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SECRETARY OF STATE

**Report to
the Secretary of State
and the
South Dakota Legislature
by
The Sioux Falls School District**

**Vote Centers
and
Electronic Pollbooks**

This report is submitted to the South Dakota Legislature in compliance with SDCL 13-7-29.

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A. Overview

The mission of the Sioux Falls School District is “to educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world.” To accomplish that mission, each department within the District has been charged to save tax dollars wherever possible in order to optimize funding for educational programs. To that end the Finance Office of the Sioux Falls School District is always researching ways to cut costs, increase efficiency, and use technology whenever possible.

School Board members are elected to three year terms. The terms are staggered so one member’s term was finished in 2011, two members’ terms are finished in 2012, and two members’ terms are finished in 2013. The School District holds an election every year. Over the past six years, the Finance Office has been exploring ways to reduce costs for School Board elections.

In 2007, the District implemented the use of “super” precincts, which combined three or more precincts to reduce the total from 59 to 22. Each precinct must be staffed with between three and seven polling officials, depending on anticipated turnout at each polling place. Each official is paid over \$100. Some polling places charged rent. The rationale for the use of “super precincts” was that it made no sense to staff an election with a turnout between three and 40 percent – depending on whether there was a City election held in conjunction (even years) the same way the county staffed the general election (with a typical turnout in excess of 75 percent). Obviously, the more polling places and officials used the higher the costs for elections. The frequent changes in polling places between the various city, county and school elections meant some voters were confused at the next election that used all 59 polling places because they had voted at a different location the time before.

“Super” precincts reduced costs from the 2006 election by 48 percent (\$43,000 in 2006 to \$22,700 in 2007.) The District used “super” precincts for its election again in 2009 with a total cost for that election of nearly \$19,000. Voter confusion was the biggest downfall of “super” precincts.

The Finance Office continued to research how other jurisdictions in other states conduct their elections in an effort to reduce costs, eliminate voter confusion, reduce time standing in lines waiting to check in, and increase efficiency for poll workers and election administrators. Larimar County, Colorado, Tippecanoe County, Illinois, Cass County, North Dakota and Dallas, Texas have successfully used vote centers and electronic pollbooks to conduct their elections, including general elections.

In March 2010, the School District sent Finance Office staff to observe a Fargo, North Dakota election using Vote Centers and electronic pollbooks; the system was very efficient. Based on that, the 2010 Legislature passed permissive legislation to allow school districts with an average daily

membership over 20,000 to conduct their 2011 elections using Vote Centers and electronic pollbooks. The District was pleased to conduct the first election in South Dakota to use electronic pollbooks and Vote Centers on May 24, 2011. The following is the required report to the Secretary of State and the South Dakota Legislature.

B. Vote Centers

Vote Centers are much larger than regular polling places. A regular polling place typically has three to five workers, one paper registration book and five to eight voting booths. A Vote Center typically has five to nine workers, electronic pollbooks (all connected via an inter or intranet to every other Vote Center) and 15 to 30 voting booths, all depending on the expected turnout.

Using Vote Centers allows voters to choose where they vote. Nationally, voter participation in local elections has been declining for the past ten years. Certain jurisdictions, such as Larimar County, Colorado; Dallas, Texas; Fargo, North Dakota; Tippecanoe County, Illinois have seen voter turnout increase when using Vote Centers. By using Vote Centers, no registered voter in the jurisdiction is ever told to go to a different polling place to vote. Every Vote Center is the right place to vote.

Vote Centers save taxpayer dollars. Under the precinct system, the School District would necessarily staff each precinct with three to five workers whether 30 voters cast ballots or 2,000 voters cast ballots in a precinct. Vote Centers used between five and nine workers, depending on the anticipated turnout in a particular Vote Center. It is obviously much more efficient to staff ten Vote Centers with five to nine election workers than it is to staff 59 precincts with three to five election workers.

Vote Centers are typically located in well-known, easily found locations within the jurisdiction. The School District used only its own school buildings thereby eliminating the costs associated with rent. Using the precinct system, in some instances, the precinct location would charge rent of \$50 to \$125 per location.

C. Electronic Pollbooks

An electronic pollbook gives election officials real-time electronic access to voter registration information through an encrypted secure intranet or internet, regardless of the physical location of the Vote Center.

The Secretary of State's Office purchased the software licenses, scanners, signature pads, and printers from Election Systems and Software (ES&S) using Help America Vote Act funds in the amount of \$31,725. Patrick Henry Middle School loaned its mobile lab of laptops to the Finance Office for the May 24, 2011 election. The Finance Office purchased mice for the 22 laptops (\$103.35) to assist election officials. The Finance Office also purchased

training hours and support from Election Systems and Software in the amount of \$4,575.

The District provided a secure server for the election and the election software was loaded on 22 laptops. After close of voter registration on May 9, 2011, the Secretary of State's Office, assisted by the Minnehaha and Lincoln County Auditors, provided a database of voters for the School District's election.

D. The Sioux Falls School District Election

The District held its election for one seat on the School Board on May 24, 2011, using ten Vote Centers throughout the School District. The Vote Centers were located, as follows:

1. J.F. Kennedy Elementary School – 4501 S. Holbrook Avenue
2. Memorial Middle School – 1401 S. Sertoma Avenue
3. Hayward Elementary School – 400 N. Valley View Road
4. Garfield Elementary – 2421 W. 15th Street
5. Hawthorne Elementary School – 601 N. Spring Avenue
6. Whittier Middle School – 930 E. 6th Street
7. Anne Sullivan Elementary School – 3701 E. 3rd Street
8. Harvey Dunn Elementary School – 2400 S. Bahnson Avenue
9. Lincoln High School – 2900 S. Cliff Avenue
10. Edison Middle School – 2101 S. West Avenue

School was no longer in session which freed up the gymnasiums and the multi-purpose rooms for use by Finance Office to conduct the election.

While in Fargo, staff from the Finance Office noted that Fargo had table-top voting booths constructed of plywood, which when disassembled, were stored behind the vending machines in the Vote Centers. The students of the Career and Technical Education Academy's Carpentry Class constructed table-top voting booths for the District's election. They are easily assembled on top of a six foot folding table and allow six people to vote comfortably at one time with complete privacy. The table-top voting booths can be easily stored after each election and do not take up as much room as regular voting booths in suitcases. The table-top booths were made necessary due the expedited check-in process associated with the electronic poll books. The District also made regular voting booths available as well as the AutoMARK ballot marking system, which the District, in conjunction with the City of Sioux Falls, successfully piloted for the State of South Dakota in 2006.

The election administrative team consisted of:
Jason Gant, Secretary of State
Aaron Lorenzen, Director of Elections

Bob Litz, Minnehaha County Auditor
Heather Irwin, Minnehaha Elections Technician
Randy Bauld, Sioux Falls School District Computer Specialist
Bev Chase, Sioux Falls School District Elections Services

The election administrative team met with trainers from ES&S several times between January and May defining what the District's needs were for this election and how the software/hardware could be used in future elections.

The administrative team was trained on the electronic pollbooks May 5, 2011 and received training on computer/server requirements, connectivity, and synchronization May 9, 2011.

May 16, 2011, Finance Office staff met with the District's building computer specialists to train them on the software and election duties, which included setting up the electronic pollbook on Election Day. The computer specialists also were on call all day Election Day for troubleshooting and technical support for the election officials. The need to have computer-savvy technical support is imperative for the Vote Center concept to work. A computer specialist was involved in the process from the conception of Vote Centers in the Sioux Falls School District.

Election Officials who worked on Election Day at the Vote Centers attended mandatory training sessions that were held on different days and times during the week of May 16 through May 20, 2011. Each official received "hands on" training from the opening to the close of polls in conjunction with their normal Election School. Members of the election administrative team were on hand to help with the Election Schools. The officials came into the training room with some trepidation, but left fully prepared to handle their duties on Election Day.

Technical support staff from ES&S was on hand May 23 - May 25, 2011 for assistance. May 23rd was spent checking connectivity between Vote Centers and no issues were found.

On May 24th, Election Day, ES&S staff spent the day monitoring computer reports and helping to troubleshoot at Vote Centers. The computer reports gave up to the minute turnout reports. Officials could see, at the click of a mouse, which Vote Centers were the most used by voters.

At the polls the voter saw very little change in procedures:

- The voter came before the Election Official and stated his/her name.
- The voter handed his/her driver's license to the Election Official or displayed another one of the approved forms of identification or signed an affidavit of identification.

- If the voter handed the driver's license to the Election Official the driver's license was scanned. If the data in the barcode could be read, the voter information appeared on the Election Official's computer screen in three to five seconds. If the data in the barcode could not be read or if another form of identification was used or an affidavit was signed, the Election Official keyed in the last name and the first digit of the first name. The Election Official then selected the correct voter from the list of names on the screen.
- After the Election Official verified the information, the voter was asked to sign his/her name on the electronic signature pad, the signature also appeared on the Election Official's screen.
- The Election Official accepted the signature and a ballot receipt was printed.
 - ✓ (NOTE: The ballot receipt took the place of the poll list that voters sign in typical elections. In this election, the ballot receipt had no other purpose. In an election where there is more than one style of ballot (e.g. the June Primary - democrat and republican ballot), the ballot receipt would also indicate which ballot the voter would receive.
- The voter took the ballot receipt to the ballot clerk and received their ballot, ballot sleeve and pencil. The voter was directed to a voting booth. The voter cast their ballot and placed it in the ballot box.

The Sioux Falls School District did show an increase in voter turnout over its last stand alone election (2009) from an all time low of 3.55% to 4.27%. Although the turnout was still very low, it was improved.

The electronic pollbook performed exactly as anticipated. Officials knew going into this election that the South Dakota voter registration database would need "cleaning up" and not all licenses would be able to be scanned. However, the voter information for the District was easily accessed when the license would not scan.

On more than one occasion, Finance Office staff asked the Vote Center officials, at different Vote Centers, to call up certain individuals "just to see if they had voted", knowing full well that the individual had already cast a ballot. In all instances, the pollbook came up with the information that the voter was "DONE." Here again, the electronic pollbook performed exactly as anticipated and would not allow a voter to cast more than one ballot.

Absentee balloting is allowed by law on Election Day until 3:00 p.m. The Absentee Precinct's pollbook was also connected to every other electronic pollbook, so every Vote Center would have the information if a voter voted

“Absentee” and then tried to vote at a Vote Center. This is an improvement over previous elections in Sioux Falls and throughout the State.

The Vote Center concept is new to South Dakota, so Finance Office staff provided a survey for voters to voluntarily complete. Sioux Falls voters overall were receptive to the concept that would allow them to vote anywhere in the School District based on the responses and comments that were received.

Lincoln High School processed the most voters for the day (1,088) and Hayward Elementary School processed the least (104). Each Vote Center, except Hayward Elementary School, had two or more electronic pollbooks. The Vote Centers with the highest anticipated turnout had three electronic pollbooks and Hayward Elementary School Vote Center had one electronic pollbook.

It was very interesting that voter turnout shifted when voters had a choice of where to vote. Harvey Dunn Elementary and Memorial Middle School are usually two of the highest turnout voting areas—but Lincoln High School edged both of them out, with Harvey Dunn Elementary coming in second and Edison Middle School coming in third. One of the bonuses of using Vote Centers would be, if the jurisdiction had enough licenses, more pollbooks could be brought to busy Vote Centers. Lincoln High School concluded Election Day with a line of voters waiting to check-in. If the District had more than 22 software licenses to utilize, more pollbooks could have been delivered to Lincoln High School to speed up voter processing.

As stated earlier, on Election Day, the Vote Center officials handed out a simple survey card asking for voter feedback. Of the 4,090 voters who voted, 2,823 completed survey cards. A summary of the survey cards is, as follows:

| Summary of Survey Cards | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 2,823 Respondents | | | | | No | |
| | Better | % | Worse | % | Opinion | % |
| Ease of Finding Vote Centers | 1,788 | 63.3% | 188 | 6.7% | 714 | 25.3% |
| Ease of Finding Parking | 1,771 | 62.7% | 145 | 5.1% | 767 | 27.2% |
| Ease of Finding Door to Enter | 1,695 | 60.0% | 199 | 7.0% | 938 | 33.2% |
| Speediness of Check In | 2,048 | 72.5% | 219 | 7.8% | 357 | 12.6% |
| Availability of Staff to Assist You | 1,915 | 67.8% | 12 | 0.4% | 490 | 17.4% |

The voters were also asked to give written comments if they wanted to which nearly 900 voters did:

- ▶ 557 comments were positive
- ▶ 161 comments were negative
- ▶ 159 comments were neutral

Overall, the voters approved of the use of Vote Centers and believed the electronic pollbooks sped up the check-in process. Going forward, if the School District was allowed to continue to use the ten Vote Centers, voters would become more familiar with the Vote Centers and ease of finding the centers, parking and doors would be improved. With the use of the electronic pollbooks, Vote Center officials would become more adept at operating the system and check-in would be even faster.

See Appendix A for Vote Center Survey Results and Appendix B for Vote Center Survey Comments.

E. Cost Comparisons

The Sioux Falls School District holds an election every year. During even numbered years, the District combines with the City of Sioux Falls Municipal Election. In 2010 the District and the City of Sioux Falls held a joint election in April. This election was for school board members, a new mayor and council members, and also contained city charter amendments. The election was conducted at 59 precincts and 262 Election Officials were employed.

The 2010 election costs were split between the City of Sioux Falls and the Sioux Falls School District. The total cost of the election is shown in the chart below.

Several expenditures that were incurred for the 2010 election were not incurred in 2011. There was no need to hire the assistant polling place liaison. The AutoMarks, along with the voting booths, were picked up and delivered as a part of the normal delivery process of the School District because all of the Vote Centers were school buildings. There was no rent for polling places as only District buildings were used.

| 2010 Municipal/School District Election | Costs |
|---|--------------------|
| Correspondence/Notices of Appointment | \$ 450.10 |
| Supplies and Printing Forms | 1,282.52 |
| Polling Place Liaison | 1,098.03 |
| Assistant Polling Place Liaison | 600.00 |
| Payment to Election Officials | 27,730.84 |
| Payment to School District Personnel for Election Night | 289.98 |
| Absentee Precinct Workers | \$405.01 |
| School District Employees' Mileage Costs | 219.34 |
| Delivery/Pickup of AutoMarks | 686.04 |
| Rent for Polling Places | 1,525.00 |
| City's costs for ballot printing, election night personnel, overtime, mileage | 23,589.76 |
| Costs for County (absentees/postcards/etc.) | 4,814.36 |
| Total Costs for 2010 Election | \$62,690.98 |

Several of the expenditures were greatly reduced from the 2010 election as well.

- The polling place liaison was only employed three days instead of three weeks.
- Mileage was greatly reduced with ten sites as opposed to 59 sites.
- Supplies and printed materials for use at the Vote Centers were reduced significantly from \$1,282.52 to \$677.86
- The biggest reduction was the cost for Vote Center Officials which was reduced by 190 workers. In 2010 the 262 Officials cost \$27,730.84 which included use of the Officials' cell phones (in some precincts) and mileage to the Official who drove the ballot box to the Minnehaha County Administration Building. This is compared in 2011 to 72 Vote Center Officials at a cost of \$8,900.40 which also included the use of cell phones and mileage. The 2011 costs for Officials also includes an increase of \$5 per official (\$360) because of the expanded skill set required for using a computer.

A few expenditures were added costs for the 2011 election. The table-top voting booths, "I Voted Today" stickers, and programming/training costs for ES&S were all new for 2011. The table-top voting booths were made by the students in the Carpentry Program at the Career & Tech Ed Academy for material cost only—labor was free. The 9,000 stickers were generic and can be used at any election; the cost was \$61.85; less than one penny each for publicity on Election Day. Programming and training costs were an essential piece when using the electronic pollbooks. There was an additional cost for overtime due to employing computer techs before/after normal business hours.

| Item | Cost in 2011 | Cost in 2010 | Savings over 2010 Cost |
|--|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Postage | \$272.27 | \$445.16 | \$172.89 |
| Supplies and Printing Forms | 1,464.62 | 3,163.96 | 1,699.34 |
| Software Training & Set up from ES & S | 4,575.00 | - | (4,575.00) |
| Printing Ballots | 950.00 | 2,668.75 | 1,718.75 |
| Legal Publications & Map/Ballot | 3,207.32 | 9,515.99 | 6,308.67 |
| Ballot Stock | 1,958.06 | 4,661.18 | 2,703.12 |
| Payment to Polling Place Liaison | 232.32 | 1,098.03 | 865.71 |
| Payment to Asst Pol. Plc. Liaison | - | 600.00 | 600.00 |
| Payment to Election Officials | 8,900.40 | 27,730.84 | 18,830.44 |
| Payment to Clerical (overtime rate) | 299.17 | 5,102.38 | 4,803.21 |
| Computer Specialists Overtime | 2,084.90 | - | (2,084.90) |
| Absentee Precinct | 120.00 | 409.95 | 289.95 |
| Mileage | 22.46 | 955.38 | 932.92 |
| Rent for Polling Places (used all schools) | - | 1,525.00 | 1,525.00 |
| Costs to County for Absentees | 88.94 | 4,814.36 | 4,725.42 |
| Total Costs | \$24,175.46 | \$62,690.98 | \$38,515.52 |
| Reimbursement for additional supplies from SOS | \$412.75 | | |
| | <u>\$23,762.71</u> | | |

For the 2009 School Board election, the District used 22 “super precincts” which cost \$18,217.61. It is interesting to note that when the costs for the table top voting booths (which will be used for future elections), the costs for the “I Voted” stickers, the raise of \$5 per election official and the costs of ES & S training are removed, the 2011 election was just over \$200 more than when using “super precincts.” However, “super precincts” were not popular with the voters and led to voter confusion as to polling place location during subsequent elections. There was no voter confusion in 2011 when using Vote Centers, because every Vote Center was the right place to vote.

F. Conclusions:

May 25th, the election administrative team met in the Minnehaha County Auditor’s Office to discuss where the pilot hit the mark and where it was missed. Members of the Secretary of State’s Office were on-site at all of the Vote Centers throughout Election Day. Several others were also present at the Election Recap Meeting. Alexia Scott-Morrison and Chris Grabow from Election Systems & Software were present to give feedback. The Minnehaha County Auditor and the Minnehaha County Election Technician were present along with members of the Sioux Falls School District Finance Office.

The conclusion drawn by the team was that the process worked well. Voter turnout had increased over the previous stand-alone election. The electronic pollbook performed as anticipated. The few glitches that happened were because of human error and not the technology.

Staff from ES & S showed the administration all of the reports that can be run following an election (see Appendix C.) The reports can show a summary of the number of voters at each location, a report of all of the names of voters who didn’t vote, a report of the all the names of voters who did vote, and a provisional ballot report. In some states, changes can be made to the voter registration file and there are reports that can be run to show those changes; however, the School District, the auditors, and the Secretary of State did not want to allow any changes to the voter registration file so this capability of the system was blocked to Vote Center Election Officials.

Other Cost Benefits

Some costs cannot be measured in dollar and cents but in staff time on election-related tasks:

Following the election, Minnehaha County and Lincoln County will be able to upload the voter history data. Minnehaha County typically spends weeks after an election keying in data from the paper registration books. Using electronic pollbooks, once the information is uploaded to the counties’ database, it can easily be transferred to the Secretary of State’s database. One task that took weeks now will be done in less than a day.

Minnehaha County and Lincoln County auditors did not have to print and label voter registration books for the School District for its 2011 election saving staff time and supply costs for more than a box of green-bar paper which cost approximately \$60.

Sioux Falls School District personnel spent fewer hours compiling supplies for ten supply cases instead of 59. Fewer hours were spent creating, copying, and collating documents for ten forms folders. Fewer hours were spent finding replacement election officials because there was a larger pool to draw from (72 vs. 262). Less time was spent creating notices of appointment, worker reminder forms, and making phone calls to election officials checking information.

The District also realized a cost savings when printing School Board minutes in the official newspaper, as required by law, due to less voting locations and election officials included in the notice of election (see minutes of 5/9/11.)

G. Recommendations

The 2011 Sioux Falls School District Election successfully piloted electronic pollbooks and the Vote Center concept. Two recommendations would be:

1. In order to better serve all the voters of Sioux Falls, the electronic pollbook should be held on a secured, encrypted internet site and not on a local intranet.

Rationale:

The pollbook was held on the District's intranet which limited the places the District could use for Vote Centers. To be networked into the intranet, the Vote Center had to be in a school building. Many District voters live south of 57th Street in Lincoln County, but the District does not have any schools south of 57th Street. In the past, the District has had two to four polling places in Lincoln County.

If the pollbook was held on a secured, encrypted internet site, the Vote Centers could be operated where people congregate. There is the potential to have a vote center in the mall, a hospital lobby, a public building downtown, or in the city-operated community centers, as well as school buildings, thereby, potentially increasing voter turnout.

2. More pollbook licenses will be needed for a larger election in Sioux Falls.

More pollbooks and possibly up to five more Vote Centers would be needed for a larger local (mayoral) election in Sioux Falls.

If counties chose to use vote centers, there could be numerous vote centers in the main city of the county and one in each of the towns where polling places are normally used. In Minnehaha County, for instance, Sioux Falls could have 15 vote centers, and then only one polling place at Brandon, Hartford, Humboldt, Garretson, Valley Springs, etc. Minnehaha could potentially go from 74 polling places to 26, saving time and money. The ballot receipt would become important at that time to make sure voters receive the correct ballot, due to different legislative districts. The best part of using Vote Centers is that no voter is sent away to a different location. They may vote at any Center.

Overall, the Vote Centers and electronic pollbooks are efficient tools for election supervisors to use. Using these tools saves time for jurisdictions and saves taxpayer dollars. In the Sioux Falls School District, every dollar saved and not budgeted towards elections could be redirected to be used in the classroom, which is its primary mission: “to educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world.”

**APPENDIX A
Results of Survey Cards**

| 1-1 - J.F. Kennedy Elementary | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 275 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 214 | 77.8% | 11 | 4.0% | 93 | 33.8% |
| Find Parking | 218 | 79.3% | 5 | 1.8% | 93 | 33.8% |
| Find Door | 196 | 71.3% | 29 | 10.5% | 173 | 62.9% |
| Speediness | 254 | 92.4% | 15 | 5.5% | 37 | 13.5% |
| Availability of Staff | 182 | 66.2% | 1 | 0.4% | 34 | 12.4% |

| 1-2 - Memorial Middle School | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 333 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 214 | 64.3% | 11 | 3.3% | 93 | 27.9% |
| Find Parking | 218 | 65.5% | 5 | 1.5% | 93 | 27.9% |
| Find Door | 196 | 58.9% | 29 | 8.7% | 173 | 52.0% |
| Speediness | 254 | 76.3% | 15 | 4.5% | 37 | 11.1% |
| Availability of Staff | 182 | 54.7% | 1 | 0.3% | 34 | 10.2% |

| 1-3 - Hayward Elementary | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 101 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 65 | 64.4% | 9 | 8.9% | 26 | 25.7% |
| Find Parking | 68 | 67.3% | 6 | 5.9% | 23 | 22.8% |
| Find Door | 58 | 57.4% | 13 | 12.9% | 25 | 24.8% |
| Speediness | 68 | 67.3% | 14 | 13.9% | 9 | 8.9% |
| Availability of Staff | 84 | 83.2% | 0 | 0.0% | 12 | 11.9% |

| 1-4 - Garfield Elementary | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 203 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 105 | 51.7% | 17 | 8.4% | 67 | 33.0% |
| Find Parking | 118 | 58.1% | 15 | 7.4% | 64 | 31.5% |
| Find Door | 109 | 53.7% | 15 | 7.4% | 63 | 31.0% |
| Speediness | 123 | 60.6% | 28 | 13.8% | 41 | 20.2% |
| Availability of Staff | 128 | 63.1% | 5 | 2.5% | 51 | 25.1% |

**APPENDIX A
Results of Survey Cards**

| 1-5 - Hawthorne Elementary | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 192 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 128 | 66.7% | 15 | 7.8% | 50 | 26.0% |
| Find Parking | 111 | 57.8% | 9 | 4.7% | 70 | 36.5% |
| Find Door | 117 | 60.9% | 3 | 1.6% | 64 | 33.3% |
| Speediness | 142 | 74.0% | 17 | 8.9% | 26 | 13.5% |
| Availability of Staff | 154 | 80.2% | 1 | 0.5% | 34 | 17.7% |

| 1-6 - Whittier Middle School | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 164 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 98 | 59.8% | 25 | 15.2% | 33 | 20.1% |
| Find Parking | 110 | 67.1% | 7 | 4.3% | 36 | 22.0% |
| Find Door | 107 | 65.2% | 10 | 6.1% | 36 | 22.0% |
| Speediness | 125 | 76.2% | 12 | 7.3% | 20 | 12.2% |
| Availability of Staff | 112 | 68.3% | 1 | 0.6% | 33 | 20.1% |

| 1-7 - Anne Sullivan Elementary | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 215 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 134 | 62.3% | 8 | 3.7% | 56 | 26.0% |
| Find Parking | 118 | 54.9% | 12 | 5.6% | 68 | 31.6% |
| Find Door | 127 | 59.1% | 5 | 2.3% | 68 | 31.6% |
| Speediness | 158 | 73.5% | 11 | 5.1% | 29 | 13.5% |
| Availability of Staff | 150 | 69.8% | 0 | 0.0% | 53 | 24.7% |

| 1- 8 - Harvey Dunn Elementary | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 337 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 244 | 72.4% | 1 | 0.3% | 71 | 21.1% |
| Find Parking | 247 | 73.3% | 2 | 0.6% | 75 | 22.3% |
| Find Door | 241 | 71.5% | 0 | 0.0% | 84 | 24.9% |
| Speediness | 240 | 71.2% | 22 | 6.5% | 26 | 7.7% |
| Availability of Staff | 302 | 89.6% | 0 | 0.0% | 29 | 8.6% |

**APPENDIX A
Results of Survey Cards**

| 1- 9 - Lincoln High School | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|
| 567 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 335 | 59.1% | 43 | 7.6% | 105 | 18.5% |
| Find Parking | 288 | 50.8% | 64 | 11.3% | 132 | 23.3% |
| Find Door | 301 | 53.1% | 37 | 6.5% | 145 | 25.6% |
| Speediness | 365 | 64.4% | 61 | 10.8% | 63 | 11.1% |
| Availability of Staff | 368 | 64.9% | 2 | 0.4% | 107 | 18.9% |

| 1- 10 - Edison Middle School | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|
| 436 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 251 | 57.6% | 48 | 11.0% | 120 | 27.5% |
| Find Parking | 275 | 63.1% | 20 | 4.6% | 113 | 25.9% |
| Find Door | 243 | 55.7% | 58 | 13.3% | 107 | 24.5% |
| Speediness | 319 | 73.2% | 24 | 5.5% | 69 | 15.8% |
| Availability of Staff | 253 | 58.0% | 1 | 0.2% | 103 | 23.6% |

| Summary | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-------|-------|------|------------|-------|
| 2,823 Respondents | Better | % | Worse | % | No Opinion | % |
| Find Vote Centers | 1,788 | 63.3% | 188 | 6.7% | 714 | 25.3% |
| Find Parking | 1,771 | 62.7% | 145 | 5.1% | 767 | 27.2% |
| Find Door | 1,695 | 60.0% | 199 | 7.0% | 938 | 33.2% |
| Speediness | 2,048 | 72.5% | 219 | 7.8% | 357 | 12.6% |
| Availability of Staff | 1,915 | 67.8% | 12 | 0.4% | 490 | 17.4% |

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

Comments received in Mail

Loved it

I like the new system and being able to vote anywhere in town. Like the \$ savings to staff fewer places, especially in low turn-out elections. I had a new license (since Dec, 2010—Machines were not set up to accept the size of newer driver's license) so it took a bit longer, but was reassured that would be fixed before next election.

Vote Center 1-1 – J.F. Kennedy Elementary School Voters' Comments:

It is just handier to vote close to work.

I am wholeheartedly in favor of the improvements.

Very much in favor of more choices of where to vote.

Great system!

Love it!

Only person at the time and everything was great!

New system seems to work well.

I like it.

Closer to home—walked.

I hope things work this smoothly with large turnouts.

I'm concerned that my personal address info will be used to send junk.

The process is fine for me, actually better, but I don't think as convenient for senior citizens that cannot drive.

Sounds like a good idea.

Comparable to where I usually vote – easy.

Good idea!

Quick, easy, efficient.

I like the new system.

I like the new system!

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

Great!

You need another column for a survey like this—like “OK”, “Normal” etc.

This is the greatest thing. Please keep using the electronic check-in.

I liked the convenience.

Super! Please continue this method of voting. 😊

Maybe initially a little slower, but it was about the same. If it will reduce voter fraud, I am all for it.

Systems much improved e.g. electronics vs manual search through the registration “tome”.

All worked well.

I like the paper ballot.

All the same, not better or worse.

Everything worked fine.

This election, I could not see any difference.

Pencils need to be secured @ portable booths, needed spindle for slips, cookies or doughnuts instead of stickers. Portable Booths are awesome!!

I think all polling locations should be available.

Better!!

It was great!

I like it!

Great

No one there, so was fast.

Love being able to go anywhere to vote!

Think it will work well!

I like the automated computer system.

Very convenient.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Like it!

Much better system!

Most thing equal—Any location is a plus.

Everything was good.

Went very well having a choice of voting center.

Received no info on people running for the spot available.

I LOVE being able to vote where it is much more convenient for me. Thank you.

Same as before.

All was ok, not better or worse

It was convenient for me last election –no complaints. This time was OK also.

THIS IS GOOD! LET'S DO THIS AGAIN!

I like the check-in procedure.

It was the same as previous in all areas.

Organized. Great job!

I think that my response to the questions above (Better) tells it all.

Same as Before and has been about the same for the Last 4 Elections

It has always been easy & a pleasant experience.

Great New System

I like it this way.

I like the choice of voting sites

Not really any difference...not any faster.

This experience was just as good as the last time I voted.

Use Larger, Easier Type on ballot

Very organized

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

I never had any problems before so it is the same—I did have to drive further.

I'm hoping that we can, with Deb Hoffman's help, to improve education for our children!

Need to make it work on the new licence's (driver)

Most was no change—Thanks for Survey.

Lot easier—people volunteering very friendly.

Great at JFK

Excellent ☺

Great process!

Is there an alternative for those without Drivers License?

Love it!

Better marks primarily due to low volume.

Both were fine.

Smooth!

Super idea to save tax dollars as a poll worker, I'll probably lose my job. Boo! Hoo!

Like the electronic check-in process.

This worked really well.

Pray it works.

Great upgrade!

I like it!!

We have voted @ this location for many years. All options are similar today w/ previous voting experiences—not better or worse.

I like it.

I like the electronic check-in system. Progress!

Don't stop, this is awesome, I just forgot the places where we could vote

**APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments**

Let's do this with every election.

I appreciate having the flexibility of voting closer to home or work.

"much" Better

Are you trying to make it easier or trying to discourage voting—You have changed & changed voting place too much—when will it stop changing?

No problems before and none now.

Polling place closer to our house.

I would say equal on all counts.

No better or worse than before.

Parking, Ease of Finding site, and my ability to find the voting area is same, but the speed was much improved.

Vote Center 1-2 – Memorial Middle School Voters' Comments:

Liked the new system.

I'm the same distance to Memorial Middle School as I am to church on 26th St. – Everyone was great!

New system worked well.

Great technology

Thank you

Great idea

Need larger "Vote Here" sign in front of building

Great service, the people were very nice. I have always had a good experience.

Seemed to flow better for workers. Nice to go wherever was convenient to vote.

Need bigger "Vote Here" sign

Super idea

No other people have to vote!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

You guys have it all together!

Great!

Worked well.

Went good.

This is where I usually vote, so no big change.

Good way to do it.

This made voting very convenient, can vote closer to where I work instead of where I live.

Love this new system! Great to vote anywhere – Finally, technology has made life easier!

More cumbersome than before – I was surprised.

Should have a heading of “same”

Lots of people to help, but person on computer was not prepared for job.

Equal in all areas compared to St. Michael's polls

No change...it's fine.

New to Sioux Falls – I was pleased with the process.

New driver's license do not scan.

Today was just as easy as any day...no line to wait...made it hard to critique.

Great process

Sort of silly having a receipt to hand to the next person.

New system too slow for bigger election.

Great change!

Excellent.

Seems like new system is more efficient.

1st time voting @ voting center

Excellent

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Good!

Bigger sign @ Memorial would be better. If only 10 later could be a problem for lines maybe.

All is great...same place I usually go...close to home.

Love the electronic registration.

Less convenient since I had to drive much further to polling place.

Technology is good as long as it works & is reliable & secure

Think some questions are slanted due to voter turn out for this election.

Very friendly staff.

I voted at same place as before. Thanks.

Nicely done!! ☺ Great Voting Experience!!

It's ok.

Schools are good choice.

Pettigrew (last election) needs to work on getting folks inside.

Driver's license scan is not set up right.

Very nice process.

Slick process.

Loved it!

OK

Just as fine as before. Thanks to Argus for coverage of event & info.

Great improvement.

Polling place very nicely marked.

Very nice & friendly people. Thank-you!!

Everything well marked—very efficient

The system is slick.

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

Signature panel awkward—needs larger base for wrist to set on.

And it saves \$\$s.

Hard to compare since the school board election is usually a small election & therefore fewer people in line, parking, etc. I do like the convenience of being able to vote in a building other than our assigned precinct.

Excellent

Nice to have locations to choose from

Wasn't publicized

(polling place) Farther away than now

Love the computers!

Went very fast

Change is good

Great!

Check-in incredibly simple & quick.

Poor advertising of this election. Just heard about it today.

My normal polling place is 2 blocks from home.

Has worked well before—this worked well too.

Great voting experience @ Memorial Middle School

Great system.

Workers talking so I had to wait for conversation to end. Would have preferred to vote in regular spot!!!!!!!



Love! The new system! Thank you!!

I like the option of voting at any location.

Went fine.

Things were the same or better. Seems like a good move.

**APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments**

Love this!

It was all OK—no complaints

Oscar Howe also had great help & parking!

Always been good

I think being able to vote anywhere could bring a bigger turnout at the polls.

General election will be a lot different than school elections.

Wasn't busy so everything was good.

Great way to vote!

Always vote here.

This is my normal polling place—it was fine, as always.

Great improvement.

I like the 10 voting places...KEEP IT UP!

WOW – Lots of workers

Good experience.

Works well

Bev Chase Rocks!

Same in all areas, no worse, no better

Great system!!

No negative feedback or concerns

Loved it!

Good Change!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Vote Center 1-3 – Hayward Elementary School Voters' Comments:

I like the new system. Less paper is always good. Thank you.

I appreciate having an option of voting at various locations. Very Convenient.

It is more convenient to go to any place.

I like the new system.

More streamlined.

All the same.

It's nice to be able to pick a location convenient to where you will be for the day.

Distance from parking to voting too long for handicapped people.

DO IT THE OLD WAY!

LONG to walk if like this next election might say screw it.

Not better—no difference

Need to advertise location more for the places to vote.

Great wouldn't have voted otherwise.

Need spot for Just the same; not really better.

Slower to get a ballot

No change for me in voting location

Great Improvement!

Great – Loved being able to vote @ multiple locations.

Very nice, quick & efficient – nice staff—

Good experience..Great ease of use.

I was able to vote this year because the precincts was at my work—otherwise, I wouldn't be off on time.

Computer very slow

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

I worked the election and felt things went well. Many said they hoped we keep this system. I feel it was a good day; only could have used more voters!

The paper receipt is lame.

If you had a long line the vote would be slow compared to the past.

Worker compared signatures—unnecessary waste of time.

1-4 – Garfield Elementary School Voters' Comments:

Super idea

I have voted here since at least fifty or more years. Thanks.



Keep this going

I vote during the day so I found no difference except the check in speed.

EXCELLENT JOB

Great

Liked the old way better

Wasn't busy—no waiting—little or no time needed.

Not advertized this time.

Liked the ability to be able vote anywhere

Give help a raise!!

Great

A more competitive race during the school year may make me think different.

Came at a good time 5:15

Great system

Good system!

We will have to get used to the new system.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

TV broadcasts should have said the 10 polling sites; I have no computer!

Nothing wrong with the experience—it really makes more sense to do it this way. Thanks.

I saw on the TV news that we could vote anywhere – NICE

Great

Go for it!

Just as easy as before but I appreciated being able to vote where I wanted to go.

All okay

I've never had a problem at any polling place.

Computer was down.

Needed to know where we were to vote this time.

Voting where you want to is a good idea, as long as choices are well publicized. Some minor problems scanning in my license.

My pencil needs to be sharpened.

Good for me.

Same on all counts.

Much better'n before. Thanks.

Hope it works.

The voting process is NOT faster—but the voting places are more convenient.

Check in was slower, that does not make it worse or better. Everything else is same as last election.

Put the school board election w/general election—

No problems

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

1-5 – Hawthorne Elementary School Voters' Comments:

This slows everything down. It is ridiculous.

Great improvement!

Voting places not suitable for seniors—don't know schools, not near schools.

Thanks, this new method will work out.

Great changes!

I like it that you can vote anywhere in town, more convenient.

Voter friendly!

All went well---

Worked great!

The southeast area not served well—why!

More convenient to vote anywhere

Love it!

Availability of Hawthorne since many walk to that polling place.

Way to go!

Fast & Easy System!

The process of check in was much longer.

Great!

Outstanding system! Do it every election! THANKS!

Excellent idea! Thanks!

I hope this becomes permanent.

Great! Slick!

Go back to old system.

Thanks.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Awesome, thanks

The new system seems better now.

Everyone was very friendly and I enjoyed my time voting.

No publicity from the school district or the clerk's office until yesterday! Where were Bev Chase, DeeAnn Conrad and Debra Owen!??? Very Poor job on publicizing this given it was a new way of voting! I would like you to call me. 335-0903 Cheryl Roth

Very Good

Hope it works out for future small elections.

Worked well

Same as last time☺

Go with it—Stop voter fraud in its tracks

Time was same to check in just less paper.

These folks are great!

Computers are too slow at check in.

No less convenient and was same time. Voted early so no around.

System has one address typed in wrong.

Very efficient system.

Worked well but this was a small election. Hope it works this well for a major election.

I really appreciate the opportunity to choose where I vote. I do believe this option will increase voter turnout in future elections.

All was done great & easy. People friendly & helpful

Like it!

More staff to pay to the same thing.

New system worked good.

Good idea

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Loved it!

Love being able to vote at other locations. Convenient!

Good change.

Technology is good!

The people working the Hawthorne site were outstanding.

No lines when I voted—worked OK

Automated but no faster than traditional method—I thought this way was supposed to be streamlined.

Great!

First time in this precinct.

Being the first time we voted at Hawthorne School it was a little confusing.

I like the other way. Staff is always great.

Not much difference.

Good overall.

It is fine...like that you can go multiple places.

Love new system—wish you would release results faster (as they come in.)

There were no others voting at the voting place. Had lots of help and attention.

I like this new system. Thanks.

Everything is good.

When there is a change in voting locations, please to inform the residents by notecard where closest location is!

Great services. Thank you.

All this extra expense for so few # of voters. I'm sure it'll all cost more in the end.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

1-6 – Whittier Middle School Voters' Comments:

You should have asked if it was about the same. My old voting place was much harder.

Much Better!

Very efficient. Thank you

Great

Nice to be able to vote at any voting station.

Worked just fine!

Just like my previous voting center

So much more smooth

I never have a problem with any of the above (questions). Always easy & speedy.

Worked fine but my polling place at St. Lambert's is always efficient as well.

OK

I like being able to vote at several locations and it went smoothly.

Great idea!

Love the scan! Love Technology ☺

What a great improvement!

All OK – Good Job

Good Going

I think availability to vote anywhere will be a plus. Thanks.

This system will be a lot more convenient for people who vote.

Overall very good—look forward to keeping it like this.

We did ok before this...just made us travel farther!

I like new system.

Love it.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Voting went smoothly, no changes

Very clean...and quick

I think it worked well.

We should do this for all elections.

This worked but other is fine too.

Very good!

About the same, but have to travel farther to vote. Need more places farther east.

I don't usually vote here, so it's hard to know how to answer these questions.

Worked great

Just as easy

I walk to regular polling place, everything else was equal.

Good job, ladies.

I like the new check in system. Went faster with computer than old system.

I like the validness of this process. I see a very fair election, with no opportunity for cheating.

People helping were friendly – love that I have options for voting place.

I like it.

Worked out great

Slick!

Not an improvement.

I was as easy as previous location.

Not better/not worse..just farther away

Grand kid goes to school here. It's ok.

Farther to walk.

Keep up the good work

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

I like being able to go to any precinct to vote.

Fine thing.

Real good.

I have an opinion! It was fine before. How come no category for "same"=just as good?

Great to be back in school

Fewer polling places with scanners not reading license correctly.

I approve!

I think the scanning of DL is a good move.

Questions were stupid—should have been better—worse—or same.

Need to put polling places back where they were.

I could walk to vote before. The process is good though!

Great

Works great

Always difficult to go to a different voting site—Electronic was about the same as ease of check in, etc.

Vote Center 1-7 – Anne Sullivan School Voters' Comments

It's nice to be able to vote where it is convenient.

Like the neighborhood polls

Voted same place as always so noticed no changes

This is my same spot-so I like and had no problems.

Speed of check in was the same and the availability of staff was the same. The parking lot was very full.

All are about the same as before.

Nice volunteers!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Parking lot full due to teacher meeting being held. Maybe cheaper, but not as convenient.

This is my regular voting location. The staff is great.

Better=the same

The vote stations are way to small.

Fabulous!!!

I hope this works! Will save a lot money & be more efficient.

Trouble finding me in system.

I loved being able to go anywhere to vote. Very convenient.

They need to get rid of the paper sheets and go on computer. Love the choice of voting sight.

Like the central—vote anywhere polls will help turn-out.

My voting center changed without letting me know.

Love it!

Didn't know where to vote until I saw it on news @ noon.

No better, no worse, A-OK!

Worked good.

Convenience to work and other activities.

Great

No Change

A little slower (check-in) not sure of any diff.

Mostly the same place and time.

Very Easy!

Both this location and the one I formerly voted at were convenient and good parking, etc.

Nearly forgot today was voting day.

Friendly helpful staff!

**APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments**

Wasn't able to scan new driver's license.

Much better!

Love it!

It has always been good!

Great job!

I liked it!

Liked the new ID process.

I like the new system.

Easy—well organized

Great! Loved that I could vote in the part of town where I was at during the day!

Fast & easy

For smaller elections—this is perfect!

GREAT

I found no difference as I vote at this same places!

Loved it!

Love it!

Great!!!

Have always voted at this location, so all is the same. Anne Sullivan is an excellent location for me.

Regular voting location – Very satisfactory.

Can't tell on this election –2 people for 1 office.

Like the concept and hope we continue with it.

I really like this new system!!

Actually, we've voted at St. Lambert's for so many years, we never had a problem.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Loved the experience!!

I noticed no change.

Easy—New—Use again

Really like this system—nice to be able to vote where it is convenient.

I don't think the process is faster, rather it is slower.

Same as past!

This is Awesome!

Very helpful.

About the same.

Really fast!!

Fast and easy.

All was good.

Very well organized.

Great all around.

Unable to scan the new driver's license.

Look at electronic voting instead of paper ballots

Nice! I also like the site—Anne Sullivan.

I was the first one voting here so there were some problems figuring it out, but they were very friendly and I was in no hurry. 😊

Love voting at any location.

Wonderful to vote anywhere

Vote Center 1-8 – Harvey Dunn Elementary School Voters' Comments:

I've worked as an election volunteer and the printed books are always cumbersome and contain errors. This is a huge improvement. No eligible voter is turned away due to wrong polling place—a huge issue.

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

Check in was worse only because had old address from 9 years ago---have voted @ this same location—always great—same in all other areas.

Should have one closer in vicinity.

Not busy at the time.

Don't care for new world way of voting.

It (survey) should say "no problem"...Today was more complex, about five steps instead of two. So it was slower, but not a problem. Many volunteers help me. If this helps save money that's good. Thank you.

Awesome! You guys Rock! ☺

Whatever happened to curtained voting booths? That was real secret ballot!! Don't we have the Australian ballot anymore?!

Very nice people.

The folks assisting are always very good!

Good workers!

Really like the official name Justin from Secretary of State's office.

More staff than ever before??

Happy volunteers☺

Great

A downtown voting place would be helpful.

Awesome! Love this system!!

Keep it up!

Great!

This was great—I appreciate the options

Why not take the next logical step & make the whole process electronic?

Parking may NOT be so easy if school is in session. I love being able to vote where ever I am.

TV should advertise the names of schools because not everyone gets the Argus.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

OK

This is my usual voting place, so "no opinion". Easy to vote! Thanks—

Very few voters so I got right in.

Go for it

This process should have been implemented years ago.

I like the multiple locations

OK

Great!!

Better advertisements

I like this

Good change!

Super idea!

Great!

All are good—either location

About the same—I voted at the same location. The new method would be very helpful for some.

Very good.

Great to go the place closest or where ever you are that day.

Keep it.

Great

I thought this system worked well.

Worked good

Fantastic to vote anywhere with ID!!

Concerned – will elderly vote do to distance to voteing place compared to old method?? Love the new method.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

My driver's license would not scan. I want to put my signature on pole book.

Good

Good Job!

It was basically the same.

Why not use this method for voter ID as well. Person could certify they were the person who signed—then wouldn't had photo ID for those who don't have one. Thanks.

Great process.

All the same!

Great!

Great—Thanks!

I don't like changing polling places.

Worked very well!!

Great job!

(Survey) Needs another category "No Difference"

My regular voting center & this one are run really well. Thanks.

Slick & Easy

I LOVE the new process!

Good system.

Would make vote centers better available to find—had a little trouble.

Good move!

I liked it!

Great idea!

New system worked very well—easy!

Nice change.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Easy!

I like Harvey Dunn location for voting. I would rather come here than where I have been going.

I think it should be completely electronic.

Advertisement of the location to vote got better as the day went, but in the morning it was hard to find the information by doing a google search.

Great, make this normal ops

I like it better.

Wasn't any difference in waiting went right through

Love this! Thanks.

Not much difference.

Same location as before so building is familiar.

Slowly

Slower, not familiar with machines

Great

Love it!

Everything Fine!

Good idea!

Good

Very Good

Worked great!

Thank you!

Have the TV give the list—not refer to .com

Works OK!

It was all easy but it was easy before.

**APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments**

Great idea.

Great system.

Was a bit faster.

Everything is good

This new system works so much better

Very convenient and easy

Problems with computer

I like the speediness of the licence check.

Always vote at Harvey Dunn.

Vote Center 1-9 – Lincoln High School Voters' Comments:

Love the new high-tech voting system!

This is a great move! Good luck!

List in Argus was nice (voting centers).

Fun!

Much better process!

Good system!

Need more and bigger signs for where to park & where to go into building & where to start. But overall – WONDERFUL!!!

Very quick & easy.

Just like before.

Good idea

Difficulty with my hyphenated name?

Good system. If school is in session, parking may be a problem.

Everything is good—old way was fine too!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

I like the new system. Great job!!

Parking farther away. All the people watching was intimidating.

Very easy!

It works.

Modern technology is here.

Glad we've entered the 21st Century!

Great!

In and out in not time.

Thank you.

Straightforward and friendly. THANK YOU!

Scanner unable to read my newer drivers license.

Very good—I think it works.

Love the option of different locations.

Same as previous system OK

Great idea! Do it again.

Very helpful staff at LHS.

Just a little closer. How much difference in cost?

Hope this system gets better.

I have no complaints from previous voting.

Overall experience was about the same.

Very easy, thank you.

Like having all places to choose from. Thanks.

Very good process. Recommend it.

Very nice! Thanks.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

I have no opinion because this place to vote was neither better nor worse, but it is farther for me to drive.

This is a fabulous idea. Thanks!

Form should have choices of neither better or worse—it's different here because my usual polling place not in use.

Need to put a "VOTE HERE" sign out by the street, cause I didn't read paper and didn't know if I voted here, when normally I vote at Horace Mann normally.

Didn't know my regular voting station was closed.

It worked slick. My only concern was the distance the elderly had to walk from Lincoln parking lot to front door.

If it isn't broke don't fix it.

About the same as before. I think it will get fast as staff becomes more familiar.

Untrained voting officials.

Perfect!

Both places were fine with me in every way. Thank you.

This location is great, but I have no complaints about where I voted before.

Great idea.

Not as close to my home.

Great

Good job!

I like the new registration!

Worked Great Love the new system

Cheerful

Because of the poor turnout, School board elections should be held every other year with city elections.

Staff is friendly—location is tricky. Perhaps school board elections should be with other elections.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Great.

Keep it!

This is a lot faster.

About the same.

Thank you this worked well.

Went very smoothly! I hope this expands to more elections.

For the first time here, it worked fine.

It was all good. ☺ My voting place is IPC—which I appreciate—Parking!!! Closer walk!!! ☺

It was real nice before.

Excellent

All about the same.

OK but other way was OK too

It will be different in General Election (#'s)

First time, had no problems!

Very friendly staff!!

Great

Really appreciate the "vote anywhere" opportunity

It did speed up the check in process.

Thank you for a non-smoking voting place!!!

Excellent!

Great!

Location more convenient for work! provides more flexibility

It would not accept my ID info.

Very smooth process.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Well done.

Friendly workers

All better

A new good deal. I like it.

Voting in the schools encourages kids to see voting as an important part of their education and lives.

Great

Great—much easier.

Great

For first time, it's okay!

Great job volunteers

GR8

Great

Lots of staff, but very unorganized and not enough specific direction. Very confusing.

Excellent

Great idea way past due

I love being able to vote at any location.

Worked great! Keep doing it this way.—should have option on card to indicate “the same”

Loved the experience! Thanks alott!! 😊

Stupid

Easy—Keep it up!

Need parking closer to door.

Let's continue this!!

Takes longer

APPENDIX B Survey Card Comments

All went well

Fewer however is better

Slow in checking ID's

Great improvement

Election official not familiar with different licenses & women's names who are a maiden name. Not easy to see yellow signs from distance. Election official did not tell me to go to the next station—more interested in next person, not me. Not Good ☺

Great

Great – we can walk to vote

I love it.

Mostly same—going anywhere makes it easier! Advertise more—places & need for ID—Seek advertising avenues

Good & more efficient way of voting!

Good idea

Everything went smoothly—but it always did at Patrick Henry as well--& was easier access.

I usually vote at the Instructional Planning Center so I voted at Lincoln High today. Parking & everything else are nearly the same.

LHS – good parking if no school in session, bad if school in session

Good plan!

Put Ballot at west door Closing to parking

More difficult to vote

Works well

Have the signature box elevated – so people don't have to bend over; received less attention (from workers)

Great, efficient.

I like this!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Great idea

Very goo

Lincoln—Parking too far away.

Good system.

Great idea.

Will not work for Nov. Elections w/school in session.

Thanks!

All was well ☺

Thanks!

Need a location south of 57th

People are better than machines

Good before Good now!

It's such a "small" election that it's hard to assess. I never found it difficult before.

Very smooth. Old way seemed to work well for me too.

Each of the above (survey questions) was comparable to before – No opinion on the change.

Once they figured out hyphenated names, it was easy.

The change also costs more \$\$

A lot of these questions are better answered by "the same" option.

Need column for "SAME"

Good this way & the old way was ok also

Need more computers & tech-able workers may under 80 yrs old

No advantage—we had easier parking and quick assess to voting—

Didn't seem faster—may get better with experience.

Great idea!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Past & Present were all good.

Really this is just fine rather than “no opinion”.

Super!

Awesome!

I liked the system.

Good job

More voting center publized—

Love it!!

All good can't believe the new driver's license won't scan

Great idea to go to just any location to vote.

Excellent!

Everything went well...friendly & fun!

Was unfamiliar with voting place—map in newspaper was so tiny I couldn't read it.

Seemed a lot slower—not very quick on the computer—maybe better computer skills would be needed.

Having 10 centers is a much better idea! Electronic check-in is great. Keep it up!

Are we saving money?

This is a good idea!

Very good.

Good job! I like it.

Computer did not have us registered—had to call auditor to confirm we are registered. Good Staff!

This would be fine in the future.

Same as before—had to drive distance to vote—

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

We need to be much more informed about the constant shift in voting sites. Lincoln is hard for the handicapped to get into—bring back Horace Mann.

Much better than VFW! Great, convenient idea.

Nice location—might not be as good when school is in session.

Location—cause of worse opinions

Long walk—location not as convenient.

Everything was about the same except didn't know where to go.

Parking is a serious problem during the school year, so using the school is only better during school vacation.

Great system!

Good!

Vote Center 1-10 – Edison Middle School Voters' Comments:

(Note: Officials advised of people walking through building at 9:30...new bigger sign went up by 10:00, which solved some confusion)

Love it

It was good before—bigger signs at entry

If it is cost effective—continue

Many thanks for your service! (and commitment)

Great idea!

Didn't know which door so walked steps down...good markings though.

I'm used to driving by Edison from West Ave...had no idea there was another door w/parking lot. Was concerned for older citizens who might need to use stairs.

I love computerized registration!

Great idea ☺

Excellent

Okay

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

The back of O’Gorman was a terrible place! This system shows promise.

It works.

Takes more time.

Change! We’ll learn 😊

Changes is slow!

Hard to tell...Good for a School Board election.

It’s no different, just a new location. If it prevents voter fraud it’ll be good.

I can’t say it’s better but I do like being able to go to any center.

Great!

LOVE the new system!

Quick – Easy

I have unease about using driver’s license as a universal ID for voting; the two things are not the same.

I’ve never voted here so that’s why I didn’t know where to go & what door to go in otherwise—very smooth!

Great process, so much more convenient! Thanks

I like this

Not well publicized on TV where poll places were.

I LOVE that I could go to any of the available locations!

Glad to do it to save \$\$s

Easy today, but not hard earlier either. Thanks.

Loved that I could go to any polling site! Great use of technology!

We should not have to show ID to vote!

Great idea!

This worked well.

**APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments**

I like the new system!

I like having options on polling places.

It was just as easy this way as the manual way.

Need to tell which door to enter—

Need signs to direct people to parking lot.

Signage outside the doors is needed. This system is certainly worth trying. On the whole, it is as good as before, not better, and some kinks need attention.

I liked the church also.

Will be good

Mark doors not to be used with directions to correct door. Large → signs would be good.

I would say it is about the same as before. I have no problem with this however & would be willing to see it continue.

The check-in is pretty slick.

Better “news” about voting location in building.

Should have had same for one to check.

Love the computerized system

This is a cool way to vote.

Good job.

Our regular voting place was within walking distance; we had to drive to Edison. NO PROBLEM—thus the “no opinions”

Didn't know things changed. Drove to usual polling place before learning had changed. ☹

I like it as long as it can't be hacked. Way to go Sec. Gant & Staff!

Worked great

I usually have an easy time getting to vote, Great System. Thanks.

Good Idea!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Computer glitches but not a big deal over all.

“Regular” voting place was just fine. But this is just fine also—(a little farther to drive, though) ☺

Super

Actually no difference to me

Very poorly advertised locations.

H9ope it saves money

It worked great! The computerized ballot book is fantastic! Voter Centers for School Board is much Better!

Very handy. Great cost savings & efficiency!!

All OK—But prefer to vote a Jefferson Grade School

Awesome! Do this again!

It’s always easy for me—so really no change from other elections.

Locations to me personally not as convenient, but process quick.

Speediness today was fine. I am not sure how it would be with a heavy vote.

What if computer malfunctions? Where is the paper trail?

Great system!

Living within the school district but outside of city limits created a considerable drive to the nearest polling location.

It was all about the same.

System couldn’t find my name.

I liked the whole process.

No problems before....no problems now

Good!

Never had much problem but his works for me.

Very good!!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Awesome! Much easier! Technology at its best!

Love it!

It was very much the same.

Actually although the process is different, there wasn't much difference in convenience.

Great

This was made easy because no school. What would it be like in November?

Equally good! Other voting center is closer to my home.

No change—always been efficient.

It is faster.

I like it!!

Good idea!! Keep it!

Perfect! Don't change a thing!

No problems

Was very quiet. Hard to evaluate.

Instead of "no opinion", how about "same"—that's what I meant by the "no opinion" option.

No sign in front of Edison School, that voting is in the back! Big Error!

Put signs on the east door directing us.

You need signs out in front of Edison

Either way seemed to work well. Good job!!

Love the electronics!!

Like it!

It's good to be back in my old junior high school.

The same as last time I voted not better—not worse just efficient both times.

Will be better now I understand system. I just don't go to schools!

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Little difference

I Like It! 😊

Don't like photo ID requirement—it's like a paying a tax in order to vote!

Very convenient to where I live, also easy to vote closer to where I work.

Need more voting centers on south part of town.

Just a little slower on check-in. No problem.

Please give me only one or two choices about where to vote, this is the third location although I haven't moved.

I like the choice of where to vote, and appreciated the sign directing to the right entrance.

The wording better or worse not exactly best choice. No change in finding center, parking the same. Ease of door—fair—could have made larger sign on south and put in Argus. The check in—availability of staff was good and has always been good.

Have voted @ previous place a long time, so naturally not familiar.

None of these choices apply to today.

Machine didn't wait for my signature.

Hope this continues

Being a number in a computer is bad "progress"

Don't like the collection of electronic data.

All good as it was good before.

Good experience

Good! Convenient!

Other voter area was closer, but if this saves money it is an improvement.

You need signs on West Avenue where name of school is at —point us to entry way.

This was fabulous!

I like this system.

APPENDIX B
Survey Card Comments

Better all around.

More information about polling site. Don't get Argus.

The same—both are good.

Thank you for your work.

Great!

I like this method!

No opinion not same as no change or same. Need signage at wrong places to direct to right place or more info—

Looks like this will work better.

It is still in my area as before.

Love it!

It worked great!

Voting place not marked well. Parking doesn't matter I walk!

New system is good; old one works too. Thanks.

Luckily I read the Argus Leader, otherwise would have been going to the wrong place to vote.

A new location is always slower, but only the first time, no problem next time.

It was only slightly slower—not enough to matter.

Let unmarked ballots be counted as "ABSTAIN".

Further to travel.

Thanks.

All is A-Okay!

Need more signs earlier as which of the multiple entrances is the voting site—otherwise rest of response no difference from last elections.

This new system is much more convenient to vote mid-day, since I don't have to bet back to my home neighborhood.

Great!

**APPENDIX C
Sample Reports**

Sample of Voter Turnout Report

Summary Report 5/25/11 8:26 AM

ElectionWare Jurisdiction
2011 Sioux Falls SD Election
05/24/2011

Registered Voters: 4084 Un-Issue Credits: 0
 New Voters: 0
 Provisional Voters: 0
 Total Voters: 4084

| Location | Registered Voters | New Voters | Provisional Voters | Un-Issue Credits |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| ABSENTEE PRECINT | 269 | | | |
| ANNE SULLIVAN ELEM SCHOOL | 296 | | | |
| EDISON MIDDLE SCHOOL | 497 | | | |
| GARFIELD ELEM SCHOOL | 221 | | | |
| HARVEY DUNN ELEM SCHOOL | 675 | | | |
| HAMTHORNE ELEM SCHOOL | 201 | | | |
| KAYWARD ELEM SCHOOL | 104 | | | |
| JOHN F KENNEDY ELEM SCHOOL | 282 | | | |
| LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL | 1060 | | | |
| MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL | 342 | | | |
| WHITTIER MIDDLE SCHOOL | 177 | | | |

If South Dakota allowed same-day registration, this report would be available

New Voters Report 5/25/11 8:23 AM

ElectionWare Jurisdiction
2011 Sioux Falls SD
05/24/2011

Total New Voters: 0

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| New Voters | 0 voters |
|-------------------|-----------------|

**APPENDIX C
Sample Reports**

If Absentee Ballots were logged into this system, then the following report would be useful.

| Spoil Absentee Report | | | | ElectionWare Jurisdiction 2011 Sioux Falls SD Election 05/24/2011 | |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|----------------------|---|--|
| | | | | 5/25/11 8:25 AM | |
| Name | Address | Voter ID | Date Absentee Issued | Date Absentee Spoiled | |

If South Dakota allowed election officials to make changes to the voter registration file for a change of address, updating political party, etc., the following report would show those changes.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Voter Changes Report | | ElectionWare Jurisdiction 2011 Sioux Falls SD 05/24/2011 | |
| | | 5/25/11 8:26 AM | |
| | | Total Voters: 0 | |
| Voter Changes | | 0 voters | |

There is a report that shows the people who have not voted. This report can be run throughout Election Day. This report would be useful for party affiliations to see who has yet to vote. If the parties received a copy of this report, it would reduce the need for poll watchers and would make it easier for the parties to make phone calls to voters on Election Day.

**APPENDIX C
Sample Reports**

2011 Sioux Falls SD Election
05/24/2011

Voters Not Voted Report

5/25/11 8:29 AM

| REP Continued | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| OVERWEG, DENNIS 2004 S DULUTH AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP | OVERWEG, RUBY A 3315 S GOLDENROD LN SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110 | REP |
| OVESON, ALBERT A 201 S LINCOLN AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 | REP | OVESON, VERLYN H 3109 S HAWTHORNE AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP |
| OVIATT, CHARLOTTE L 3700 S CLIFF AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 | REP | OVIATT, DENNY V 3700 S CLIFF AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 | REP |
| OVIATT, STEVEN R 5904 W 35TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP | OVIATT, VALOIS C 4000 S WESTPORT AVE APT 335 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP |
| OVRELID, ARTHUR P 2812 S GARFIELD AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP | OVRELID, MARCELLA A 2812 S GARFIELD AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP |
| OWEN, CHRISTINE A 2008 S DISCOVERY AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP | OWEN, DAVID L 4227 E THORNWOOD PL SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 | REP |
| OWEN, DEBRA A 4227 E THORNWOOD PL SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 | REP | OWEN, TERRY J 2008 S DISCOVERY AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP |
| OWENS, ELIZABETH C 700 E RIDGE RD SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP | OWENS, HELEN O 700 E RIDGE RD SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP |
| OWENS, LEYCESTER JR 700 E RIDGE RD SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP | OWENS, LISA M 1324 S RIVERDALE RD SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | REP |
| OWENS, MAXINE M 5410 W 49TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP | OWENS, PHIMMASON 5102 S CARRICK AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP |
| OWENS, RICHARD A 5102 S CARRICK AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP | OWENS, STEPHEN T 3216 S CAROLYN AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | REP |

Note: Secure Voters are not included.

Voters Not Voted Report:5/25/11 8:29 AM

3585 of 4168

**APPENDIX C
Sample Reports**

2011 Sioux Falls SD Election
05/24/2011

Voters Not Voted Report 5/25/11 8:29 AM

| DEM Continued | |
|---|--|
| ANDERSON, KARILINE C 7901 W 55TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | DEM ANDERSON, KATELYN M 401 W 30TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 |
| ANDERSON, KATHY L 2221 S WESTERN AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | DEM ANDERSON, KATIE L 932 S MARDAY AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 |
| ANDERSON, KAY E 6604 W 46TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | DEM ANDERSON, KELLY J 619 S BLAINE AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 |
| ANDERSON, KELLY M 908 N DOLAND PL SIOUX FALLS, SD 57107 | DEM ANDERSON, KELSEY D 4904 S OXBOW AVE APT 107 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 |
| ANDERSON, KENNETH L 4500 W THAD PL SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | DEM ANDERSON, KENNETH N JR 2704 E 10TH ST APT 3 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 |
| ANDERSON, KENT D 25781 PACKARD LN RENNER, SD 57055 | DEM ANDERSON, KRISTY C 1313 E NORTHSTAR LN #D105 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57108 |
| ANDERSON, KRISTY K 6200 W CHAD CIR SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | DEM ANDERSON, KRISTLE A 834 N SUMMIT AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 |
| ANDERSON, LASHANE R 210 E 32ND ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105 | DEM ANDERSON, LAURA 6908 W 61ST ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 |
| ANDERSON, LAVORNE B 3900 S TERRY AVE APT 145 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 | DEM ANDERSON, LENORA A 4510 S PRINCE OF PEACE PL APT 214 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 |
| ANDERSON, LESTER D 123 N TRAPP AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 | DEM ANDERSON, LILLIAN T 4510 S PRINCE OF PEACE PL APT 106 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 |
| ANDERSON, LINDSAY A 2701 N CAREER AVE APT 115 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57107 | DEM ANDERSON, LOIS A 4504 W CHIPPEWA CIR APT 15 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 |

Note: Secure Voters are not included.

Voters Not Voted Report:5/25/11 8:29 AM

40 of 4168

APPENDIX C Sample Reports

There is also a report that shows voter history:

Voting History Report 5/25/11 8:21 AM

2011 Sioux Falls SD
05/24/2011

| Registered Voters Continued | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|---|
| BURK, JUDITH A 816 S LOWELL AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 05/24/2011 01:49 PM SFSD 49-5 | UNKNOWN | REP | BURNS, RICHARD L 710 INVERNESS DRIVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57108 05/24/2011 10:18 AM SFSD 49-5 |
| | 010593790 | | 440013854 |
| | 010593790 | | 440013854 |
| CALLISON, JOJEAN F 600 WEST 69TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57108 05/24/2011 08:09 AM SFSD 49-5 | UNKNOWN | DEM | CALLISON, SYLVIA F 111 W 17TH ST APT 331 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 05/24/2011 02:14 PM SFSD 49-5 |
| | 440018158 | | 010642120 |
| | 440018158 | | 010642120 |
| CARRELL, RALPH H JR 1135 N MAIN AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 05/24/2011 03:57 PM SFSD 49-5 | UNKNOWN | IND | CARRELL, SHERRI K 1135 N MAIN AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104 05/24/2011 12:18 PM SFSD 49-5 |
| | 010685330 | | 010685350 |
| | 010685330 | | 010685350 |
| CASTLE, EUGENE 1500 E 9TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57103 05/24/2011 09:43 AM SFSD 49-5 | UNKNOWN | DEM | CHASE, ALYSSA M 900 S NEWCOMB AVE APT 103 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 05/24/2011 09:14 AM SFSD 49-5 |
| | 018610034 | | 019900075 |
| | 018610034 | | 019900075 |
| CHASE, AMBER L 825 S WHEATLAND AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 05/24/2011 12:24 PM SFSD 49-5 | UNKNOWN | DEM | CHASE, BEVERLY A 5408 W 51ST ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 05/24/2011 09:02 AM SFSD 49-5 |
| | 019445457 | | 010709650 |
| | 019445457 | | 010709650 |

APPENDIX D
Newspaper Reports

ARGUSLEADER.COM
Argus Leader
A GANNETT COMPANY

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011

SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

☆☆ 75 cents

WEATHER

74
55

RAIN CHANCE EARLY

7 a.m. 10 a.m. 1 p.m. 4 p.m. 7 p.m.
55 63 70 73 69

Get up-to-the-minute weather for eastern South Dakota and the Sioux Falls region, including the latest forecasts, interactive radar and exclusive hour-by-hour data.
ARGUSLEADER.COM

Full Weather Report, Page 8A

ARGUS CHAT

POLICE: Catch a livestream of the daily briefing at 10:30 a.m. and watch for updates throughout each weekday at Argus911.
BICYCLING: Talk Tour de Kota

S.F. set to test new voting ways

Process gets scrutiny in school board election

By Josh Vargas
jvargas@argusleader.com

The voting process will be watched as closely as the vote counts in Tuesday's election for Sioux Falls School Board.

It will be South Dakota's first attempt at electronic pollbooks and voting centers, which will allow school district residents to vote at any of 10 schools throughout the district, no matter where in the city they live.

Secretary of State Jason Gant was a state senator in 2009 when the school district's election manager, Bev Chase, asked him to sponsor legislation to make the experimental election possible. After a skeptical then-Secretary Chris Nelson succeeded in making changes, the bill passed almost unanimously.

Gant will be in Sioux Falls on Tuesday to keep an eye on



Jason Gant

things. Chase will write a report on the new system's pros and cons, and Gant plans to present another bill next session that would make electronic pollbooks an option for more elections across the state.

"Any time we can make elections more efficient and make it easier to vote, I am very interested," he said.

See VOTING, Page 4A



Karen Kooles (left) assists Mildred Blake with loading paper in a new voting machine during a training session for poll workers last week at the Instructional Planning Center. They were preparing for the May 24 election. LAY POKTHORN / ARGUS LEADER

WHERE, WHEN TO VOTE TUESDAY

WHEN: School district residents may vote from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday at any of 10 voting centers, no matter where they live.

NEEDED: Bring a driver's license or other accepted identification card for scanning.

ABSENTEE: The Instructional Planning Center, 201 E. 38th St., also will offer absentee voting from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday.

WHERE: See a list of polling places, Page 4A

APPENDIX D Newspaper Reports

Voting

Continued from Page 1A

"We'll definitely have legislation come 2012."

Chase said the technology holds great promise if used in conjunction with voting centers, especially for rural counties. It would mostly solve the problem of people trying to vote at the wrong polling place and give them more options for where to fill out a ballot.

Scanning your ID

The process works like this: Voters will check in at the polls with an election worker who will use one of the electronic pollbooks to pull up their voter information. The worker will scan a driver's license or other official identification card or can key in the voter's name. The voter also signs a keypad similar to those at the grocery store when using a credit card to pay.

When the pollbook verifies that the voter is eligible, the voter gets a receipt. That receipt is turned in for a paper ballot, which is filled out like those in previous elections.

The automation of the check-in process allows poll workers to find any of the 96,000 registered voters in the district, making it possible for them to vote at any polling place, Chase said. It also eliminates the use of the large bound volumes full of names and prevents repeat voting.

Election workers also will have a system in place

VOTE AT ANY OF 10 SCHOOLS TUESDAY

Polling places for Sioux Falls' School Board election Tuesday. All are schools:

- » Lincoln High School, 2900 S. Cliff Ave.
- » Edison Middle School, 2101 S. West Ave.
- » Memorial Middle School, 1401 S. Sertoma Ave.
- » Whittier Middle School, 930 E. Sixth St.
- » Garfield Elementary School, 701 S. Roberts Drive
- » Harvey Dunn Elementary School, 2400 S. Bahnson Ave.
- » Hawthorne Elementary School, 601 N. Spring Ave.
- » Hayward Elementary School, 400 N. Valley View Road
- » JFK Elementary School, 4501 Holbrook Ave.
- » Anne Sullivan Elementary School, 3701 E. Third St.

in case a voter's information is not in the system so that those voters will get to vote on the spot, Chase said.

Gant has spent about \$30,000 on hardware and software for Tuesday's election, from driver's license scanners and electronic signature pads to ballot receipt printers. He plans to make that equipment available to more government bodies who want to try it out for their elections.

Rapid City interest

Pennington County elections supervisor Lori Severson is among those taking an interest in the Sioux Falls election. Although reducing the number of polling places could be a burden for some rural residents, she sees voting centers as a money saver.

"Hopefully, it'll be the thing of the future," Severson said. "We discuss voting centers probably every election. It would be a more efficient way to conduct an election."

For Chase, the goal is saving money and improving voter participation. The district will spend about \$8,000

paying 74 election workers for the 10 voting centers and \$4,500 to train workers.

The 2009 election, which used 23 super-precincts, cost \$18,000 and set a new low for voter turnout at 3.55 percent of registered voters. Before super-precincts, the district had 59 polling places, all of which needed to be staffed with election workers.

In Debbie Hoffman and Doug Morrison, Sioux Falls voters will pick from two board-experienced candidates who are getting along and have committed to spending no money on campaigns. Incumbent Hoffman is being challenged by Morrison, who previously served on the board.

As such, Chase is counting on the novelty of voting centers to drive turnout.

If 9 percent of registered voters fill out a ballot this time, Chase will consider the experiment a rousing success.

"I know that sounds really bad, but for a school election that's pretty dang good," she said.

Reach reporter Josh Merges at 337-2735.

ARGUSLEADER.COM
Argus Leader
A GANNETT COMPANY

UESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

☆ 75 cents

Council split evident with events center



First public talks about site hint at delay over ethics probe

By Jonathan Ellis
jonell@argusleader.com

enman:
ethics
nd is
mining
stake in
vention
for area
party.

Sioux Falls city councilors appear split on where they think a new events center should be built.

Half say a downtown location would generate more spinoff development and thus more property taxes for the city, county and especially the school district. The other half say building next to the Sioux Falls Convention Center would let the city compete for more conventions and trade shows, meaning more money in sales and lodging taxes.

They all want one, but it's a question of where it

would generate the biggest economic payoff.

For the first time Monday, the eight-member council sat down to discuss site publicly. And though both sides appear far apart on the location question, they're still sticking to a goal of making a decision on location by June.

However, an ethics board investigation could delay that. The board is examining Councilor Jim Entenman's ownership stake in property near the convention center. Entenman might not be able to participate in the final decision, depending on the

See COUNCIL, Page 3A

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION TODAY

Incumbent Debbie Hoffman faces challenger Doug Morrison today for a spot on the Sioux Falls School Board.



Debbie Hoffman



Doug Morrison

Where, when to vote

WHEN: School district residents may vote from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. today at any of 10 voting centers, no matter where they live.

NEEDED: Bring a driver's license or other accepted identification card for scanning.

Polling places

- Lincoln High School, 2306 S. Cliff Ave.
 - Edison Middle School, 2101 S. West Ave.
 - Memorial Middle School, 1401 S. Sertoma Ave.
 - Whittier Middle School, 530 E. Sixth St.
 - Garfield Elementary, 201 S. Roberts Drive
 - Harvey Dunn Elementary, 2406 S. Bahamon Ave.
 - Hawthorne Elementary, 601 N. Spring Ave.
 - Hayward Elementary, 400 N. Valley View Road
 - JFK Elementary, 4501 Holbrook Ave.
 - Anne Sullivan Elementary, 3701 E. Third St.
- The Instructional Planning Center, 201 E. 34th St., offers absentee voting from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Argus Leader

A GANNETT C

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011

SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Turnout low as Morrison wins school board seat



Doug Morrison talks at his home Tuesday about being elected to the Sioux Falls School Board. Morrison, who served on the board from 2007 to 2010, defeated incumbent Debbie Hoffman. He had 2,634 votes to her 1,408, or 66.5 percent to 33.5 percent, after nearly 600 school board members

APPENDIX D
Newspaper Reports

Incumbent Hoffman loses seat to former colleague

By Beth Wischniowski
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Sioux Falls School Board challenger Doug Morrison beat incumbent Debbie Hoffman in an election Tuesday, with 2,634 votes to her 1,469, or 64.51 percent to 35.49 percent.

Morrison, who served from 2007 to last year, said with his experience, he has the ability to hit the ground running.

"We've got a great community, a good administration, passionate teachers, which is the backbone of everything. I can't say enough about that," Morrison said. "I'm just going to serve



Debbie Hoffman

every day to the best of my ability. That's just how I look at things."

Morrison said the campaign was run with a focus on positives, not negatives, and little to no money used for campaigning.

Debbie Hoffman, who was the incumbent, said she felt both she and Morrison were qualified candidates.

"I think everyone has to believe that the Sioux Falls School District is the winner in this election," Hoffman said. "The people had opportunity to vote for people

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BY THE NUMBERS

Some of the statistics from Tuesday's Sioux Falls School Board race.

2,634: Number of votes garnered by winner Doug Morrison

64.51: Percent of total vote that represents

1,469: Number of votes secured by incumbent Debbie Hoffman

35.49: Percent of total vote that represents

4.2: Percent of registered Sioux Falls School District voters who participated in Tuesday's election.

3.5: Percent of voters who participated in the May 2009 school board election, the most recent citywide election in which the only contested race was for seats on the school board.

New voting technology draws praise

By Steve Young
syoung@spokane.com

A new day in elections, featuring electronic poll books and voting centers instead of precincts, drew praises Tuesday from state and local officials.

"In one word, I would characterize it as 'excellent,'" Secretary of State Jason Gant said. "It was just what we expected it to be."

The Sioux Falls School Board race between incumbent Debbie Hoffman and Doug Morrison was South Dakota's first attempt to use the poll books and voting centers.

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APPENDIX D Newspaper Reports

Morrison

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who both cared about the school district."

Hoffman said she was disappointed in the low voter turnout.

"The school district is the most important thing that happens in our community, and we had a 4.2 percent turnout," she said. "I don't think that's a reflection on anyone but our community."

Secretary of State Jason Gant said Tuesday's voter participation was an improvement over the last school board election, which drew 3.5 percent.

He said the jump might have been because the public wanted to try the new electronic polling voting, which was used Tuesday.

"Today was a resounding success in piloting how ePollbooks can work in South Dakota, and I believe this is what we will use to build upon," Gant said.

Deb Mierzbauer with the Sioux Falls Education Association said a low turnout for school board elections isn't unusual.

"I would hope the community would take a strong interest, since we have an incumbent and former board member running," she said. "I think that the biggest piece is that it's a school board election by itself, with no other election alongside."

Mierzbauer said she is

YANKTON OPT-OUT FAILS

Yankton School District residents voted Tuesday not to accept a school board decision to opt out of the property tax freeze by \$4.1 million a year.

The board's decision in March to raise the rate was reversed to a vote through a petition drive. The vote failed 66 percent to 34 percent.

surprised that with state budget cuts and other difficult circumstances for schools, "the public isn't taking an interest in who is making decisions for our district."

Tuesday marked South Dakota's first attempt at electronic pollbooks and voting centers, which allow school district residents to vote at any of 10 schools throughout the district, no matter where in the city they live.

Gant said feedback from the new electronic polling system has been positive overall.

Pat Baxter, Lincoln High School precinct superintendent, said a steady stream of voters kept workers busy throughout the morning and afternoon.

He said the new system has been a benefit.

"It's really sped up the whole process," Baxter said.



Tyler Haahr casts his vote for school board as a line of voters forms Tuesday at the first time electronic poll books and voting centers were used in South Dakota.

Voting: 'I expect glitches, but it went well'

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Instead of sending voters to 39 precincts in their respective neighborhoods, the school district used 10 schools as voting centers, allowing residents to cast their ballots at any of the 10, no matter where they lived in the city.

And the electronic poll books replaced large paper volumes of voters' names, allowing election officials to scan a driver's license to more quickly verify people's eligibility to vote.

Bev Chase, election manager for the school district, is predicting a big savings. Typically she has to hire 262 poll workers for the 39 precincts, at a cost of a little more than \$100 per worker. This year she hired 74. That's a savings of almost \$20,000.

"And I'm not printing those big books with voters' names," Chase said.

before we required a driver's license number on a voter registration card."

By typing in a person's name, poll workers still could access voter registration information quickly, Gant said.

Chase said she had visited every voting center by mid-afternoon Tuesday, "and every worker said, 'We don't want to go back to paper.'"

That seemed true at Whitaker Middle School, where election superintendent Alyssa Chase said she heard no complaints and handled few issues.

"I think it's been going very well," she said. "Sometimes the poll book doesn't pull up anything when you scan the license, but it's just as easy to type in a name and find them that way."

Ease and convenience sold Joan Rasmussen on the new technology and

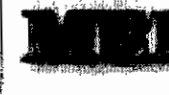
little faster."

She likes the idea of giving choices on vote as well.

"People who are on errands, go by one of these. I just think the make voting easier," Rasmussen said. "It's busy and hectic, so I think this idea."

Gant said that the relatively low turnout - a 4.2 percent - the real value is an extra 100,000 voters who will be able to vote in the new system work.

"We had over 100,000 people participate in the election. That gives us



Voting: 'I expected some glitches, but it went very smooth'

Continued from Page 1A

Instead of sending voters to 59 precincts in their respective neighborhoods, the school district used 10 schools as voting centers, allowing residents to cast their ballots at any of the 10, no matter where they lived in the city.

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Bev Chase, election manager for the school district, is predicting a big savings. Typically she has to hire 262 poll workers for the 59 precincts, at a cost of a little more than \$100 per worker. This year she hired 74. That's a savings of almost \$20,000.

"And I'm not printing those big books with voters' names," Chase said. "There aren't as many sample ballots, so all my printing costs are way down. We're saving on postage. I don't have a hard number yet, but I'm saying the savings are huge."

That's in contrast to the blips in the system, which were minimal. It took some poll workers a little longer to get the gist of running the scanning machines. And Gant said there were occasions when a worker would scan a driver's license and no information came up.

"That was to be expected," he said. "We have people who registered to vote years and years ago,

before we required a driver's license number on a voter registration card."

By typing in a person's name, poll workers still could access voter registration information quickly, Gant said.

Chase said she had visited every voting center by mid-afternoon Tuesday, "and every worker said, 'We don't want to go back to paper.'"

That seemed true at Whittier Middle School, where election superintendent Alyssa Chase said she heard no complaints and handled few issues.

"I think it's been going very well," she said. "Sometimes the poll book doesn't pull up anything when you scan the license, but it's just as easy to type in a name and find them that way."

Ease and convenience sold Joan Rasmussen on the new technology and voting centers as she cast her ballot at Lincoln High School around 5:15 p.m.

"I expected some glitches, but it went very smooth," Rasmussen said. "To me, it seemed a

little faster."

She likes the idea of having choices on where to vote as well.

"People who are working or have errands, and they go by one of these centers, I just think that would make voting easier," Rasmussen said. "People get busy and sometimes forget, so I think this is a great idea."

Gant said that despite the relatively small size of the election - a 4.2 percent turnout - the results have value as an example for other municipal elections. Many voters filled out surveys to grade how well the new system works.

"We had over 4,000 people participate in the system. That gives us a lot of

feedback in our survey," Gant said. "It gives us that basis to where we can start, and we can show the success we had in the Sioux Falls election."

Gant and Chase said there were numerous county auditors and city clerks from other communities in Sioux Falls Tuesday to check out the new system.

"Absolutely, this will take off in other places," said Gant, who said if the necessary legislation is brought and passed in the 2012 legislative session, "we should be able to start this in more and more communities across South Dakota."

South reporter Steve Pappas at 621-2904.

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APPENDIX D
Newspaper Reports

ARGUSLEADER.COM

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OPINION

Thursday, May 26, 2011

ARGUS LEADER EDITORIAL

Bright spots to be found despite poor voter turnout

Use of electronic poll books, voting center structure might hint at greater participation in future elections

A 4.2 percent voter turnout in Tuesday's school board election isn't worth cheering, but at least it's better than the city's previous performance.

In 2009, the school board contest was the only race on the ballot, and 3.55 percent of registered voters turned out then.

The use of 10 voting centers and electronic poll books helped lure more people to the polls this year. And the experiment's success shows that state officials should make way for more cities to use the method.

Sioux Falls School District officials had sought legislative

changes to make voting centers possible this year. Without that approval, the district's only alternative to help boost voter turnout would've been to use superprecincts again.

However, superprecincts confused many voters and haven't shown any real success in improving participation.

Under that format, 57 polling places were reduced to 19 superprecincts. The city's best showing using superprecincts was 2007, which had a 10.19 percent voter turnout.

However, the 2007 election also featured the highly debated

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Drake Springs pool issue, probably accounting for the higher participation.

Based on Tuesday's results,

voting centers appear to make the most sense for municipal elections.

Because of electronic poll books, residents could vote at any of the 10 sites they picked, providing greater flexibility. Plus, the system saved money because of the condensed number of locations.

Though only about 4,000 people voted Tuesday, the turnout was enough to gauge how well voting centers perform. Based on the success, state officials should consider whatever legislation necessary to expand the centers' use statewide.

THE FACTS

Voter turnout at recent school board elections:

• Tuesday: 4.2 percent with two candidates and 10 voting centers

• 2009: 3.55 percent with three candidates and superprecincts

• 2007: 10.19 percent with six candidates, superprecincts and a shared ballot with the city pool referendum

• 2005: 8.16 percent with seven candidates, regular precincts



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JUL 08 2011

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

July 5, 2011

Jason M. Gant
Secretary of State
Suite 204
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Secretary Gant:

Please find enclosed the final report made from the Sioux Falls School District to the Secretary of State and the South Dakota Legislature, in compliance with SDCL 13-7-29. If you have any questions, please call me at 605.367.7909. Thank you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Vik".

Todd Vik, Business Manager
Sioux Falls School District 49-5