



Rebuilding Politics in Dane County from the Grassroots

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Progressive Dane to host School Board Candidate Forum

What: Public Forum featuring all candidates for Madison Board of Education.

When: Sunday February 21, 2010; 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

Where: JC Wright Middle School, 1717 Fish Hatchery Rd. Madison, WI.

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On Sunday, February 21, voters in the Madison Metropolitan School District will have their first opportunity to hear and question the School Board candidates on the ballot in the April 6 election. Unopposed incumbents Beth Moss and Maya Cole will begin with short statements on their service and why they are seeking re-election. Next the candidates for Seat 4, James Howard and Tom Farley, will answer questions from Progressive Dane and the audience. Madison District 12 Alder and member of the Board of Education – Common Council Liaison Committee Satya Rhodes-Conway will serve as the moderator.

Progressive Dane is hosting this event as a public service to increase awareness of this important election. "The seven people on the School Board are responsible for the education of about 24,000 students and an annual budget of roughly \$400 million." explained Progressive Dane Co-Chair and Education Task Force Chair Thomas J. Mertz. "We want people to know what is going on, choose their candidate wisely and get involved.

Candidates Tom Farley and James Howard welcome this opportunity to communicate with the voters.

Farley expects a substantive discussion; he is "looking forward to participating in the Progressive Dane forum. It will certainly be our most in-depth public discussion of the issues – and most likely the liveliest and most enjoyable one too."

Howard expressed his appreciation for "this opportunity to talk to the voters about my record of service with public schools and my unique perspective that I will add to the Board of Education" and is also ready to discuss "how to maintain and strengthen Madison schools."

Incumbents Cole and Moss are also pleased to take part. Cole said she is "happy to have this opportunity to meet with members of our community to discuss the work of the Board, to listen to their concerns and to share the opportunities we are embracing to make our district better for all children. Moss also appreciates the chance to share her thoughts on "the good work that is going on in the schools and some of the challenges we face."

Progressive Dane is a progressive political party in Dane County, Wisconsin. Progressive Dane is working to make Dane County a better place for everyone (no exceptions!). Progressive Dane helps community members organize around issues that are important to them and also works on the grassroots level to elect progressive political candidates.

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