

Summer 2022

the Buzz



Highlights from
SCSDB Hornet's Nest

McAlister Scholarship goes to Ty Stevenson

Tyrelle "Ty" Stevenson is the 2022 recipient of the McAlister Foundation Scholarship that provides funding for either a two-year or four-year college program at any SC state college.

The McAlister Scholarship covers college costs, which may include tuition, fees, and dormitory room and board. The scholarship is sponsored annually by the McAlister Foundation for students who are deaf or hard of hearing and who have been served by SCSDB. This scholarship was created in memory of a McAlister family member who graduated from the SC School for the Deaf.

To qualify, students must also be a resident of South Carolina; successfully complete their high school program; demonstrate a need for financial assistance in order to attend college;

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In CSA's therapy pool are Physical Therapist Tracy Iradi and student Halleigh-Catherine McKinney.

Distributed to the parents of students currently enrolled at SCSDB, parents of students receiving outreach services, and the SCSDB Board of Commissioners

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and each school for photographs.




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 South Carolina School
for the Deaf and the Blind



Kiwanis of Spartanburg Terrific Kids of the Year - left to right: School for the Deaf - Knightlyn Greene; CSA - Jaka'i Coakley; School for the Blind - Emily Hernandez

On our way to a (new) normal

Dear friends,

What a journey this has been! As we continue to maintain low COVID numbers, it has been wonderful to see the students enjoying outside activities, athletic events, and prom. Graduation is a particularly special time on campus, and we hope that this will be the last year of separate graduation ceremonies for our campus schools. I am so proud of the resilience our seniors have demonstrated over the past couple of years and am excited to share a little bit of each of them in our senior highlights for each school.

This spring, SCSDB completed our reaccreditation review through Cognia. This comprehensive review, held every five years, ensures school systems are engaged in quality educational practices and consistent improvement. SCSDB received very favorable results from the review team. Cognia rates school systems on 31 performance standards. The possible ratings are Impacting (highest), Improving, Initiating, and Insufficient (lowest). All 31 performance standards at SCSDB were rated as either Impacting or Improving, with no standards falling in the Initiating or Insufficient range. SCSDB received multiple commendations, with the review team concluding that "high expectation came across so clearly and impressed us so much." What a testament to our work and the efforts of each staff member!

SCSDB just completed our strategic renewal plan, as well. Based on data collected over time and input from the Cognia review, we identified four goals to address during this five-year strategic plan cycle:

- **Student Achievement:** By May 2027, 90% of students in kindergarten through 5th grade receiving instruction from the SCSDB Reading Interventionist will demonstrate growth related to reading fluency as measured by the Fountas & Pinnell Reading Benchmark Assessment.
- **Teacher/Administrator Quality:** By May 2027, 100% of certified teachers at the School for the Deaf, the School for the Blind, and Cedar Springs Academy will demonstrate active monthly usage of the Learning Object Repository (LOR), the shared online curricular content database utilized by SCSDB, as measured by LOR usage reports.
- **School Climate:** By May 2027, SCSDB will fully develop and implement a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program, with ongoing trainings each year facilitated through Professional Learning Communities (PLC), with 100% participation for certified staff.
- **Agency Priority:** By May 2027, certified staff will demonstrate increased proficiency with targeted assistive technologies as measured by pre- and post-survey data.

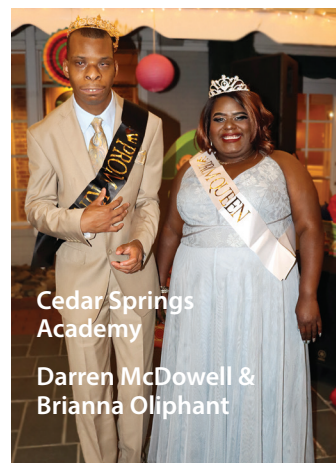
Data analysis and reflection are wonderful tools to help us identify our strengths and challenges. As we seek continuous growth and improvement, I share with you the words I shared with our graduates: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." (Anne Frank)

Thank you for sharing your students with us on our journey to improve the world!

With gratitude,

Glenn

Prom Kings and Queens



Summer Spark to boost academic skills

SCSDB will welcome current students Monday, July 11 -- Friday, July 15 for Summer Spark, a camp focused on boosting core academic skills in English language arts and mathematics.

SCSDB is excited to host students once again this summer to participate in a fun-filled week of learning activities, including games, technology use, and outdoor recreation. Summer Spark is a unique camp customized for students with sensory differences. The aim is to decrease skill regression over the summer months while expanding opportunities for academic growth.

Transportation will be provided, with both day and residential options offered.



SCSDB graduates in college ... continued from front page

and finally, they must be capable of completing the work within the college program they have chosen.

Ty will attend Spartanburg Methodist College (SMC) in the autumn after a successful high school tenure at SCSDB where he served as student council president and participated in the Junior National Association for the Deaf. Ty represented SCSDB as a member of multiple athletic teams, including football, basketball, and track.

Tyrelle is described by staff members as resilient and determined. He is known to be respectful and kind, with a positive approach to both academic work and friendships. SCSDB is proud of Tyrelle's many accomplishments over the past 10 years he has been a student on campus, and we wish him continued success next fall at SMC!



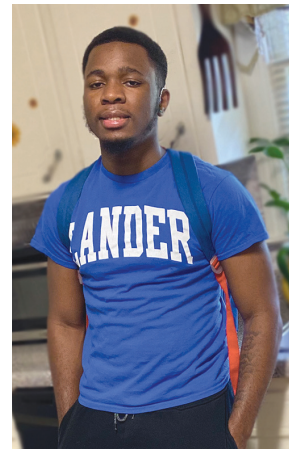
Student appreciates scholarship assistance with tuition, board

Cole Haywood, SCSDB Class of 2021, is immensely grateful for the McAlister Scholarship that has helped with his tuition and board at Lander University this past academic year.

He said he is really enjoying college life at Lander. Cole has navigated new life experiences, made new friends, and learned a lot of life skills.

Cole said he had to learn how to be independent and how to be more responsible for himself in dorm life. For his second year, he is planning to move off campus and into an apartment.

Cole wants to become a physical education teacher or a fitness trainer. His goal for his second year at Lander is to continue working hard and earn good grades.



His favorite course, thus far, has been weight training class because he is learning important skills such as how to be safe when he is weight training and how to work out using specific muscles and how those different muscles function. He also is striving to be on Lander's basketball team. Meanwhile, Cole enjoys playing basketball with his new friends.

In the essay he wrote to apply for the McAlister Scholarship, Cole shared the losses he understood but felt due to the impacts of Covid-19 on his senior year. Being safely more socially active, having better communication within the Deaf community, and being able to participate in sports again was very important to him.

The McAlister Scholarship is sponsored annually by the McAlister Foundation for students who are deaf or hard of hearing and who have been served by SCSDB. This scholarship was created in memory of a McAlister family member who graduated from the SC School for the Deaf.

Residential Life

Contributed by
Residential Life staff

Recreation, crafts, celebrations fill spring semester with fun

Students and staff members were able to get out and enjoy the beautiful spring weather while riding different types of bicycles.

Students were chosen by their associate directors for their exemplary behavior and awarded with signed **Certificates of Achievement**. A celebration for February, March, and April's chosen students included pizza and dessert provided by the SCSDB Foundation.

Tazmin Hill won 1st place in this year's SCSDB Scouts **Derby Car Races**! All of our Scouts worked hard at creating their car's design and hand painting all of their desired details. Once complete, they were able to join a live Zoom feed to watch their individual cars compete against each other in a series of races until a final winner reigned victorious!

Congratulations to our other winners, also: Sierra DeVaughan – 2nd place, Mya Cornelius – 3rd place, and Cameron Stitt – Best Car Design. All of our Scouts had a blast participating and are eagerly looking forward to next year's race.

The girls who resided in Henderson Hall enjoyed working outside in the warm breezes to **create tie-dye shirts** to wear during Dorm Wars in May.

Students enjoyed an outdoor cookout of **hotdogs with all the fixings** and cake with strawberries and whipped cream.

Left to right: Destinee Hall and Ca'mayra Boulware ride a side-by-side Team Dual Trike or Tandem Tricycle. They have to work together to have a successful ride. One or both can steer, and both can peddle.

Two of Residential Life's Students of the Month are (left to right) Lonna Pelton and Didier Lorenzo.

Derby Car Race winners - clockwise: Tazmin Hill, Cameron Stitt, Sierra DeVaughan, and Mya Cornelius

Students and staff create tie-dye shirts to wear during Dorm Wars.



AAC Applied Academic Center

Contributed by Taylor Carvajal, Galena Gaw, Lori Seymour, and Cherie Winkler

Elizabeth Cottington sells plants to SCSDB staff member Mickey Grice while teacher Taylor Carvajal supervises.

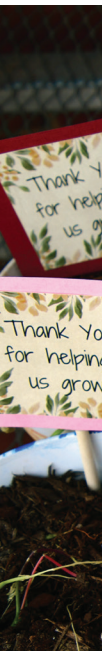


Students grow a business

Taylor Carvajal's employability classes in the Applied Academic Center (AAC) began a school-based enterprise: **AAC Greenhouse**. The students have been growing a variety of flowers and vegetables from seeds.

In the process and planning for a future sale, they wanted to have a variety of pots for people to buy along with their plants. This began a discussion of how pots are made and what materials are used. Students each made a pinch pot with clay. Then, to give students a hands-on learning experience, Lori Seymour brought in her potter's wheel for a demonstration. Next, students were able to work one-on-one with Lori to throw a pot.

These pots, as well as others decorated by hydro dipping, were available at the AAC Greenhouse plant sale on May 19.



Buckle up, get ready for the ride!

High school students in the School for the Deaf put Newton's Laws of Motion into action by building roller coasters in the library and taking them for test rides.

They measured, cut, folded, taped, and tested their constructions with marbles. When their "coasters" did not make the loop or got stuck in a bend, they put their problem-solving skills to work. They learned that there are a lot of ups and downs in roller coaster building. Whee!



I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!

During the last week of library classes, students read a book and made vanilla ice cream, shaking the bags of mixture with eager anticipation of the delight they could eat!

Before the ice cream production, Galena Gaw and students read the book, "Gorilla Loves Vanilla," by Chae Strathie. Galena is the director of library services. "Apparently, gorillas and students love vanilla ice cream," she exclaimed!



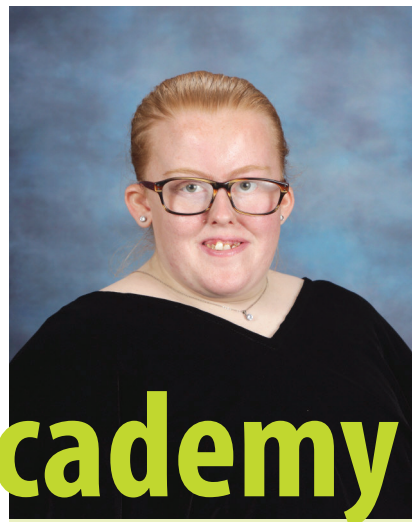
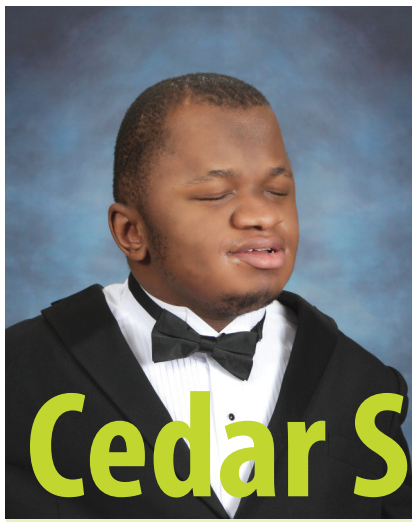
End of the year tradition

Yearbooks were distributed on May 17, and students were able to gather in the AAC courtyard that afternoon to sign each other's books.

Top to bottom: Sylvia Waters puts finishing touches on her roller coaster. Melanie Gomez enjoys her homemade ice cream. Signing yearbooks are (left to right) Azaria Chalk, Lor'reyel McClinton, and Logan Hollar.



Left to right: Tai Allen learns how to place his hands to shape the clay from AAC teacher Lori Seymour. Juan Carlos Caudillo puts seedlings into larger pots for further growth. A sample of the pots and messages that were given to teachers on Teacher Appreciation Day. Wyatt Harvell assists AAC teacher Tony Lee in planting a flower.



Cedar Springs Academy

Hello, my name is **Michi Albany**. I live in Lyman with my family. I have attended Cedar Springs Academy since 2007. I have made many friends during my time at CSA. Some of my fond memories are swinging outside and going to music class. My favorite person is Joey Brown. He always makes me laugh. I look forward to spending more quality time with my family after graduation.

I am **Chelsea Best**. I live in Manning. My parents are Ms. Patricia Flood and Mr. William Best. I have a sister, Kaitlyn, and a dog named Brian. After leaving Cedar Springs Academy, I want to work in my community. I try to be fun-loving, caring, and helpful to others. I enjoy learning new things and talking to my friends and teachers. When I'm at home, my favorite thing to do is visit my grandmother and aunt because they make me happy.

My name is **Jaclyn Breakfield**. I live in Spartanburg. I have attended SCSDb for 19 years. I started at SCSDb at the School for the Deaf at the age of 3. I transferred to Cedar Springs Academy in 2008. My fondest memory at SCSDb/CSA is April 2019 when our class business, "Wicks and Suds," traveled to Myrtle Beach for the night. We visited Ripley's Aquarium, shopped at the mall, and ate at Hard Rock Café. My favorite staff person is Jane Enabore. She works in my classroom and helps me learn and understand through sign language. My plan for the future is to be employed in retail. I enjoy helping people, setting up displays, and stocking shelves. My long-term goal is to visit the beach in Charleston and swim in the ocean.

My name is **Jasmine Gamble**. I live in Ruffin. I am a creative and fun-loving person who enjoys my independence in the classroom and school environment. I've done my best to become a respectful adult during my years at Cedar Springs Academy. I'm reliable and attentive to my admired peers and teachers. I love laughing and drawing and coloring pictures. I enjoy



doing simple laundry and housekeeping tasks. I'm looking forward to spending time at home with my mother, Ms. Della Gamble, and plan to help her with routine chores. My best school memory is art, and I will miss my art teacher, Ms. Laura (Eila).

My name is **Antonio Craig Hanton**. I live with my family in Orangeburg. I have attended SCSDb for 14 years. I started at Cedar Springs Academy in 2008 at the age of 7. My fondest memory



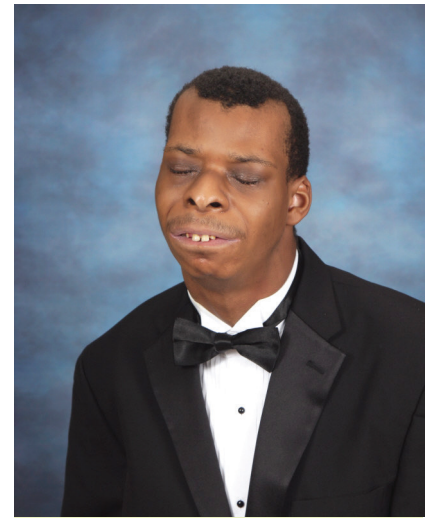
at SCSDb/CSA is when the school took a field trip to Happy Cow Farms. My favorite staff person is Joey Brown. He always makes me laugh and asks me how my day is. My plan for the future is to work in a home improvement store in the plant section. My long-term goal is to attend a professional basketball game.



My name is **Katrina Hensley**. I live in Spartanburg. I'm the proud daughter of Angela and Ken Hensley. Ever since I was a little girl, I've always been fascinated with space. If you want to know about different galaxies, missions, and astronomy news; just ask me! My favorite dessert is banana pudding, and I love laughing at silly jokes. I like dining out, taking trips, and relaxing with my family. I enjoy working hard to learn and also sharing information with others. My favorite subject is math, and I love talking with my friends and teachers. I hope I will always be remembered at Cedar Springs Academy for my good manners and being helpful to others.



I am **William McDonald**. I enjoy spending time with my parents and my three sisters. I especially enjoy spending time with my favorite person: my cousin, Keleigh, because she is funny and enjoys watching TV. I raise chickens and listen to music. I hope my teachers will always remember my love for BBQ chicken, Brad Preston, and funny jokes. My fondest memories at Cedar Springs Academy, SCSDb, will always be cleaning the school buses.



My name is Darren McDowell, and I am from Sumter. I have attended Cedar Springs Academy since 2005. Some of my favorite memories are of participating in the Special Olympics and the activities of Field Day. I also have enjoyed growing plants with my class. My favorite staff person is Nurse Sue McElroy. She always makes me feel better when I don't feel well. I will miss all the wonderful friends I have made over the years.

My name is **Brianna Alola Oliphant**. I live with my family in Edgefield. I have attended SCSDb for nine years. I started at Cedar Springs Academy in 2013 at the age of 12. My fondest memory at SCSDb/CSA is April 2017 when our class business, "Wicks and Suds," traveled to the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston for the day. My favorite staff person is Bridget



Sitarski, my teacher. She has taught me how to be independent and to enjoy reading. My plan for the future is to work in the personal care industry assisting people with choosing the correct makeup. I also want to assist with cleaning, sorting, setting up makeup displays, and putting stock away. My long-term goal is to have my birthday parties at the beach, because it is my favorite place to relax.

I am **Faith Ollison**. I live in Greenville. I come from a large family who loves dancing, cooking, and loving; and I try to share my love with everyone. I really appreciate the love and discipline that my



mother, Ms. Alicia Thomas, has shown me. I try to be sincere, helpful, and accepting of others. I enjoy being a good leader, housekeeping, and taking care of myself. I will miss seeing my teachers, riding the school bus, and learning with my friends. I hope to come back to Cedar Springs Academy to visit!

School for the Blind

2022 Graduates



My name is **Damien Custer**, and I am from Spartanburg. I have attended SCSB for 16 years and started when I was in Kindergarten. My favorite memory is when I was a young student here. I had a lot of friends and a lot of support. My favorite staff member at SCSB was Mr. Preston Lewis. Mr. Lewis always listened to my problems and helped me out when he could.

After leaving high school, I would like to get my GED and find a mechanic shop to work at. I enjoy working on small engines. My long-term goal is



My name is **Khyron Darville**. I'm from Graniteville, and I've been attending SCSB for four years. I participated in football, goalball, basketball, track, Do Good Feel Good Club, Leo Club, Book Club, and have been vice president of the student council. My fondest memory is standing on the sidelines with my teammates on the football field. I've always wanted to play football and here was my first opportunity, so I took it!

Mr. Preston Lewis was my favorite staff person. He was really easy to talk to and always listened when he was needed. He was fun to joke with and talk to.

When I leave SCSB, I plan to attend the University of South Carolina, Columbia for four years and study marine science. I plan to become a marine biologist or aquarist.

My favorite thing to remember is that not everything will go as planned so be prepared to make changes. I had made different plans for college, but now I am going to USC. Always have a Plan B.



My name is **Aryeona Freeman**, and I am from Walterboro. I have attended SCSB for nine years. I have enjoyed participating in Leo Club, National Federation of the Blind, Do Good Feel Good Club, 4-H Club, Braille Club, and goalball.

I have enjoyed connecting with the staff here. They have an open-door policy with the students. One memory that stands out is the baby egg project with Ms. Angela Collier. It shows you how challenging it is being a parent, and that's not even the half of it. We had to carry it around, get babysitters, and do everything like a parent would. Mr. Chuck Burgess and Ms. (Angela) Collier have always been there for me. I know I can speak with Mr. Burgess about anything. Ms. Collier has helped me through my ups and downs and has said she has really seen me mature in life. I enjoy our connection.

I plan to seek employment at Goodwill and would like to move up into a management position. I believe that God puts the strongest people for it.



My name is **Pherrow Grant**, and I am from Chester. I have been at the School for the Blind for two years and a half now. I have been a member of student council and played basketball and football. The senior trip was a great memory. We got to explore different types of animals and experience new things in the world.

Mrs. Jennifer Guy gave me courage to keep going when I didn't believe in myself.

I would like to take a break from school for two years, then go to trade school in 2024. I would like to learn to be a therapist/psychologist. I live my life a quarter mile at a time. Nothing else . . . for those ten seconds or less, I'm free.



My name is **Elijah Gregory**. I'm from Union. I have attended SCSB for 14 years starting when I was three years old. I have participated in goalball, Do Good Feel Good Club, Leo Club where I was treasurer, chorus, and I am currently the president of student council.

I enjoyed walking to the creek during science class with Mr. Preston Lewis. We looked at plants that were near it, jumped over the creek, and just talked. It was nice. Mr. Lewis was always easy to talk to. Every time we were learning something in class, he found a way to make it different. He felt like an uncle – that family member you don't get to see too much but can always talk to.

After high school, I plan to attend the University of South Carolina, Union where I will study computer science. I would like to work in a career as a video game designer. I think life is what happens while you're planning for the future. This is the exact reason I plan nothing and why I like jazz.



My name is **Jamier Hurst**, and I live in North Myrtle Beach. I have attended SCSB for the last two and a half years. I have been involved in the track team, football, and goalball. I enjoyed getting my CPR certification because this will help me in my career.

Mr. Preston Lewis was the first person that had faith in me to meet my career goals. He has encouraged me.

When I graduate from high school, I plan to take a mental break for about a week. This summer, I will spend time with my friends and will likely attend summer teen camp to develop my skill set. Then, I plan to work at a comic book store. I want jobs that I'm going to enjoy. I will spend my pay on acting classes and modeling. I will go to Amateur Night as a comedian. I plan to live independently with a friend. I am also interested in working as a physical trainer.



My name is **Azure Wilson**. I live in Gaffney. I have been going to SCSB since the seventh grade. I have enjoyed participating in the track team, Do Good Feel Good Club, and chorus. One of my fondest memories is meeting all of my friends over the years. One of my favorite staff members is Angela Collier. She has made me the person that I am today.

My future plans are to attend Spartanburg Community College for my first two years then transfer to Converse for the last two years. My future career goal is to become an ASL teacher and come back and work at SCSD.

My funny note is, "Keep calm and Don't Sting Anybody!" Go HORNETS!

School for the Deaf

2022 Graduates



My name is **Faith Glover**, and I am from Orangeburg. I came to summer camp at SCSDb July 2010, and I started first grade here in August of that year. My favorite teacher is Angela Collier because she's sweet. I love taking her class in Child Development and Foods and Nutrition classes. I talk to her a lot because I trust her.

I was accepted to Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. After two years there, I will transfer to Howard University or USC in Columbia. I want to become an actor. I love to make my friends, staff, and family laugh at my jokes. I can reach my goal by staying in school, working really hard in school, and prioritizing things.



My name is **Sylvia Walters**. My hometown is Dillon. I have been a student at the SC School for the Deaf since 2016. I have many happy memories of my seven years here. I love SCSDb. I will miss the School for the Deaf and all the learning I did here. My favorite teacher is Lesley Aycok because she is nice and supports me.

My future plans are to get a job taking care of children. In school, I participated in cheerleading, track, and yearbook. I am a good person who is nice, cute, shy, funny, and helpful.



My name is **Tyrelle Stevenson**. I live in Spartanburg. I joined the SC School for the Deaf in 2012. When I was a kid, I enjoyed chatting with my friends Cole and Ford. My favorite staff is Christy Kincheloe, my elementary teacher, who is good at teaching English. My other favorite staff is Cathi Holst, because she is a good ASL teacher.

I have plans for the future. I will go to Spartanburg Methodist College for graphic design. I am humble, like relaxing, and being calm. I was involved in student council and Robotics Club. My favorite quote is, "God said you can do it, and you will make it someday!"



Contributed by Jessica Gribble and Cherie Winkler

When all human body systems are not “Go!”

No high school student in Essentials of Science I class, School for the Deaf, would believe their teacher when she told them that our human body is one complicated machine.

Jessica Gribble asked her students, “What happens when one part of a machine breaks?” One student replied, “The machine won’t work.” Jessica said to herself, “Bingo! Exactly how I wanted them to think.”

Students spent weeks studying body systems and different organs. Before introducing each body system, Jessica asked them, “Why does it matter?”

Through educational videos, visual aids, many hands-on projects, and deep discussions in ASL to build awareness, they gained a better understanding of how all of our body systems have specific functions. Students eventually grasped that the systems and organs cannot function independently, so instead, systems work together.

Whether it is to watch or read news about nutrition, medications, medical devices, or procedures, or to understand genetic or infectious diseases at doctor visits, Jessica’s students now feel grateful to be more familiar with their body. They can make wise choices to keep themselves healthy, growing, and strong!



School for the Deaf teacher Jessica Gribble and student Dacorian Horton

Pieing their principal on 3.14 makes ratio memorable

Cherie Winkler, School for the Deaf interim principal and principal of the Applied Academic Center, willingly received pie in her face to encourage students to use their math skills.

Eating all types of pie has become part of the pop culture phenomenon associated with the day the U.S Congress declared a national holiday in 2009: National Pi Day, March 14. Pi, also known by the Greek letter “ π ,” is a constant value used in math that represents the ratio of a circumference of a circle to its diameter, which is just about 3.14.

Dedra Kiser, high school mathematics teacher in the School for the Deaf, split students into six teams that were given a pie name and wore team shirts representing the color of that pie. Teams completed six activities.

When the activities were completed, students were given pies to snack on while scores were tallied. The students on the winning team then had to hula hoop to determine who pied the principal, teachers, and staff, and in what order. Teams were given six items, and the students chose three to find the circumference, diameter, radius, and area of the chosen item. The most accurate answers won the activity.

When the activities were completed, students were given pies to snack on while scores were tallied. The students on the winning team then had to hula hoop to determine who pied the principal, teachers, and staff, and in what order.

Left to right: Ty Stevenson and his team’s winning Pringles circle. Victoria Claire Raleigh “pies” Cherie Winkler. Cherie gives a thumbs up!



Artist creates award-winning bird

Dacorion Horton, 11th grader in the School for the Deaf, won the first “President’s Choice Award” in the Chapman Cultural Center’s (CCC), Spartanburg, Youth Art Month exhibit.



Fine Arts

Contributed by Josh Padgett and Chris Turner

Congratulations to **Josh Padgett** for earning his Doctorate of Professional Leadership from Converse University on May 21. Josh is our Director of Fine Arts.

Institutes teach state’s art teachers

Fifty teachers from across the state attended the Arts in Basic Curriculum Project and the SC Department of Education’s Arts Institutes June 12-17 on the SCSDB campus in Spartanburg.



School for the Blind student Elijah Gregory, with Fine Arts Director Josh Padgett, was named Overall Fine Arts Student of the Year.



Teachers involved in an arts integration exercise using graphing and stage direction.

Charleston gains ASL sculpture

Charleston will add to her artistic charm with a 6-foot sculpture of the ASL sign for “I Love You,” similar to those in Spartanburg and Columbia, in the coming year.

During Charleston’s annual Spoleto Festival USA at the end of May, Artist in Residence Bob Doster, from SCSDB, began assembling items for the sculpture. He worked with staff, alumni, students, and community members on cutting hand shapes from sheets of stainless steel at the event held in downtown Charleston’s Marion Square. The collection of hand shapes will be formed into one giant hand.

The project is co-sponsored by the Arts in Basic Curriculum Project and the SCSDB Foundation.



Clockwise: Sculptor Bob Doster of Lancaster, SC, traces Ann Ginn Conley's hand (SCSDB class of '72); Bob Doster guides a participant to cut out a hand; staff member Jessica Gribble and family with a smaller sample of the finished piece; and Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg shows a hand that is to become part of the future finished sculpture.

Statewide Outrea

Kelly's Kids maintains 5-Star rating

Kelly's Kids, an SCSD and Spartanburg County First Steps Early Head Start partnership, was recently recognized for 10 years with Quality Counts and continuing to maintain a 5-Star rating.

The Kelly's Kids program was established in 2007 and is dedicated to the success of infants, toddlers, and their families in the Spartanburg community. Kelly's Kids serves children who are the ages of 6 weeks to 3 years old. The Kelly's Kids Center is named in memory of Marcia Hastay Kelly who dedicated her career to the education of children with disabilities.

Kelly's Kids is licensed by the SC Department of Social Services (DSS). In the fall of 2014, Kelly's Kids was named an A+ center with Advocates for Better Child-care, their highest rating.

The staff in the Kelly's Kids Center hold a wide range of credentials that include infant/toddler education, early childhood education, deaf education, and blind education. All staff members are certified in pediatric CPR and First Aid and receive ongoing professional training.

Kelly's Kids utilizes the Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Two's as well as the SC Early Learning Standards in daily lessons for the children. Teachers utilize Teaching Strategies Gold which integrates the Creative Curriculum indicators as an assessment tool by inputting anecdotal notes and completing checkpoints within the Teaching Strategies Gold system to show growth in the following areas: physical, cognitive development, social-emotional, language, literacy, and math.

Children who participate in Kelly's Kids are involved in a variety of activities such as center time with activities like blocks, puzzles, music, science, reading, imaginative play by dressing up or "cooking food" in the kitchen, painting, and math. They also have outdoor play time with ride along toys, imaginative play, nature center, music center, water and sand play, reading center, and throwing, catching, and kicking balls.



Mila Smith is playing with green kinetic sand.

Statewide Blind and Visually Impaired Education (SBVIE) impells applications

Practical applications for students who are blind or visually impaired abounded this academic year and continue this summer in the areas of Orientation & Mobility, vision services, and access technology.

Orientation & Mobility specialists have assisted a student in learning the layout of their college campus for next year so independent travel is possible. This includes the dorm layout. Several O&M students are working learning their new school layout for the

2022-2023 school year.

One high school student is working to compile a list of state agencies that support individuals who are blind or visually impaired with a description of how they support those individuals and how the student can get involved and take advantage of those services.

Many SBVIE students between ages 13 to 21 are involved with Successful Transitions, a grant program

Professionals train to better serve babies with CVI

The SC Deaf-Blind Project hosted a regional training focused on serving babies with Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI), one of the leading causes of visual impairments in the United States.

Interventions for students with CVI look different than those for students with ocular conditions, and even more so for babies diagnosed with CVI. Professionals from SC, TN, KY, and GA attended the training event in Columbia May 4-6.

The training was based on Anne McComiskey's book "Babies with CVI," and presenters included: McComiskey herself; Martha Veto (GA DB Project); Christine Spratling (Early Intervention, GA); Kathy Zwald (Certified O&M Specialist, AZ); Allison Hawkins (Occupational Therapist, GA); and a professional panel.

Participants included Early Interventionists, speech pathologists, O&M specialists, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, occupational therapists, physical therapists, teachers of the deaf, and administrators. The attendees participated in a make-and-take networking activity in which they were given materials to make a triangle board, slinky light, and pom-pom gloves. All of these materials could be customized to meet the unique needs of babies the professionals currently serve. But even more impactful, was having this variety of professionals in one room to talk about the specific needs of children diagnosed with CVI. This encouraged and solidified the need for teaming when serving these children and their families.

Left to right: Teachers of the Visually Impaired Beth Yokel and Amy Mayfield, from Greenville County, are creating triangle boards to encourage active learning for students with complex needs.



run by the National Federation of the Blind of SC. This program assists with transition services and job placements. Successful Transitions works to connect students across the state with each other through Zoom social hours. Some of these students will also participate in the Summer Teen program sponsored by the SC Commission for the Blind and run by Successful Transitions.

SBVIE's access technology specialist is working with

several students on learning to fully utilize the technology provided to them by the SC Commission for the Blind. Some students are working with the Mantis Q40 refreshable braille display to use it with their computers as well as hand-held devices.

A few SBVIE students entered the SC State Library Art Competition and placed. This year's ceremony took place via Zoom in late May.

Contributed by
Sam Hook, Weslie
Higdon, and Alice
Lang

SCSDB Foundation

Sertoma Golf Tournament welcomes SCSBD students

Five students tried their hand at putting and met some of the players, as the Spartanburg Downtown Sertoma Club hosted a charity golf tournament at Carolina Country Club.

May 16 was a beautiful, sunny day for a wonderful adventure and lunch with the 100 golfers who participated in the golf tournament. Staff members Michael Sims, Cherie Winkler, and Barbara Fay accompanied the students.

The Spartanburg Downtown Sertoma Club is one of the SC School for the Deaf and the Blind's major supporters and each year takes some of our students who are deaf to Walmart for a magical Christmas buying experience. Some of the \$30,000 raised from the golf tournament will go to buy presents for our students when they go shopping at Christmas.

You can see from the photo that our students had fun. A special thanks goes to the Spartanburg Downtown Sertoma Club for their generosity and for a great golf tournament!



Left to right: Students Malakhi Monroe, Bri'Asia Costanzo, Athletic Director Mike Sims, and Tobias Allen

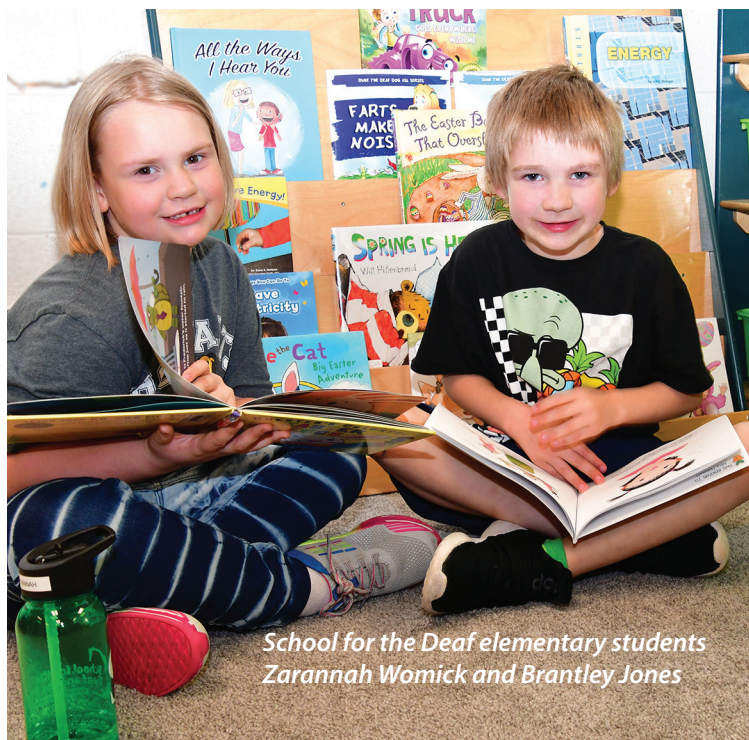
Foundation garners funding of Libraries for Literacy

Putting more books into every classroom on the SCSDB campus is an enhanced literacy focus project of the SCSDB Foundation that has already garnered \$12,500 in funding.

SCSDB's teachers incorporate reading into all subjects and many activities. Our librarian plans special events to engage the students in reading. Now, the SCSDB Foundation is getting in on the fun with the Libraries for Literacy project!

These new books will be age and grade-level appropriate. They will also be available in accessible formats (i.e., braille, large print) where appropriate. Students will have access to these books while in their classrooms to help foster a love of reading.

The SCSDB Foundation is so thankful to The Episcopal Church of the Advent, State Farm Foundation, and Aflac for believing in this program and in our students.



*School for the Deaf elementary students
Zarannah Womick and Brantley Jones*

Contributed
by Aly Davis,
Barbara Fay,
and Mike
Sims

Student sets 100-meter dash school record

Da'Quan Whetstone set a school 100-meter dash record of 10.86 seconds, previously set by Mike Oxendine in 1979 at 10.9 seconds, at the March 22 meet at Woodruff High School.

He placed 1st at the Woodruff meet, just as he did in the March 8 meet at Southside Christian School, Simpsonville.

Da'Quan won 1st place in the 100-meter and bettered his own school record with the time of 10.80 when the Hornets track team traveled to Woodruff High School April 19.



Coach Darryl Goodwin and Da'Quan Whetstone

4x100 meter relay team finishes every meet 1st or 2nd

Throughout track season, the 4x100 meter relay team took 1st or 2nd in every meet in which they participated. Their best time was 45.61 seconds.

Tai Allen, Ellis Brown, Christian Washington, and Da'Quan Whetstone were the members of this elite team.

The Hornets advanced to the Region 1A Upper-State Track Championship on May 14 but were unable to field their eligible athletes due to illnesses.



Left to right: School for the Deaf students Tai Allen, Christian Washington, Ellis Brown, and Da'Quan Whetstone

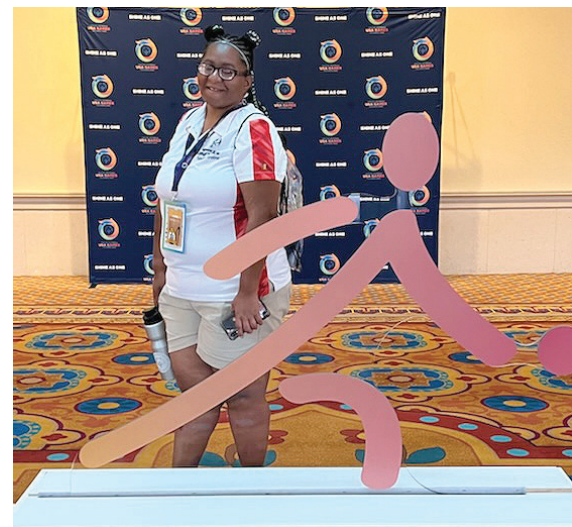
Congratulations to the coaching staff for a very exciting season: Head Coach Darryl Goodwin, Assistant Don Creech, Assistant Barbara Fay, and Assistant Michael Sims.

Special Olympics athlete shines in national competition

Ca'mayra Boulware, CSA student, earned ribbons and pins in the bocce competitions at an indoor venue at the Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, FL, June 5-12!

She competed in ladies bocce singles; earning 6th place. Ca'mayra played doubles and team with her unified partner, Sydney Broadus, finishing 5th and 4th place, respectively.

She was so excited for the opportunity to represent team SC! She enjoyed her experience competing at a national level and did her best. Coach Aly Davis is super proud and couldn't have asked for more.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
USA GAMES
ORLANDO 2022

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We want to meet your family!

SCSDB campus programs are always accepting applications for new students. Our online application can be accessed at: <https://www.scsdb.org/Page/1543> Please contact **Mindy Connolly, 864 577-7565, mconnolly@scsdb.org** for more information about the application and enrollment process.

If you are interested in applying, we invite you to come visit our campus. Campus tours can be arranged through **Loreta Dylgjeri**. Email her at LDylgjeri@scsdb.org

Come and see what SCSDB can do for you in your area of the state! The **SCSDB division of outreach services** provides a menu of options for parents, families, and the professionals who serve them that include and are not limited to, specialized early intervention services, school district educational services, sign language interpreting, and ASL classes! For more information on our statewide outreach services available in your area, please contact **Scott A. Falcone: sfalcone@scsdb.org or 1-800-984-4357**.