



MELISSA AGARD  
STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Senator Agard Hosts Senate Scholar from Madison East High School**

MADISON – Yesterday, Senator Melissa Agard hosted Charlie Johnson of Madison East High School for the 2023 Senate Scholar Program. High school juniors and seniors from around the State of Wisconsin participated in a week-long, intensive program at the State Capitol in the months of January, February and March.

“Our state is stronger when young people are engaged with and a part of the democratic process. I cannot overstate the importance of youth voice at all levels of government. They are the next generation of change makers.

“It was my pleasure to sit down with Charlie to learn more about his aspirations for the future and answer his questions about my position as an elected official and my pathway to the State Senate. Charlie will further his education at UW-Madison next fall, and I know that his future is bright. I am confident that he will continue to be an engine for positive change in our society.”

The Senate Scholar Program’s rigorous curriculum is two-fold. First the students are introduced to many facets of the legislative process. They meet with legislative support agencies, legislative staff, the Governor’s staff, a Supreme Court Justice, the media, lobbyists and University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty members. The students then put their knowledge into action. When the Senate is on the floor, Scholars staff the session under the direction of the Senate Sergeant at Arms’ office. The week’s events culminate in a Senate Scholar committee hearing on a bill that the students have drafted.

In addition to the Senate Scholar Program, the State Senate also offers opportunities for student to participate in the *Page for a Day Program* or the *KIDS at the Capitol* program.

For more information about any of these programs, please contact Senator Agard at 608-266-9170 or [Sen.Agard@legis.wi.gov](mailto:Sen.Agard@legis.wi.gov).

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