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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE STORIES OF OCSD: BEHIND THE SCREENS—HONORING OUR IT HEROES ON NATIONAL IT PROFESSIONALS' DAY

ORANGEBURG, S.C. — In an age where technology underpins education and administration alike, the value of IT professionals cannot be overstated. Today we highlight the men and women of the Orangeburg County School District IT Department, a small but mighty group of dedicated individuals who ensure our schools remain places of smooth operation and vibrant learning.

Mornings often start with problem-solving, long before the first school bell rings. Should a teacher experience a hiccup in software just before class starts, or should a network outage threaten to disrupt school-wide activities, the IT team is already on the case. Their role involves far more than simple troubleshooting; they are responsible for the uninterrupted flow of information, ensuring that staff can teach and students can learn with the tools they need for success.

They're not just fixing things; they're improving systems, looking ahead to future needs, and making plans to meet them. When new educational software is considered, it's this team that vets it for compatibility and security before rolling it out to classrooms. When the district considers new initiatives that rely on technology, such as distance learning programs, the IT department plays an essential role in making these visions a reality.

But the impact of the IT team extends well beyond hardware and software. New teachers and administrative staff are often greeted by an IT orientation, equipping them with essential digital tools and knowledge.

"Our IT team goes beyond the call of duty. This National IT Professionals Day, I offer them my heartfelt thanks for their enduring commitment and vision. They are an integral part of our educational community, enabling all of us to reach higher and achieve more," said Dr. Shawn

Foster, Superintendent of OCSD. "Their work might often happen in the background, but its impact is felt across every inch of our district," added Foster

"Effective communication is the cornerstone of any successful organization, and our IT team ensures that we have the tools to connect with one another and our broader community," said Dr. Erica Taylor, OCSD Assistant Superintendent of Communications, "They may not always be in the spotlight, but they are the behind-the-scenes champions making sure our message is clear, our systems are secure, and our objectives are met," added Taylor.

National IT Professionals Day is an opportunity for formal recognition, but the work of the IT team is acknowledged and appreciated every day. Their presence is felt in each class that runs smoothly, each report that gets filed on time, and every student who can access learning resources without a hitch. They tackle challenges big and small, often going beyond their formal roles to keep the district moving forward. As we celebrate this special day, we extend a collective thank you to these unsung heroes for making the seemingly impossible, possible. Happy National IT Professionals Day to the OCSD IT Team.

Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/DGxViAyXzos>

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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