather Mitchell; Cy-Fair College TECH/216-H; 9191 Barker Cypress Rd. - Cypress, TX - 77433

III. NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION:

The specific nature of the alleged violation is a Political Brochure of approximately 8 pages that has devoted approximately 90% of the lineage towards the political purpose of the Bond and Trustee election of the North Harris Montgomery County Community College District Election for November 7, 2006. The publication is entitled "The Advocate" and it is fairly descriptive of its entire purpose and that is the advocacy of the passage of the Bond issue and the Re-Election of incumbent Trustees. It is consistent with the same publication made back in April of this year for this same election (canceled by the board of trustees for failure to comply with Voting rights Act) and is also consistent with its advocacy of incumbent trustees and bond issues for the past 10-15 years or ever since its existence.

To establish that there is a political advocacy about the publication, please note that on page 1 & 2 the criteria for being mentioned in this publication, is to answer 8 questions by a phone interview. I never did a phone interview, but there is commentary and quotations and a definite political bias on numerous points that have nothing to do with me, yet they do appear in a tone and wording to promote a political point of view.

On page 6 the word Union is mention in the second column and an endorsement of the incumbents and the bond issue is made fully and clearly. On page 8 there appears to be a 1/3 page advertisement for the incumbents. No mention of who paid for the ad.

There is also the listing of District (State) email addresses and phone numbers on the top section of page 8 and the encouragement to make contact through these facilities.

There appears no notice of who paid for this political advertisement or endorsement publication.

The publication was placed in College mail boxes of faculty and staff at the various campuses on Thursday October 19, 2006. These are the same mailboxes provided by the district for inter-district/college mail and internal mail, and also where US Postal mail would be received and delivered to each faculty or staff member. There is no postage stamp affixed or direct address on any of the pieces.

The payment for this publication is made with union funds as is admitted in documents attached. It was distributed to each and every faculty and staff member of which is estimated to be in excess of 4,000 and is confirmed by the editor by email as to the distribution.

It is also further confirmed that each and every board member (AFT Union) did read and approve unanimously of the contents and the wording and distribution of this publication.

It is also confirmed by email by the editor that there were in fact distributed on the grounds and facilities of the college district (State) and was to reach each and every person.

To print and collate and assemble over 4-5,000 8 page flyers the cost would exceed \$500.00 of which would fall under the jurisdiction of the TEC.

It is believed that Jurisdiction of the Texas Ethics Commission is covered under these violations under Title 15 of the Election Code of Political advertising or in or amongst other covered statutes of which the Commission has Jurisdiction.

IV. STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The Facts in these complaints are as follows:

1. On or before October 19, 2006 Respondents met and proofread the document known as "The Advocate" as attested to in an email from the editor Patsy Gray sent on October 22, 2006.
2. On or about October 19, 2006 4-5,000 were distributed to each and every faculty and staff member including board members of the College district as admitted in email of October 22, 2006 by Patsy Gray
3. On or about October 19, 2006 the mail inboxes of the various college campus had placed a copy of the publication called "The Advocate" without postage and without address.
4. On October 22, 2006 I received an email from the editor Patsy gray attesting to many of the facts as I have stated in this Complaint.
5. On October 19, 2006 I received a copy from faculty members attesting to the method of receipt in their mail inbox at one of the college campuses, a copy of which is included herewith.
6. On October 22, 2006 I received an email attesting to the unanimous consent of all board members and the editor herself in the reading of the publication and complete approval of same.
7. On October 22, 2006 In the email received from Patsy Gray, the admission of the printing by the AFT Union and payment of the Publication is made that such was paid for by the AFT Union.
8. On October 22, 2006 In the email received from Patsy Gray, the admission of the publication being "hand carried" to each "site" and "hand distributed" is further evidenced that from others that have received this publication by receipt in their "inbox" at the various sites (campuses) that I have surveyed.
9. I have confirmed that the "inbox" is the method by which all correspondence is received by each faculty and or staff member of the District/colleges. This "inbox" is the same receiving source that a "postage affixed stamped and mailed piece" would be received as if someone were to mail or address a letter, package or other correspondence directly to said faculty/staff member.
10. All faculty and staff members have received on more than one occasion back in March of 2006 an email from various administrators and from the District's in-house counsel a notification and warning about ethics and campaign violations. On September 8, 2006 an Ethics training session was held for District faculty and staff at two (2) campuses and all personnel were notified by email on the very same laws and regulations, in fact it was presented by the Executive Director Mr. David Reisman. Online training course was made available to all employees on September 12, 2006.
11. It is further believed that District (state) email addresses and facilities were used in and for communication back and forth as were some sent to me regarding this matter, of which you may request of the Respondents.

V. LISTING OF DOCUMENTS:

The Documents that are the evidence entered herewith this complaint are as follows:

1. Copy of the "THE ADVOCATE" publication.
2. Copy of the email of October 22, 2006 containing the admission of the facts in this Complaint.
3. Copies of the Laws, rules and regulations of the Texas Election code sent to all employees of the District by NHMCCD General Counsel, Rene Byas; March/April 2006
4. Copies of the Email of Linda Stegall March 28 forwarding the Rene S. Byas email of March 24, 2006 and the Patty S Blueitt email of March 13, 2006 all concerning employee activities and participation in Elections and having the attachments as attached behind said email document.
5. Copy of the email to all employees from "Pickleman, John" sent on August 29, 2006 concerning ethics training at two campuses and online training.
6. Copy of the "Short Guide" from the TEC on prohibited acts and the second page of which specifically notes the use of the internal mail system ("in-boxes") as being a violation of both the ethics laws as well as others.
7. Copies of emails sent from Patsy Gray from District email address regarding this matter.

**VI. AFFIDAVIT
BASED ON PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE
(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are within your direct personal knowledge.)**

I, _____, complainant,
swear that I have knowledge of the facts alleged in this complaint
and that the information contained in this complaint is true
and correct.

Signature of complainant

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said _____, this
the _____ day of _____, 20 _____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

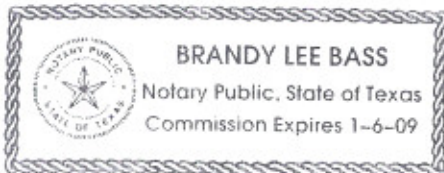
Signature of officer administering oath

Print name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

**VII. AFFIDAVIT
BASED ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF
(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are not within your
direct personal knowledge, but are based on reasonable belief.)**

I, Fred T. Blanton, complainant,
swear that I have reason to believe and do believe that the violation alleged in
this complaint has occurred. The source and basis of my information and belief
is eyewitness accounts, emails &
copy of the documents



Fred T. Blanton
Signature of complainant

Signature of complainant

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said Fred T. Blanton, this
the 23rd day of October, 20 08, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Brandy Lee Bass
Signature of officer administering oath

Brandy Lee Bass
Print name of officer administering oath

Notary
Title of officer administering oath



The Advocate

IT'S OUR FUTURE:

THE NOVEMBER BOARD/BOND ELECTION

Never, since the first election in 1972, when the citizens of Aldine, Spring, and Humble ISDs voted to form a junior college district that came to be named North Harris County Community College, **has an election been more important than the one upcoming on November 7th.** The District's initial 185 acres purchased from Turkey Creek Ranch Company for NHC has grown to cover 1,400 square miles (see map on page 6). The first set of students (613) was taught by 14 faculty members. Now we have 46,000 credit students and 15,000 CE students served by 1,851 full time employees. NHMCCD is the third largest community college in Texas and one of the fastest growing districts in the nation. We cannot let this process stop. We owe our allegiance to our students and to the communities who have chosen us to serve them.

Please take a deep, meditative breath of patience and examine carefully this unusually long Advocate article.

History

While most of us have been teaching, staffing offices and kitchens to serve students, and keeping our campuses clean, attractive, and secure, the Board and District administration have also been very busy. This short list may be old news to the long time veterans of NHMCCD, but newcomers may be interested. Under two chancellors and trustee boards with varying membership, we have added in spectacular fashion to our first 1972-building phase.
1981-82 New Caney and Tomball ISDs joined the college district

1984 Kingwood College opened
1988 Tomball College opened
1991 Conroe ISD joined NHMCCD
1992 District's name changed to NHMCCD
1992 Montgomery College opened
1996 Willis and Splendora ISDs voted to join the District
1998 The University Center opened as the first of its kind in Texas
1998 Citizens of Klein ISD voted to join NHMCCD
1999 NHC Child Development Lab School opened
2000 Cy-Fair and Magnolia joined NHMCCD
2002 Cy-Fair College opened at it Fairbanks Center
2003 Cy-Fair College opened its full campus

Obviously, very few leaders of our District have spent the last 30 years sitting on their hands and looking out the window (if they have a window). NHMCCD has always been a busy, progressive educational institution.

Board of Trustees Candidates

In the beginning of the election process, the AFT executive board put together a series of eight questions to ask each candidate in an attempt to make an informed decision about our endorsements. All of the incumbents responded: Martin Basaldua (position 1), David McIver (position 2), and Randy Bates (position 8). I spent the last weekend of September calling all the other candidates from my home, seeking interviews concerning our questions. I left messages with each candidate (with exception of two hang-ups from one

ELECTION EDITION

We're on the
Web!
www.aft-nhmccd.org





It's Our Future cont'd

home number), explaining the purpose of my call, leaving my home phone, and asking for a callback. I heard from Hector Carreno (position 8), Charlotte L. Lampe (position 8), and Chris Daniel (position 2) but, thus far, have not had interviews with Clemente L. Ayala (position 1), David Holsey (position 1), J.B. Crowder Sr. (position 2), or Marvin Gil (position 2). When I tried to reach Fred Blanton (position 8), I was told by one of his assistants named John that I would have to email him with my request. I did so that same weekend, and Mr. Blanton replied by email that he would not be interviewed on the phone; I must send my questions by fax or email. I replied that the AFT has established a procedure for telephoning all the candidates, and we could not make an exception for him. Mr. Blanton replied that unless I followed his procedure, he refused to participate. I suggested that we had reached a procedural impasse but, fortunately, I have material he used to address the Board in September plus various media pieces by and about him, so his ideas are not left out. I have not heard from him since.

Here are all of the questions and the responses.

Question: Describe your education background and qualification for the office of college trustee.

Martin Basaldua: B.A., Trinity University, San Antonio; M.D University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

*I reside in the NHMCCD District and am a registered voter.

*I was elected NHMCCD Trustee and served 1991-1997.

*I was appointed by the Governor to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 1997 and served until 2004.

*I was appointed by the Governor to the Texas Legislature's Joint Interim Committee on Higher Education in 2004.

David McIver: B.S. in political science, University of Houston; MBA in finance, University of Houston.

*I have served on NHMCCD's Board of Trustees for six years, serving as Chairman for the past two years.

*I served on NHMCCD Foundation Board.

*I currently serve as President of the Tomball Rotary Club.

*I am on the board of the Klein ISD Education Foundation.

Randy Bates: B.S., Ohio State University; Juris

Doctorate, Texas Southern University.

*I have been a member of the NHMCCD Board from 1991 to the present.

*I served as Board chairman, 1995-1997.

Hector Carreno: B.A. political science, Northeast Illinois University.

*I have served on Boards for various American Stock Exchange Companies.

*The Chancellor is the Board's only hire; the rest should be left to the colleges.

Charlotte L. Lampe: some classes at a Minneapolis community college, no baccalaureate degree.

*I ran FOCUS (Families Organized for the Children's School) which helped get rid of year-round schooling at Cy-Fair ISD.

*My husband and I started an endowment at Cy-Fair College.

*I worked with mediation of disputes between attorneys for the Texas State Grievance Committee for five years.

*I am a passionate educational activist experienced in leadership.

Chris Daniel: B.S in mechanical engineering at University of Texas at Austin, some additional classes at Austin Community College.

*Currently a project manager at Grant Pride Co. where I basically handle multimillion dollar orders of pipe: establishing a budget, tracking cost and shipment orders, and getting the pipe placed most effectively in order to lower gasoline prices at the pump

*My sister attends Cy-Fair College.

*Early in my life a scoutmaster encouraged me to go into political activism, and in 2004, I was the youngest member of the Texas delegation to the Republican National Convention in New York, a very educational experience.

*I have been to every major college within NHMCCD.

Question: Should you be elected to office, list your top three agenda items for Board consideration in 2007.

Martin Basaldua:

*I would be an advocate for appropriate funding for the District.

*I will encourage policies and initiatives that address and respond to issues related to our rapid growth.

*I support our district in achieving the goals in "Closing the Gaps" which improve student participation and success.



It's Our Future cont'd

David S. McIver:

- *Management of growth in the District with diminished state support
- *Planning and implementation of use of bond proceeds if approved
- *Continue to develop the District's partnerships with ISDs, universities, businesses, economic development organizations and local government.

Randy Bates:

- *Minimizing economic impact to our faculty and staff due to shrinking financial support from the Texas Legislature
- *Setting policies and strategies that balance access with taxpayer concerns
- *Responding to community and workforce needs through partnerships.

Hector Carreno:

- *Change the policy of autonomy for each college's vendor contracts and merge the vendors for the entire district to save money
- *Reevaluate economics in non-teaching areas to insure their cost effectiveness.

Charlotte L. Lampe:

- *Reconnect the college to community
- *Evaluate programs and how we work within the college so we're doing the most with our academic students, those who plan to transfer to four-year institutions.
- *Spotlight HB 1403, which does not require legal citizen status for admissions into state colleges and universities. Illegal aliens can and do get into state institutions paying in-state tuitions.

Chris Daniel:

- *I don't believe education is a lot of buildings; I believe we should provide tools for students so they can succeed. For example, we should introduce study classes that show students what they must do to be good students. A budget, which focuses on building, simply opens the door for lobbying for construction.
- *The District needs more basic study programs and more extracurricular activities to enrich the student experience.
- *As a Republican I naturally want to limit increases in school property taxes without injuring students.
- *As a Board member I want to appoint a Chancellor who can do the job and manage the whole organization.

Question: What is your long-term vision for the District over the next ten years?

Martin Basaldua:

- *Successfully manage its growth and maintain its quality and positive image, thereby enhancing the students' ability

to succeed. It will continue to be an institution which is well respected by its peers

- *Be responsive to the student and the community and serve as an exemplary model to other college districts

- *Provide an environment in which its employees feel valued and supported

- *Have facilities and equipment which are state of the art.

David S. McIver:

- *A comprehensive college district that is providing an even greater positive impact on the community, both in terms of instruction offered and student access.

Randy Bates:

- *A District where our students receive a high quality education by a well-compensated faculty and staff

- *A District with a high credit rating

- *A District with low college taxes and tuition compared to similar community college districts

- *A District that provides its students with the technology to be competitive in the workforce

- *A District known for its responsible fiscal management of public resources

- *A District that has a Board of Trustee that works together for the public good, as opposed to infighting and hidden agendas.

Hector Carreno:

- *Create a premier District with a national reputation for excellence

- *Work to see that the faculty, staff, and administration are as good as Miami-Dade.

Charlotte L. Lampe:

- *See our community college system reflect the people in it, focus on what they want and need

- *Work for an enrichment of work force training

- *See NHMCCD become a shining example of what a community college district should be.

Chris Daniel

- *Expand some of the educational programs so students know how to study and then know how to apply the knowledge learned

- *Make sure we have a long term plan to create enough satellite locations to serve everyone

- *Survey our student population as to what they actually need. They are our customers.



It's Our Future cont'd

Question: Identify one strength and one weakness you see within NHMCCD.

Martin Basaldua:

*Strengths: The District is fiscally responsible and has a positive financial status.

The District has a committed and quality administration, faculty, and staff.

*Weakness: This is also a strength (increased tax base, increased enrollment, increased access), but our rapid growth has a potential to put a strain on our infrastructure and requires continued capacity development.

David McIver:

*Strengths: Outstanding quality of administration, staff, and faculty Weakness: Lack of community awareness of all the outstanding accomplishments of the District and its employees.

Randy Bates:

*Our strength is the quality of our faculty.

*Our weakness is our dependency on state funding by the current Texas Legislature.

Hector Carreno:

*Our strength is the foundation laid out over the last 15 years and our very dedicated faculty.

*Our weakness is our very lax board members with no vision of the future.

Charlotte L. Lampe:

*Our strength is our availability to serve the student and the workforce and to provide cultural enrichment.

*Our weakness is the detachment of our leadership from the communities they serve.

Chris Daniel:

*Our strength is the momentum of expansion and the quality of education the District provides. We serve a wide range of the community.

*Our weakness is a Board which has become out of touch with the students and the communities they serve.

Question: How do you propose to deal with the low salaries of classified employees and adjunct instructors in the District?

Martin Basaldua:

*I support the ongoing review of all salaries, including the comparative analysis and benchmarking of salaries of all employees.

David McIver:

*The matter was addressed in the last budget which provided a raise for adjuncts.

Randy Bates:

*By increasing their salaries.

Hector Carreno:

[No answer because I somehow skipped this question and haven't been able to reach him again. It was my mistake, not Mr. Carreno's.] P. Gray

Charlotte L. Lampe:

*I would access the issue and examine it.

Chris Daniel

*I would take a look at the issue right now and see if there are other over funded areas from which I could pull salary increases. I want to make our professors comfortable.

Question: As a trustee, how will you keep informed about what is happening in the classrooms, labs, and offices at the various colleges in the District?

Martin Basaldua:

*I plan to occasionally visit and tour each campus as has been encouraged by the administration.

*I appreciate and value the Presidents', Vice Chancellors' and Faculty Senate reports given at each board meeting.

David McIver:

*Through presentations made at Trustee meetings, conversations with administration, staff, and faculty and reading The Advocate.

Randy Bates:

*By carefully listening to the Faculty Senate Presidents

*By maintaining an open door policy

*Through personal relationships with faculty and staff.

Hector Carreno:

*By visiting the campuses and talking with the students, faculty, staff, and administration.

Charlotte L. Lampe:

*I will go around and visit with college presidents, walk the halls, and talk to people. I hope to be visible and connected.

Chris Daniel:

*I love to drive so it will be easy to visit, drop by and see what's going on. I will be in touch with all the colleges in the District.

Question: How do you feel about college employee unions and their role in the educational process?

Martin Basaldua:

*A college employee union provides a valuable perspective to an institution's leadership and administration. It provides advocacy and information to its members.



It's Our Future cont'd

David McIver:

*I feel that an organization that works to benefit its members and improve the organization as a whole adds value.

Randy Bates:

*I support the union and believe it serves as a voice and advocate of those who would otherwise be unheard.

*The union is critical in keeping the Board informed of what is happening in the classrooms, labs, and offices at the various colleges in the District.

Hector Carreno:

*I have no problem with unions. Teachers are the number one asset of the institution

Charlotte L. Lampe:

*Unions are very effective, very articulate about their passion for teaching.

Chris Daniel:

*I have two opinions. Unions are necessary to protect teachers' rights, and I support unions that are doing their job correctly. If, however, the wrong people are in charge of the unions (as seen in many examples in industry), then they are all wrong.

Fred T. Blanton:

As explained in the 4th paragraph of this article, Fred Blanton refused to be interviewed over the phone; therefore, the material about him has been gathered from his web site Fred@FredBlanton.com, from his address to the Board of Trustees during their September meeting, and from some media outlets where he has spoken to the issues concerning him about NHMCCD. Here is an attempt to put his material in a format similar to what we've used with the other candidates.

Describe your education background and qualification for the office of college trustee.

This information was found on Mr. Blanton's website: Native Houstonian, Junior College graduate. Entrepreneur, Inventor. Whose residence and business is in the NHMCCD District.

What is your long-term vision for the District over the next ten years?

We do know that Mr. Blanton opposes the bond as demonstrated by quotes from newspaper articles. In the Humble Observer (9/6/06) he said: "I think a lot of items they have in it [the budget/bond proposal] are not necessary and are very expensive." In the same article he strongly objected to the new theater facility at Kingwood College, calling it "a political sugar cube." Further, "he accused the District of building what he called 'ivy league cathedrals in the backwoods' when

campuses could be based in storefronts along more noticeable and more heavily trafficked routes that would cost less." On a website, collegewatch.net, he suggests that no more money should be spent on North Harris College since it sits at the end of an airport runway, again implying that spending money on storefront operations would be a better use of funds.

Identify one strength and one weakness you see within NHMCCD.

On his web site he speaks well of the services provided by community colleges in general.

Community colleges are known for the person attention they give students. They are designed to provide *low cost*, but high quality education including the certification programs within the student's community. [sic]

Community colleges provide a supportive environment for high school students making the transition to four year colleges. They are also the first institutions of higher learning the community turns to when technology and the demands of the workplace require employees to be trained for new careers....

Community Colleges are known for the dedication of their teachers, instructors, professors, adjunct professors and staff who offer personal direction and the encouragement to students.

The AFT has come across some of Mr. Blanton's campaign material that makes accusations against the district that we could assume he finds are weaknesses, including the Board of Trustees of misusing taxpayers' money because they use district credit cards to attend one national and one regional conference for trustees each year [Board development and training expenses for the trustees are not paid with tax dollars]. He also accuses the Board and administrator of lying about the bonds, claiming that the tax rate and student tuition will go up to pay for the bonds. [The District has not only kept its word on the past two bond referenda relative to the cost to the public, but the actual costs have been lower than projected.]





It's Our Future cont'd

How do you propose to deal with the low salaries of classified employees and adjunct instructors in the District?

Although Mr. Blanton has not addressed these two categories of employees, at the September Board meeting, he questioned the legitimacy of the 4% raise given to employees for the school year, 2006-07, saying, "This increase should not be given to those making over \$75,000 a year, a generous salary which is well above the average income for the people in this district." This remark seems to imply that no employee in the District should earn more than \$75,000, regardless of position, number of graduate degrees, or amount of responsibility.

As a trustee, how will you keep informed of what is happening in the classrooms, labs, and offices at the various colleges in the District?

We are only aware that Mr. Blanton does not regularly attend public board meetings. With the exception of his presentation at the September Board meeting, Mr. Blanton admits he has seldom attended the monthly Board meetings. In the Humble Observer he said, "It's been years. Some people have this belief that if you're not in church you don't believe. I don't think that. I don't know what I am going to gain from attending a meeting....I can see everything from the minutes."

How do you feel about college employee unions and their role in the educational process?

We don't know how he might have answered this question, but we certainly find his refusal to be interviewed by telephone as some indication of level of respect for the college employee union.

In addition, we were unable to reach these candidates, but on Mr. Blanton's web site he lists his slate of like minded candidates a David Holsey (position 1, J. B. Crowder, Sr. (position 2) and, of course, Fred T. Blanton (position 8), none of whom have replied to our requests for phone interviews.

AFT Endorsements

At a recent meeting the AFT Executive Committee endorsed the incumbents for the November Board of Trustees election:

Martin Basaldua, David Melver, and Randy Bates, all of whom are listed in the first slot for positions 1, 2, and 8 on the ballot.

The union has not always agreed with the decisions made by the Board, and employees may be a bit surprised to see all three incumbents endorsed. The truth is that the incumbents' interests and experience regarding NHMCCD are far more in line with that of the union than the interest and experience of the challengers. The incumbents all support the bond and have generally made good decisions that are in the best interests of all employees.

The Bond Election

One of the more problematic aspects regarding the bond election concerns the Board's truthful claim that the Bond can be passed with no tax increase. Often citizens confuse the "appraisal creep" put on homeowners by the county tax office with the tax rate set by public entities. Almost every year the tax office causes our homeowner taxes to go up through higher assessed valuation. However, NHMCCD's increase in total geographic size, which now includes 11 school districts, spreads the cost of the bond debt over a wider number of taxpayers. This allows the District to issue the bonds **with no District tax increase**. Showing concern for senior citizens who are often living on fixed incomes, the Board passed a resolution at the September which freezes the tax amount for citizens over 65 and the disabled. This means that the 2006 dollar amount collected for NHMCCD taxes will never go up regardless of the assessed value set by the county tax office.



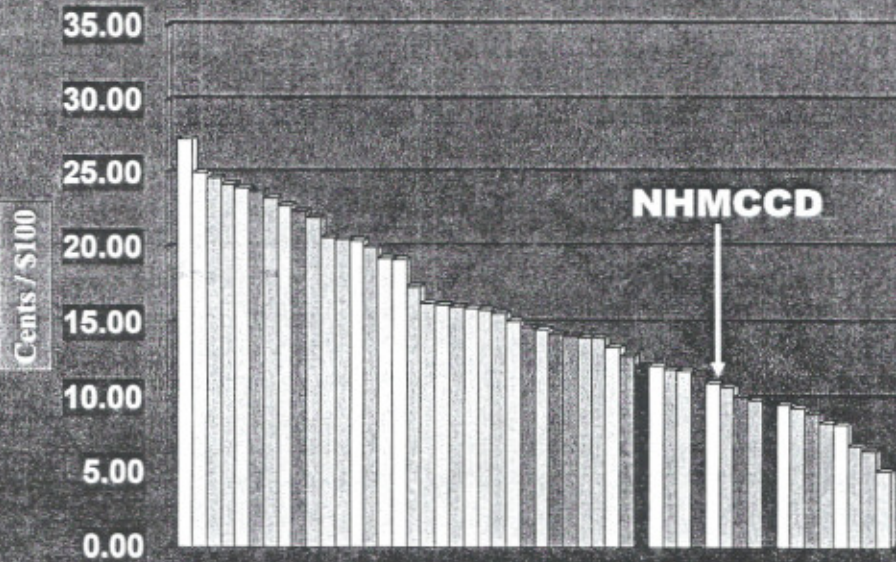
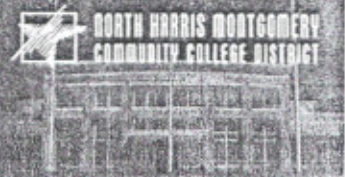
- Original District 1972.
- Growth since 1972.





It's Our Future cont'd

Total Tax Rates Texas Community Colleges



- 1. University of Texas at Dallas
- 2. University of Texas at San Antonio
- 3. University of Texas at El Paso
- 4. University of Texas at Austin
- 5. University of Texas at Brownsville
- 6. University of Texas at Permian Basin
- 7. University of Texas at Rio Grande
- 8. University of Texas at Tyler
- 9. University of Texas at San Marcos
- 10. University of Texas at El Paso
- 11. University of Texas at Dallas
- 12. University of Texas at San Antonio
- 13. University of Texas at El Paso
- 14. University of Texas at Austin
- 15. University of Texas at Brownsville
- 16. University of Texas at Permian Basin
- 17. University of Texas at Rio Grande
- 18. University of Texas at Tyler
- 19. University of Texas at San Marcos
- 20. University of Texas at El Paso
- 21. University of Texas at Dallas
- 22. University of Texas at San Antonio
- 23. University of Texas at El Paso
- 24. University of Texas at Austin
- 25. University of Texas at Brownsville
- 26. University of Texas at Permian Basin
- 27. University of Texas at Rio Grande
- 28. University of Texas at Tyler
- 29. University of Texas at San Marcos
- 30. University of Texas at El Paso
- 31. University of Texas at Dallas
- 32. University of Texas at San Antonio
- 33. University of Texas at El Paso
- 34. University of Texas at Austin
- 35. University of Texas at Brownsville
- 36. University of Texas at Permian Basin
- 37. University of Texas at Rio Grande
- 38. University of Texas at Tyler
- 39. University of Texas at San Marcos
- 40. University of Texas at El Paso
- 41. University of Texas at Dallas
- 42. University of Texas at San Antonio
- 43. University of Texas at El Paso
- 44. University of Texas at Austin
- 45. University of Texas at Brownsville
- 46. University of Texas at Permian Basin
- 47. University of Texas at Rio Grande
- 48. University of Texas at Tyler
- 49. University of Texas at San Marcos
- 50. University of Texas at El Paso

NHMCCD Prepares for Growth

Because of our massive growth in service area, NHMCCD has been able to cut the overall tax rate five times over the last 10 years, and our tax rate is lower today than it was 10 years ago. (Source: NHMCCD Prepares for Growth) In a graph showing the ranking of total tax rate for all of Texas' Community Colleges, NHMCCD ranks 34th out of 50, with tax rates lower than those of San Jacinto, Tarrant County, and El Paso. At 8.3% NHMCCD also has the 4th lowest percentage of total expenditure for administration of all Texas community colleges. (Source: Texas Association of Community Colleges).

Our passage of the bond will give the District opportunities to provide space, personnel, and equipment for a student population projected to reach 60,230 by 2015.

Most of us connected with the District see the pressing need we have for these additional funds and for Board members with experience in handling growth and sound fiscal management.

The AFT urges all employees and their families and friends to support the District by voting for the incumbents and for the bond. Please don't give in to "ballot fatigue" and skip our issues which are located at the very bottom of the ballot. A pro-bond vote is a vote for better education in this area. It's our future on the line.

Pat Gray, editor



2700 W. W. Thorne Dr.
Suite A 217



CALL FOR ARTICLES

We invite all employees to send us their opinions, news, questions, and so forth. *The Advocate* is a forum for information and free interchange of ideas. Send your articles to **Pat Gray, Editor**, NHC, ext. 5545 or e-mail: patsy.gray@nhmccd.edu, or **Heather Mitchell, Assistant Editor**, CFC, ext. 3254, or e-mail: heather.mitchell@nhmccd.edu or submit to any of the other following officers:

Alan Hall, President	North Harris College	ACAD 217-G	ext.5544
Velma Trammell	North Harris College	WNSP 174	ext. 5612
Bruce Machart *	North Harris College	ACAD 217-A	ext. 5542
Bob Locander	North Harris College	ACAD 270	ext. 5592
Allen Vogt	North Harris College	ACAD 264-C	ext. 5583
Vivian Brecher	North Harris College	LIBR 114	ext. 5403
Rich Almstedt	Kingwood College	FTC 100-G	ext. 1656
Laura Yates	Kingwood College	SFA 113-D	ext. 1414
Richard Becker	Tomball College	E-271-D	ext. 1835
Julie Alber	Montgomery College	SSC 205-A	ext. 7241
Cheri Riggs	Montgomery College	C 100-C	ext. 7370
Robert McGehee *	Cy-Fair College	ART-113-H	ext. 3935

* Two of our officers recently left the District. The AFT's Executive Committee has approved the appointments of Bruce Machart and Robert McGehee to fill these positions. We are delighted at their willingness to serve and look forward to working with them.

P. Gray

**VOTE FOR "FIRST" NAME ON THE BALLOT
POSITIONS 1, 2, and 8**

Tuesday, November 7

Position 1: Martin **BASALDUA**

Position 8: Randy **BATES**

Position 2: David **McIVER**

College Bonds **"FOR"**

Early Voting:
Oct. 23 - Nov. 3

Endorsed by AFT
at NHMCCD

Subject: Re: The Advocate

From: PATSY GRAY <prgray@sbcglobal.net>

Document #2

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2006 15:48:55 -0700 (PDT)

To: "Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com>

Mr. Blanton: The Advocate is the official newsletter of our local AFT; we publish three times a semester. It is sent to all employees of the District, including Board members. The publication typically contains a number of articles from officers and/or members of our local concerning subjects relevant to our members and the District at large. The copy you saw was one of the thousands you questioned, was printed by a local company, and paid for by AFT funds. The copies were hand carried by members of our local to each site and hand distributed by the AFT members on their own time after school activities were finished. The article, which I wrote, was seen by the Executive Board at a meeting prior to publication and was approved unanimously. In fact, almost all of us did at least one early read through to catch errors in spelling, punctuation, and fact. I went through at least 8 readings myself and am chagrined to find I had misused a comma in two places. We have previous copies of The Advocate we would be happy to show you and plan an other issue within a few weeks. I hope this addresses all your questions. Sincerely, Pat Gray, editor

"Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com> wrote:

Ms. Gray;

I am in receipt of your 8 page flyer entitled "The Advocate"

Interesting publication.

Is this something that you have just run off on a copy machine with a few copies or is this sent equally and fairly to all 4-5,000 district faculty and staff?

Is it selectively sent?

You list 12 officers on the last page. Did all of these officers see and approve of the contents of this publication?

Are they all supportive of your efforts on this?

Please advise.

Fred T. Blanton

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

	Content-Description: "AVG certification"
Part 1.2	Content-Type: text/plain
	Content-Encoding: quoted-printable

From: Sam, David
Sent: Thu 4/6/2006 4:18 PM
To: North Harris Employees
Subject: FW: Employee Participation In Elections

I have received quite a few questions about employee participation in election activities. Attached is a guideline for your information. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you. David S

From: Byas, Renee S
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2006 5:28 PM
To: Pickelman, John; Laughter, Ray; Head, Steve (DSTC); Stubblefield, Judy; Troyer, Diane; Stegall, Linda; Sam, David; Hawkins, Ray; Gilliam, Cindy
Cc: Blueitt, Patty S; Forster, Gloria M
Subject: FW: Employee Participation In Elections

This is a really good document that was prepared by Patty that you can distribute to your employees in regard to their participation in the election. We will also be putting it on the GC's website.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT. This message is sent by a law department and may contain information that is privileged and/or confidential. The information contained in this e-mail message is intended only for the confidential use of the recipient(s) named above. If you received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail immediately and delete the message and any attachments in its entirety.

From: Blueitt, Patty S
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2006 3:37 PM
To: Byas, Renee S; Stubblefield, Judy
Subject: Employee Participation In Elections

Please review and revise as needed.

Patty

PROHIBITED USE OF STATE RESOURCES FOR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

While each election conducted by NHMCCD is a matter of great importance to each of us as both residents and employees of this District, please keep in mind that as employees of an agency of the State of Texas, all NHMCCD employees are prohibited from using state resources and state time to conduct political activities or engage in political advertising.

To ensure that each employee understands the limitations of conducting political activity or advertising, this short question and answer document has been prepared.

Is NHMCCD considered a state agency?

Yes. Section 556.001 of the Texas Government Code, which governs the conduct of public entities and agencies in political campaigns, includes "a university system or an institution of higher education" as defined by the Education Code, as a state agency for purposes of political activity. Therefore, because NHMCCD is an institution of higher education, we are considered a state agency of Texas.

What is considered "political activity" and "political advertising"?

Any time a person advocates (promotes) or opposes a political candidate or issue, he or she is engaging in political activity. If a person provides a written or broadcast communication that promotes or opposes a particular outcome in an election, he or she is engaged in political advertising. However, if a person is only supplying *factual* information about a candidate or issue, then this is not considered political activity or advertising. For instance, if you are telling someone the dollar amount of the bond issue, handing out a pamphlet that lists the candidates on the ballot, or explains where bond money will be spent, you are NOT engaging in political activity or advertising. But, be careful that the information is factual information that can be verified by another outside source. Also, be careful that you are not expressing an opinion as to the advantages or disadvantages of a particular issue or candidate along with the factual information. In that instance, you WOULD be engaging in political activity or advertising. Even a slogan that states, "Show That You Care About Our Future." is considered political activity.

What items are considered "state resources"?

Any item or thing of value owned or paid for by NHMCCD is considered a state resource. This includes any type of supplies, copiers, the internal mailing or email system, NHMCCD vehicles, or funds under NHMCCD control. None of these items may be used to advocate or oppose a political candidate or issue. If an employee chooses to engage in political activity, he or she must use his or her own resources to do so.

What is considered "state time"?

Anytime you are "on the clock" for your designated work hours at your NHMCCD location, you are prohibited from engaging in political activities. For instance, if you are at work between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, you are prohibited from engaging in political conduct. Nor can a supervisor authorize or use an employee to engage in political activities during his or her work hours. If an employee chooses to engage in political activity, he or she must use his or her vacation or personal leave time to conduct the activities.

What happens if I engage in political activity or advertising while at my job or if I use NHMCCD-owned property to conduct political activity?

Violation of this law is considered a **Class A misdemeanor**, subject to criminal prosecution. Additionally the Texas Ethics Commission may levy fines against a person for violation of the

law. Finally, you may be subject to disciplinary action by NHMCCD, up to and including termination, for engaging in this conduct.

Where can I find more information?

You can find out more information about prohibitions against political activity and advertising at the following locations:

Texas Government Code, Section 556:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/GV/content/htm/gv.005.00.000556.00.htm#556.001.00>

Texas Ethics Commission: A Short Guide to the Prohibition Against Using Political Subdivision Resources for Political Advertising

http://www.ethics.state.tx.us/pamphlet/pad_pol.html

Texas Ethics Commission: A Guide to Ethics Laws for State Officers and Employees

<http://www.ethics.state.tx.us/guides/G05o&e.htm>

Remember:

NHMCCD encourages its employees to actively participate in the political process; however, please do not use NHMCCD resources or your work hours to do so.

From: Stegall, Linda
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2006 10:40 AM
To: Kingwood Employees
Subject: FW: Employee Participation In Elections

You recently received an e-mail from Dr. Pickelman including important information about the upcoming Board Election and Bond Referendum. The attached document from our Legal Counsel's office describes limitations regarding employee participation in political activities. I encourage you to read the document because it contains some advice I believe we all need to be reminded of. Thanks. Linda

From: Byas, Renee S
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2006 5:28 PM
To: Pickelman, John; Laughter, Ray; Head, Steve (DSTC); Stubblefield, Judy; Troyer, Diane; Stegall, Linda; Sam, David; Hawkins, Ray; Gilliam, Cindy
Cc: Blueitt, Patty S; Forster, Gloria M
Subject: FW: Employee Participation In Elections

This is a really good document that was prepared by Patty that you can distribute to your employees in regard to their participation in the election. We will also be putting it on the GC's website.

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From: Blueitt, Patty S
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2006 3:37 PM
To: Byas, Renee S; Stubblefield, Judy
Subject: Employee Participation In Elections

Please review and revise as needed.

Patty

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.385 / Virus Database: 268.3.3/295 - Release Date: 3/28/2006

Employee Participation In Elections.doc	Content-Type: application/msword Content-Encoding: base64
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Content-Description: "AVG certification"
Part 1.3 Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Encoding: quoted-printable

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Texas Ethics Commission: A Short Guide to the Prohibition Against Using Political Subdivision Resources for Political Advertising

http://www.ethics.state.tx.us/pamphlet/pad_pol.html

Texas Ethics Commission: A Guide to Ethics Laws for State Officers and Employees

<http://www.ethics.state.tx.us/guides/G05o&e.htm>

Remember:

NHMCCD encourages its employees to actively participate in the political process; however, please do not use NHMCCD resources or your work hours to do so.

Priceless

-----Original Message-----

From: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2006 1:54 PM

To: fred@fredblanton.com

Subject: FW: Ethics Training

From: Pickelman, John

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2006 1:02 PM

To: All Employees

Subject: Ethics Training

As a Texas public entity that is entrusted with taxpayer and state funding, North Harris Montgomery Community College District is committed to maintaining the highest standards of ethical conduct and ensuring that its employees comply with the laws of this state. In continuing that commitment to the public, the District is constantly seeking ways to assist its employees in understanding the laws that affect the District.

North Harris Montgomery Community College District is pleased to announce that Mr. David Reisman, Executive Director of the Texas Ethics Commission, will be at North Harris College and Cy-Fair College on Friday, September 8, 2006 to make a special presentation called "Ethical Conduct for Texas Public Employees." This presentation will cover the Texas ethics law, including such matters as acceptance of gifts from vendors, prohibited election activities, and civil and criminal penalties for violating the law. Mr. Reisman will also answer questions on various work-related ethics issues and provide possible solutions for handling potentially troublesome ethical dilemmas.

This presentation is not mandatory for all employees. Those employees that are required to attend have already received an email invitation from me. However, I encourage you to attend this very informative and relevant discussion on the impact the ethics laws have on public employees.

The ethics presentation will be held on **Friday, September 8, 2006** from **10:00 – 11:30 a.m.** at the **North Harris College Performing Arts Theater** and will be repeated at the **Cy-Fair College Performing Arts Theater** from **2:00 – 3:30 p.m.** You also have the option of registering for the 1-hour online training program offered by the Texas Ethics Commission that can be viewed from your computer. **Information regarding registration for the online training course will be made available to you on September 12, 2006.**

Please register through MyWorkshops no later than **September 5, 2006**. Space is limited to **450 seats** per session, so I encourage to register as soon as possible.

Individuals in need of a special accommodation should contact the Office of the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel at vicechancellor-generalcounsel@nhmccd.edu.

Sign language interpreter services will be provided at both sessions. If you have additional questions or need more information, please contact the Office of the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel at vicechancellor-generalcounsel@nhmccd.edu.

A Short Guide To the Prohibition Against Using Political Subdivision Resources For Political Advertising in Connection with an Election

Revised September 1, 2003

No matter how enthusiastic you are about an election, it is important to remember that the Texas Election Code prohibits the use of political subdivision resources to produce or distribute political advertising in connection with an election. Section 255.003 of the Election Code provides as follows:

- (a) An officer or employee of a political subdivision may not spend or authorize the spending of public funds for political advertising.
- (b) This section does not apply to a communication that factually describes the purposes of a measure if the communication does not advocate passage or defeat of the measure.
- (c) A person who violates this section commits an offense. An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

To understand the practical significance of this prohibition, it is useful to look at some of the specific words and phrases used in the law.

- **"Political advertising"** is a communication that advocates a particular outcome in an election. It can be a communication in almost any written or broadcast form, such as a billboard, a flier, a newsletter, a poster, a television or radio ad, or an Internet site.
- The prohibition applies to any **"officer or employee of a political subdivision."** In other words, if an officer or employee of a political subdivision makes a decision to use political subdivision resources in violation of the prohibition, the employee could be fined by the Ethics Commission or held criminally liable.
- The prohibition applies to **"spending or authorizing the spending of public funds"** for political advertising. Not only does this mean that the political subdivision may not purchase or authorize the purchase of new materials for use in creating political advertising, it also means that an officer or employee of a political subdivision would violate the prohibition by using existing paper and machinery to generate, display, or distribute political advertising.

Also, it is not permissible to use or authorize the use of the paid time of an employee of a political subdivision to create or distribute political advertising.

- The prohibition does not apply to **"a communication that factually describes the purposes"** of a measure election. In other words, it is permissible to use the resources of a political subdivision to produce explanatory material about what is at stake in a measure election. Violations of the law often occur, however, because someone finds it irresistible to wrap up a factual explanation with a motivational slogan such as:

IT PAYS TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

IT'S TIME TO MOVE AHEAD.

Another common misstep is to include "calls to action" such as:

LET'S BUILD A BETTER CITY.

or

SHOW THAT YOU CARE ABOUT OUR FUTURE.

Remember: No matter how much factual information about the purposes of a measure election is in a communication, *any amount* of advocacy is impermissible.

- A violation of the prohibition is a **Class A misdemeanor**. This means that a violation could lead to criminal prosecution. Also, the Ethics Commission has authority to impose fines for violations of section 255.003.

Another provision of the Texas Election Code prohibits an officer or employee of a political subdivision from using or authorizing the use of an internal mail system to distribute political advertising. An internal mail system is a system operated by a political subdivision to deliver written documents to its officers or employees. A violation of this prohibition could also lead to the imposition of fines by the Ethics Commission or to criminal prosecution.

Although you may not use political subdivision resources for political advertising, you are free to campaign for or against a proposition on your own time and with your own resources. If you do plan to become involved in a campaign, you should educate yourself about filing requirements and about the rules regarding disclosures on political advertising.

Information is available from the Texas Ethics Commission by phone at (800) 325-8506 or (512) 463-5800.

Subject: RE: Contact
From: "Gray, Patsy" <Patsy.R.Gray@nhmccd.edu>
Date: Mon, 2 Oct 2006 15:40:40 -0500
To: "Fred Blanton (home)" <fred@fredblanton.com>

Document #7

My home phone, from which I called and talked to John last Saturday, is 2814434941. Because all the other candidates were done by phone conversation from my house, I must follow the same procedure with you. I should be home tonight by 7. I hope you got the email I sent you last night also from my house, prgray@sbcglobal.net. Perhaps we can chat tonight. Thanks, Pat Gray

-----Original Message-----

From: Fred Blanton (home) [<mailto:fred@fredblanton.com>]
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2006 2:26 PM
To: Gray, Patsy
Subject: Contact

Ms. Gray;

I received a message you were trying to contact me.
If you would please email me from a non NHMCCD email address any questions you might have, I shall be glad to answer them. In keeping with present campaign and ethics laws, I cannot use the "state's facilities" for campaign purposes. I am sorry I don't have your phone number off campus.
Fred T. Blanton

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.407 / Virus Database: 268.12.11/460 - Release Date: 10/1/2006

Subject: RE: Contact

From: "Gray, Patsy" <Patsy.R.Gray@nhmccd.edu>

Date: Tue, 3 Oct 2006 14:56:11 -0500

To: "Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com>

Document #7

It's seems, Mr. Blanton, that we have unfortunately reached an impasse. The AFT is very strict and precise about procedure, whether we're addressing some administrative act or some process the union is pursuing. Since I have called all the candidates who didn't respond to our questionnaire last spring, I think I'm obliged to call you as well. If you would like, I could tape our phone conversation from my house and give you a copy of the tape. (I think I can rig all that up with a conference call button and a tape recorder.) If, however, you insist on email or fax, I can always use your address to the District Board and/or some other publications by or about you in our election edition which, I hope, will be out by next week. I'm truly not trying to be hard headed with this interview; I simply must follow AFT regulations as they have been laid out for all the candidates. I hope you understand. Sincerely, Pat Gray

From: Fred T. Blanton [mailto:fred@fredblanton.com]

Sent: Monday, October 02, 2006 3:52 PM

To: Gray, Patsy

Subject: Re: Contact

I have a meeting tonight and it will last until late;

If you want my input or answers, I once again, am happy to answer your questions, however you will need to email or fAX them to me;

What you do with other candidates, is not in my control.

As I have told many others the same as far as questions are concerned I must observe the same with all..... email or FAX.

Fred T. Blanton

Gray, Patsy wrote:

My home phone, from which I called and talked to John last Saturday, is 2814434941. Because all the other candidates were done by phone conversation from my house, I must follow the same procedure with you. I should be home tonight by 7. I hope you got the email I sent you last night also from my house, prgray@sbcglobal.net. Perhaps we can chat tonight. Thanks, Pat Gray

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Fred T. Blanton

Subject: Re: Exact words of address to board on September meeting.

From: "Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com>

Date: Wed, 18 Oct 2006 07:31:10 -0500

To: PATSY GRAY <prgray@sbcglobal.net>

Document #7

You may also visit other web sites that we have provided public information on:

<http://www.collegewatch.net>

PATSY GRAY wrote:

Dear Mr. Blanton, I have been in possession of a copy of your address to the Board you gave in September. When the Advocate comes out, I think you will see that I quoted from it exactly. I would never try to paraphrase your opinions, nor would I offer any words in our newsletter that lack documentation. When you read the article, I hope you will see that your words and only your words are used as has been true of the other opinions of the other candidates I quoted. The purpose in this edition is purely informational. Sincerely, Pat Gray, editor
"Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com> wrote:

Ms. Gray;

I understand that you are wanting to quote from my address to the Board back on September 7th.

Perhaps the exact words spoken will help your accuracy, as I understand you are having some difficulty in getting an understanding of exactly what I said.

Attached is the address word for word. There is also available an audio recording of the address for approximately \$2.50 via the Texas Public Information Act (Open Records). You can contact Mr. Laughter for this.

Hope this will help you clarify any misconceptions that you might have or be using.
Fred Blanton

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.4/480 - Release Date: 10/17/2006

Subject: The Advocate

From: "Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com>

Document #7

Date: Fri, 20 Oct 2006 07:59:35 -0500

To: "Gray, Patsy" <Patsy.R.Gray@nhmccd.edu>, PATSY GRAY <prgray@sbcglobal.net>

Ms. Gray;

I am in receipt of your 8 page flyer entitled "The Advocate"
Interesting publication.

Is this something that you have just run off on a copy machine with
a few copies or is this sent equally and fairly to all 4-5,000 district faculty and staff?

Is it selectively sent?

You list 12 officers on the last page. Did all of these officers see and approve
of the contents of this publication?

Are they all supportive of your efforts on this?

Please advise.

Fred T. Blanton

Subject: Re: Contact
From: "Fred T. Blanton" <fred@fredblanton.com>
Date: Tue, 03 Oct 2006 16:47:52 -0500
To: "Gray, Patsy" <Patsy.R.Gray@nhmccd.edu>

Document #7

There is no impasse, all you have to do is email me the questions and I will answer them. I can't see where if you really want my opinions and or policies that you are not willing to do this, as all other organizations, including the League of Women Voters, that I am responding to are capable of the same. If it not your intent to include my answers to your questions, then that is your decision and not mine as I have been more than willing. I and my running mates are not showing any partiality to any organizations and to break that policy would be unequal and unfair to the many other that we have provided information to.

Fred T. Blanton

Gray, Patsy wrote:

It's seems, Mr. Blanton, that we have unfortunately reached an impasse. The AFT is very strict and precise about procedure, whether we're addressing some administrative act or some process the union is pursuing. Since I have called all the candidates who didn't respond to our questionnaire last spring, I think I'm obliged to call you as well. If you would like, I could tape our phone conversation from my house and give you a copy of the tape. (I think I can rig all that up with a conference call button and a tape recorder.) If, however, you insist on email or fax, I can always use your address to the District Board and/or some other publications by or about you in our election edition which, I hope, will be out by next week. I'm truly not trying to be hard headed with this interview; I simply must follow AFT regulations as they have been laid out for all the candidates. I hope you understand. Sincerely, Pat Gray

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What you do with other candidates, is not in my control.

As I have told many others the same as far as questions are concerned I must observe the same with all..... email or FAX.
Fred T. Blanton

Gray, Patsy wrote:

My home phone, from which I called and talked to John last Saturday, is 2814434941. Because all the other candidates were done by phone

conversation from my house, I must follow the same procedure with you. I should be home tonight by 7. I hope you got the email I sent you last night also from my house, prgray@sbcglobal.net. Perhaps we can chat tonight. Thanks, Pat Gray

Document #7

-----Original Message-----

From: Fred Blanton (home) [<mailto:fred@fredblanton.com>]
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2006 2:26 PM
To: Gray, Patsy
Subject: Contact

Ms. Gray;

I received a message you were trying to contact me.

If you would please email me from a non NHMCCD email address any questions you might have, I shall be glad to answer them. In keeping with present campaign and ethics laws, I cannot use the "state's facilities" for campaign purposes. I am sorry I don't have your phone number off campus.

Fred T. Blanton

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.407 / Virus Database: 268.12.12/461 - Release Date: 10/2/2006