

NEWS RELEASE

February 14, 2023 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact Information: Heidi Prestwood-Funkhouser Executive Director Office: (608) 269-4123 E-mail: ceo@bikesparta.com

Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce and High Point Charter Partner Together

Sparta, WI- The Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce is partnering together with the Sparta High Point Charter School for the third year to host a School Board Candidates Forum on Tuesday, March 14th starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Meadowview Auditorium. The forum will be aired live via YouTube and will look a lot like a school board meeting.

The students are working hard to create thought provoking questions and discussion topics. They have assigned a moderator to the group and will be learning how to work the behind-the-scenes aspects of such an event. The students have put out a survey to gather constituents input that can be found on their Facebook page, Sparta High Point Charter School, and has been shared to the chamber's Facebook page as well. The following link or QR code will also get you to the survey.

flowcode.com/p/48Dy9iBwQ?fc=0

The candidates in ballot order Pat McKenna, Amy Lopez, Darrel R. Whitton III, Todd S. Wells, Josh Mathison, and Ashley Berendes have all been invited to this event.

"I think a local election like the school board is so important for the community. One seat can really change its priority, and this forum is a great opportunity for our High Point students to learn from this process in action. This project represents my vision for High Point in that it is meant to offer a service to our community, and our students are learning to be self-led, curious citizens. I am excited for this opportunity for our kids. "states Dr. Wendy Bernett, Principal, Sparta Montessori School, High Point Charter School, Camp Sparta.

Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Heidi Prestwood-Funkhouser says, "I was excited when this idea was first brought to my attention by a constituent and the fact that Dr. Bernett reached out to me to include the High Point students was a no-brainer to accept. The fact that we can turn this into a learning experience as well as a community initiative speaks volumes for what Dr. Bernett is trying to accomplish. I am happy to work with the Sparta Area School District in this way and I look forward to partnering with the district in other facets in the future."



You can access the survey by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera.



Our Mission: "Welcoming Businesses, Unifying the Community, Creating Possibilities"

For more information on the Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce's services, activities, and programs, please visit: http://www.bikesparta.us/ or call (608) 269-4123.