

**For Immediate Release**  
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## Media Release



**Paul Pallagi**

**Principal at Pinehurst Elementary School**

### **Pinehurst Elementary to welcome new principal for 2022-2023 school year**

Division of Strategy and  
Communications

**Donald R. Kennedy, Sr.**  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

**Erica S. Taylor, Ed.D.**  
Chief of Staff

**Charleston, SC** – Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce and welcome Paul Pallagi as the principal at Pinehurst Elementary School. Pallagi has served as the assistant principal at Springfield Elementary School in West Ashley since July 2018. Pinehurst Principal Dianne Benton will retire at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year.

Pallagi began his educator career in CCSD as a fourth grade teacher at Ladson Elementary. During his four-year tenure at Ladson, Pallagi served as grade level chair and grants liaison, receiving two academic grants for the school to support farm to table education, school gardens, and outdoor educational classroom space. Additionally, Pallagi developed and organized the school's first basketball team with free programming for students. A standout in his field, Pallagi was selected as Ladson's 2012 Teacher of the Year and was a top five finalist for district Teacher of the Year. He was also a recipient of the Bi-Lo Golden Apple Teacher Award.

In 2013, Pallagi became a personal mastery facilitator at Northwoods Middle School. In this role, Pallagi worked with teachers to create effective curriculum-based, technology-rich lessons that supported personal mastery. The following year, he joined school administration, taking the position of assistant administrator for the school's seventh grade students and faculty before transitioning to Chicora Elementary School to serve as assistant principal in 2014.

Throughout his time at Chicora, Pallagi helped manage and support school operations through the implementation of positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS), fundraising to support school incentives, budget analysis for allocations and yearly planning, classroom observations, and management of school

discipline and safety. After four years, Pallagi became the assistant principal at Springfield Elementary School in West Ashley where he has served for the last three years.

Pallagi earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Charleston Southern University.

For more information, contact the Division of Strategy and Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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#### **About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.