

Wednesday, February 1, 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 Celebrates National School Counseling Week 2023

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – National School Counseling Week 2023, "*Helping Students Dream Big*," sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), will be celebrated from Feb. 6 - 10, 2023, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems and how students are different because of what school counselors do. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

The special week honoring school counselors provides recognition for school counselors who "implement comprehensive school counseling programs," a vital part of the educational process for all students as they meet the challenges of the 21st century. Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) congratulates our professional school counselors and career specialists for being actively engaged in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents; for working in partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world; for focusing on positive ways to enhance students' academic, postsecondary and social/emotional development; and working with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves.

More than 100,000 school counselors nationwide will participate in the week's festivities. In addition, many schools will host special events and activities to call attention to the countless benefits of a comprehensive school counseling program.

"I always celebrate the successes of those who impact the lives of our students, but I especially enjoy sharing this school counselor week because I, too, am a school counselor," said Dr. Shawn Foster, OCSO Superintendent. "School counselors work to maximize student success, promoting access and equity for all students, as well as creating a culture of success for all," Dr. Foster continued.

OCSO would like to recognize the following Professional School Counselors and Career Specialists who serve in Orangeburg County Schools:

- **Rakeesha Patterson – Bethune-Bowman Elementary**
- **Rovinia Hillard – Brookdale Elementary**
- **Seleta Byrd – Dover Elementary**
- **Keisha James – Edisto Primary**
- **Gervais Fore – Edisto Primary**
- **Angela Gordon – Edisto Elementary**
- **Dr. Brian Young – Edisto Elementary**
- **Tiffany Davis – Ellore Elementary**
- **Raenita Clark – Ellore Elementary**
- **Joseph Brown – Holly Hill Elementary**
- **Orlene Rivers – Hunter-Kinard-Tyler Elementary**
- **Andrea Felder – Lockett Elementary**
- **Yvette Pelzer-Brown – Marshall Elementary**
- **Travis Jennings – Marshall Elementary**
- **Deloris Smith – Mellichamp Elementary**
- **Dr. Sharon Forman – Rivelon Elementary**
- **Peggy Davis – Sheridan Elementary**
- **Elizabeth Johnson – Sheridan Elementary**
- **Michelle Fox – St James-Gaillard Elementary**
- **Quia Stevenson – Vance-Providence Elementary**
- **Wanda Woods – Whittaker Elementary**
- **Crystal Austin – Bethune-Bowman Middle/High**
- **Tamika Tucker (Career Specialist) – Bethune-Bowman Middle/High**
- **Vickie Haynes – Branchville Middle/High**
- **Candace Ilderton (Career Specialist) – Branchville Middle/High**
- **Therese Harrison – Carver-Edisto Middle**
- **Linda Mack – Carver-Edisto Middle**
- **Peggy Lingard-Moore (Career Specialist) – Carver-Edisto Middle**
- **Henry Butler – Holly Hill-Roberts Middle**
- **Cathy Huger – Holly Hill-Roberts Middle**
- **Tira Williams – Hunter-Kinard-Tyler Middle/High**
- **Michael Butler (Career Specialist) – Hunter-Kinard-Tyler Middle/High**
- **Danyell Boneparte – North Middle/High**
- **Sandra Thomas – R.E. Howard Middle**

- **Cassandra Young – R.E. Howard Middle**
- **Yvette Perryman-Brown (Career Specialist) – R.E. Howard Middle**
- **Wendy Nix – Cope Area Career Center**
- **Andre Smith – W.J. Clark Middle**
- **Dr. Sheridan Coleman – W.J. Clark Middle**
- **Tiffany Pickard (Career Specialist) – W.J. Clark Middle**
- **Terri Franklin – Edisto High**
- **Nicole Golson_ – Edisto High**
- **Trina Jeter (Career Specialist) – Edisto High**
- **Barbara Capers – Lake Marion High**
- **Dr. Stacey Rock-Gilmore – Lake Marion High**
- **Jeanetta Williams – Lake Marion High**
- **Jarvis Davis (Career Specialist) – Lake Marion High**
- **Michael Oliver – Lake Marion High**
- **Miranda Knight – Orangeburg-Wilkinson High**
- **Yolanda Gore – Orangeburg-Wilkinson High**
- **Angela Ham – Orangeburg-Wilkinson High**
- **Brittany Brown – Orangeburg-Wilkinson High**
- **Beulah Fridie Zeigler (Career Specialist) – Orangeburg-Wilkinson High**
- **Destynei Tiller – Orangeburg Technology Center/Orangeburg Alternative Program**

About the American School Counselor Association

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of school counseling through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic achievement, career planning, and social/emotional development to help today's students become tomorrow's productive, contributing members of society. Founded in 1952, ASCA has a network of 50 state and territory associations and a membership of approximately 40,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.

About 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

###