

## Let our colors fly



### New welcome banners will enhance Alumni Boulevard

Spartan Pride is literally in the air.

You'll really see it — and really feel it — when the Sanford Schools Legacy Foundation flies the new banners at Sanford High School, and you have a chance to help them launch.

“The banners will add a real sense of pride, and add to the WOW factor we strive for when you drive into campus — either way you come in,” said Superintendent of Schools Matt Nelson. “Our campus is a real shining star for Sanford, and the banners will enhance it.”

Before Sanford High School's graduation on Wednesday, June 7, new 3x5-foot banners will flag the existing poles on Alumni Boulevard. As a welcoming gesture, there will be eight banners, four at both entrances, flying the colors for Sanford High School, Sanford Regional Technical Center, Sanford Performing Arts Center and the Sanford High School Athletic Complex.

“We have a beautiful high school campus,” said Sanford City Councilor Ayn Hanselmann, “and I believe the addition of these banners will increase the sense of community, pride and also our Spartan Spirit for our students, families, alumni and community as a whole.”

Hanselmann, also the co-owner of Troiano and Hanselmann in Sanford, brought the idea to the Legacy Foundation after visiting Noble High School in Berwick for her daughter's lacrosse game. “I



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knew I was in Noble Knights territory!” said Hanselmann. “They immediately give you a sense of community and school pride.”

The new campus opened in 2018, and the banners offer another way to welcome in the community and beyond when hosting professional presentations, academic events, athletic competitions, arts performances and more.

“I'm so incredibly proud for Sanford and the impact it will have on students, staff and our community,” said Nelson. “(When considering a new idea) we always start with what's best for our students, and then what's best for our staff and community; and for everybody, I think it really adds a sense of pride — pride in our facilities

and resources that translates to our students in a meaningful way.”

These new banners enhance the campus for everyone, said Nelson, “for the students we're sending off into the world as well as those who may be visiting our community.”

#### Class Challenge

The welcome banner project is the first phase of a two-part plan. The second phase will be lining the parking lots with class banners, promoting the “Class of 1996,” for example. That's a nod to the Legacy's Brett Williams' own class at SHS, because he's throwing out the challenge to all other alumni. For \$1,250, classes are invited to pitch in and hoist their own banner. Classes will get to choose their pole location on a first-come first-serve basis, and until all 42 poles are decorated, there is no limit to the number of banners a class may purchase.

“Our goal is to liven up the campus and engage our alumni to show their Spartan pride,” said Williams, a member of the Legacy Foundation and also director of the Sanford Performing Arts Center. “It's just one way alumni can really feel a connection to our community.”

These banners, produced by Village Sign & Design, is another opportunity for the Sanford community to show their support of the Sanford Spartans and the pride they have in our students and schools.