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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2023-2024 Teachers of the Year

**ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES TEACHERS OF THE YEAR
WITH SPECIAL LUNCHEON**

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) held a special luncheon to honor the Teachers of the Year for the 2023-2024 academic year. The event was organized to celebrate their achievements and provide encouragement for their continued dedication to education.

The luncheon featured a keynote address by Dr. Mervin Jenkins, an experienced educator and hip-hop artist. Dr. Jenkins shared his unique perspective on education, emphasizing the importance of creativity in teaching and the value of supporting students in their individual journeys. His message was aimed at inspiring the honored teachers to continue their impactful work in the classroom.

"This luncheon is a small token of our gratitude for our Teachers of the Year. Your dedication, passion, and innovative approaches to teaching are the backbone of our district's success. You are not just teachers, but mentors, role models, and pillars of our community. Your impact extends far beyond the classroom walls, and for that, we are truly thankful," said Dr. Shawn Foster, Superintendent of OCSD.

The Teachers of the Year, selected for their exceptional dedication and contributions to their students and schools, were recognized at this event for their hard work and commitment to excellence in education. The luncheon served as an opportunity for these educators to come together, share experiences, and gain new insights into teaching methodologies and student engagement.

"Today is not just about recognizing our achievements, but it's a reminder of the impact we have every day in our classrooms. Each one of us has the power to inspire and shape the future of our students. Let's continue to be the positive force that encourages every child to realize their full potential," said Mrs. Audrey Irick, the 2023-2024 OCSD Teacher of the Year.

In addition to the recognition ceremony, the teachers participated in a community service project, "Stuff a Bus", where they helped collect toys for children in need. This activity was a reflection of OCSD's commitment to community service and the role educators play in fostering a sense of responsibility and empathy among students.

The Teacher Cabinet Luncheon was not just an event to honor achievements but also a platform for providing encouragement and support to the teachers who shape the future of our community. OCSD is proud to recognize and celebrate the hard work and passion of these dedicated educators.

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

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