

**For Immediate Release**

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# Media Release

**Office of Communications**

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**Anita W. Huggins, M.Ed.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Vanessa L. Denney, M.Ed.**  
Interim Executive Director of Communications



**Lucas "Luke" Clamp, Ph.D.**  
**Deputy Superintendent**

## **Former National Principal of the Year Named CCSD Deputy Superintendent**

**Charleston, SC** – After an extensive interview process, Charleston County School District (CCSD) is pleased to announce the selection of Lucas "Luke" Clamp as Deputy Superintendent.

Dr. Clamp was chosen by an initial interview team that consisted largely of external panelists. Candidates in the initial round of interviews completed a writing sample, presented a blinded data presentation, and participated in a question/answer period. Once a finalist, Dr. Clamp interviewed with the Superintendent of Schools and then with the Superintendent's Cabinet.

"Dr. Clamp is a data-driven, strategic educator whose efforts garner success for all students," said Superintendent of Schools Anita Huggins. "A systems leader, he was selected as a result of his breadth of experience, proven leadership skills, and dedication to advancing educational outcomes for ALL students. Dr. Clamp's standout career has prepared him to join a CCSD team committed to putting students' needs first."

The youngest of five sons, Dr. Clamp was raised by an educator and saw firsthand the dedication and passion of educators. His mother served her hometown district as a teacher and elementary and middle school principal and finished her career serving as superintendent. A successful experience

in Teacher Cadet during his senior year in high school solidified his decision to follow in his mother's footsteps into the field of education serving others.

Dr. Clamp, a native of Williston, SC, understands the challenges of poverty firsthand, having grown up attending a Title 1 school. As such, during his time in district leadership, Dr. Clamp has taken a particular interest in serving and supporting rural Title I schools. Astute at school turnaround, Dr. Clamp coaches school leaders, employing data-driven strategies supported by strong instructional practices while building a positive school culture. Together, Dr. Clamp and leadership teams have seen positive movement in school ratings and increased student achievement.

In 2011, Dr. Clamp was selected as the founding school principal of River Bluff High School, an innovative school with an Excellent rating shown to outperform the district and state in nearly every metric. River Bluff boasts the designation of *Palmetto's Finest*, earned in 2019 under his leadership. During Dr. Clamp's tenure at River Bluff, graduation rates increased by 15 points to over 95 % in ten years.

In 2018, Dr. Clamp was named the Secondary Principal of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. He went on to earn national recognition as the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Principal of the Year in 2019.

Currently serving as the High Schools and Postsecondary Pathways Executive Director in Lexington County School District One, Dr. Clamp brings experience in district leadership and educator preparation as an adjunct professor at both the University of South Carolina (USC) and Clemson University. He was recognized as the 2023 School of Education Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year at USC and enjoys teaching and molding the next generation of leaders in the master's and doctoral degree programs through courses in Education Policy, Education Finance, and Instructional Leadership.

Dr. Clamp began his teaching career as a science teacher at Irmo High School. A dedicated educator with over two decades of experience, he is a graduate of Clemson University and the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's degree in Science/Education from Clemson University, a master's degree, an Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership, and a doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of South Carolina. He has served in various state-wide leadership roles, including SCHSL Class 5A President and Class 4A Vice President, SCASA Secondary Principal's Affiliate President, and on the SCASA Executive Board of Directors.

Dr. Clamp's humility and character are tangible in his Eagle Scout status, Rotarian service through the Club of Lexington, and current service on the Boy Scouts of America fundraising committee. He also serves on the strategic planning campaign team for the College of Education at Clemson University.

Dr. Clamp is married to Alecia W. Clamp, a Multilingual Learner teacher and former Lexington County School District One District Teacher of the Year. Together, they have two sons.

Of his selection, Dr. Clamp said, "I am extremely honored to be selected to serve the students, staff, and community of Charleston County School District, a county rich in history as well as exemplary outcomes in achievement, arts, and athletics. Our family is thrilled to transition to the Lowcountry to begin learning and growing together."

For more information, contact the Office of 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 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 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.