



Thursday, September 28, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Erica S. Taylor
Assistant Superintendent for Communications
and Business and Community Partnerships
erica.taylor@ocsdsc.org

HBCUWEEK

ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES NATIONAL HBCU WEEK WITH A STELLAR HBCU FAIR AT MARSHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ORANGEBURG, S.C. — In honor of National Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Week, Marshall Elementary School, organized a groundbreaking HBCU Fair, sparking awareness and appreciation for HBCUs. National HBCU Week is an annual celebration recognizing the significant contributions of HBCUs in molding the future of numerous students and their vital role in American history.

Students from the S.T.A.G.E. (Students Taking on the Arts and Gifted Education) Magnet program at Marshall Elementary embraced the occasion by creating detailed poster presentations representing 55 out of the 107 HBCUs. These presentations were showcased in the school cafeteria, where classes were invited to explore and learn about the diverse range of colleges and universities available.

Throughout the fair, S.T.A.G.E. Magnet students passionately presented information about their assigned HBCUs to visiting students, offering insights into each institution's history, mission, programs, and contributions to education and society at large.

Orangeburg County, notably home to two HBCUs, Claflin University and South Carolina State University, is steeped in rich academic tradition, and the event served as a testament to the community's commitment to educational diversity and excellence.

"Going to Claflin University, an HBCU, changed my life. It taught me a lot and made me who I am today. Seeing our kids at Marshall Elementary learn and get excited about HBCUs is like sharing a piece of my journey with them. It makes me really happy to see them so interested and I hope it helps them dream big for their futures," said Amanda Charley, STAGE Magnet Teacher.

The HBCU Fair, with its engaging and informative presentations, has successfully instilled a sense of pride and interest in HBCUs among the students, reflecting the district's mission to foster learning environments that are inclusive, diverse, and conducive to student success.

"Learning about all these colleges makes me excited about the future. I learned so much about what makes each college special, and I can't wait to go to one when I grow up, " said Fifth-grader Aaron Moyd, who presented about Benedict College.

Students have been enjoying the entire week, with an event each day.

- Monday was celebrated as "Hats-off to HBCUs,"
- Tuesday resonated with the theme "Take it to the Future,"
- Wednesday was marked as "Wear it Wednesday,"
- Thursday, today, is being celebrated as "Do it for the Culture" day,
- And Friday will see the culmination of the week with "Black Out" day.

Orangeburg County School District extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff, students, and everyone who contributed to making the HBCU Fair a remarkable success and looks forward to continuing to celebrate and uphold the values and contributions of HBCUs in the years to come.

Watch the video here: https://youtu.be/veBZO_6G6fo

Orangeburg County School District

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at ocsdsc.org

###