

UPDATED MEDIA ADVISORY

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION Virtual Forum Launches May 8

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An unprecedented opportunity for all Montgomery County residents to hear directly from School Board candidates from the safety of their homes will be available on May 8 through primary election day, June 2. The Montgomery County Federation of Republican Women (MCFRW) is pleased to provide this School Board Candidates Virtual Forum as a public service to voters and candidates.

Casey Aiken, moderator for MCMedia's "21 This Week," will introduce the forum which consists of each candidate responding to the same questions in a self-produced video provided by the candidate to MCFRW. They address a variety of issues including how to provide a quality educational opportunity for all students in the county, and how to tackle the expected budget shortfall.

To view the candidates' videos, go to the MCFRW Facebook page, MCFRW.org, or other local locations to be announced.

All Montgomery County active voters, regardless of party registration or home location, will receive a ballot in the mail listing candidates for the Board of Education, a non-partisan race. Voters will be asked to vote for one candidate for at-large and one for District 4. The top two winners for each position will move forward to compete in the General Election in November. Because there are only two candidates in the District 2 race, Michael Fryar and Rebecca Smondrowski will automatically move to the General Election.

All school board candidates were invited to participate. The 15 participants in the Virtual Forum are:

At Large Candidates: Mitra Ahadpour, Stephen Austin, Anil Chaudhry, Sunil Dasgupta, Paul Geller, Jay Guan, Lynne Harris, Dalbin Osorio, Darwin Romero, Pavil Sukhobok, Lumpoange Thomas.

District 2 Candidates: Michael Fryar, Rebeca Smondrowski **District 4 Candidates**: Shebra Evans, Steve Solomon

Also available to the public to learn about candidates for all races on the primary ballot is the League of Women Voters' online voters guide which is available at vote411.org.

MCFRW represents four Montgomery County Republican women's clubs with some 400 members, including many mothers and grandmothers of students attending MCPS. To learn

more about MCFRW and its mission and activities go to MCFRW.org and the MCFRW Facebook page.