



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

Meet the Six Chapel Hill/Carrboro Board of Education Candidates at an Online Forum Tuesday 9/28/21

Chapel Hill/Carrboro PTA Council, Chapel Hill/Carrboro NAACP, League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties, El Centro Hispano NC, and CHC Association of Educators to host Board of Education Candidate Forum September 28, 2021 at 7pm on Zoom and FaceBook live

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.—The Chapel Hill/Carrboro PTA Council is partnering with Chapel Hill/Carrboro NAACP, League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties, El Centro Hispano NC, and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Association of Educators (CHCAE) to hold and livestream a virtual forum for six Board of Education candidates on September 28 at 7 p.m.

The forum will focus on direct concerns of the Chapel Hill/Carrboro City Schools, with the six candidates answering questions submitted by members of the community, and selected by the sponsor organizations. Aaron Keck, executive director of EmPowerment, Inc., will moderate. EmPowerment focuses on housing and economic development issues in Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and was part of the coalition asking the county commissioners to include affordable housing in the 2016 bond vote, which is focused on funding capital needs for the county and city schools.

“With six candidates and three open school board seats, this is a critical election for the students, families, teachers and staff in our district,” said PTA Council President Cassie Ford. “As the pandemic has highlighted, public schools play a fundamental role in the fabric of our community. Our local school board members make decisions that affect our entire school community every day. We will be asking questions submitted by the community and our organizations. We hope that this forum will let voters know exactly where each candidate stands, and how they will act, if elected.”

“School is ‘back’ and educators want to know who will have the backs of our students, our superintendent, and our public schools over the next four years” said CHCAE President Brian Link. “From Covid and fights over curriculum to continued opportunity gaps and no new county commission funding, the challenges facing the CHCCS have never been greater. Our hope is this forum will help every voter learn each candidate’s vision for overcoming these obstacles to help ensure our school environments remain safe, staffed, solvent, and sane.”

The forum will be held as a Zoom webinar with a simultaneous Spanish translation, and will be live-streamed to FaceBook as well. All links will be posted on <http://chccsptacouncil.blogspot.com/>.

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