

# HIGH POINT ACADEMY

## 2021 Board Applicant

**Genna-Jo Parker**

**Email:** gogparker@hotmail.com

**Resident:** Boiling Springs

**Occupation:** Office Manager

**Education:** Some College



### **1. Please describe any non-profit Board experience that you have.**

3 years served on the Junior League of Spartanburg Board of Directors in the Treasurer Elect, Treasurer and Executive Vice President positions. 2.5 years served on High Point Academy's Board of Directors.

### **2. Why do you want to serve on the High Point Academy Board of Directors, and how will you help advance the mission of the school?**

I want to serve on the HPA Board because I want our school to thrive in the community and be the best it can be. This includes the school environment, faculty and staff, academics, athletics, community involvement, and much more. I believe I can contribute to this because I have a strong background in leadership and experience working on large and small projects through my work and my volunteer commitments . I've contributed to plans and initiatives that needed to be achieved in a matter of months and ones that have 3-5-year goals. The school's principles of honor, integrity and service are foundational principles of my own Christian faith. I believe the school and every individual associated with it has an opportunity to teach our students more than what can be taught from a textbook. Honor, integrity and service will carry on with students long after they have graduated from HPA.

### **3. Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of the Board.**

I have been employed at my job for 15 years and proven my commitment to the company and their products/services. Throughout my employment I have held many different roles, separately and simultaneously, each with their own responsibilities. Through this I have learned new skills and developed into a well-rounded individual who can navigate a multitude of situations. As a community volunteer I have had the privilege of working with many organizations throughout our community to plan fundraising, service, and instructional projects. I have held leadership roles in which I was responsible for a budget, managing a team of community leaders, and reporting on our progress. I know how to work together for the betterment of the whole over the individual.

**4. What do you see as the differences between the responsibilities of a Board member and the responsibilities of the school's administration?**

I believe the core difference is that the board serves as the governing body and the administration is the management team. The board should strategically look at the big picture and evaluate, direct and monitor the successes and failures of the school. The administration is the hands and feet on the ground doing the active work during the day to day activities. The two should be in frequent communication so expectations from both parties are clear. The board should be available and listen to the school administration for ways to improve the school and support in any way that adheres to the mission and values of the school.

**5. What do you consider to be the most important issue for the school and the Board to focus on in the upcoming years?**

I believe the most important issue is to ensure we are providing a creditable education to our students. I believe the starting point is with the teachers. The board and administration should support and equip them so they can provide a fun and enjoyable learning environment. I believe the teachers have the most potential to be the difference makers in our students' lives. When teachers feel like they matter and their voices are heard, that is when their best will come through.