



Friday, May 12, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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



Orangeburg County School District's Department of Student Services Goes Green for Mental Health Awareness Month

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) is proud to announce its recognition of May as Mental Health Awareness Month, with a commitment to furthering understanding and reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.

The OCSD Department of Student Services, which includes guidance counselors, school psychologists, social workers, and health services staff, will lead the observance by donning green on May 17, 2023, for the "Go Green Day." This symbolic gesture aims to promote mental health awareness, spark conversation, and show solidarity with those affected by mental health conditions.

"We are excited about the opportunity to visibly show our support and create an environment of acceptance and dialogue," said Joyce McDaniel-Felder, OCSD mental health facilitator. "When we wear green on May 17, we are sending a powerful message that mental health matters and that it's okay to reach out for help."

The initiative aligns with the Department of Student Services' ongoing commitment to prioritize mental health within the school district. They provide a range of services

including counseling, mental health education, and wellness programs for students, staff, and families in the district.

"Mental Health Awareness Month is a significant time, but our commitment extends throughout the year," McDaniel-Felder added. "We strive to create an atmosphere where mental health is not stigmatized but understood and openly discussed. We want everyone in our community to feel empowered to seek support when needed."

The Department of Student Services encourages everyone in the OCSD community to join them in wearing green on May 17 as a show of solidarity and support for those grappling with mental health issues.

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

###