

For Immediate Release

April 16, 2024

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Media Release

CCSD recognizes National School Bus Driver Week

Office of Communications

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Charleston, SC - In honor of National School Bus Driver Week, Charleston County School District (CCSD) recognized bus drivers who carry precious cargo to and from school each week. At the April 15, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting, CCSD introduced the longest serving bus drivers. In all, they have a combined total of 231 years of driving.

Those recognized include:

- Patricia Grant, a veteran bus driver who has served 44 years in bus transportation, joined CCSD in 1980 as a first grade teacher assistant at Malcom C. Hursey Elementary School. Today, Grant drives and serves CCSD's special needs families.

Grant graduated from the former C.A. Brown High School and is a College of Charleston graduate. Because of her life experience, she has a special place in her heart for young moms. For over a decade, she drove the bus for young moms and their babies.

- Qweda Heyward has 39 years of service in bus transportation. She joined CCSD in 1985. Her first job was working in the front office at Memminger, and soon after became a bus driver. Heyward is a 1980 graduate of Baptist Hill High School.

Heyward has driven in the North Charleston area for the past 12 years and said she always meets her students where they are without judgment and focuses on building trust with them over the school year.

- Brenda Mungin, who has 37 years in bus transportation, joined CCSD in 1987. She has worked exclusively in the Hollywood area serving the children in her community. Also, a product of CCSD, she graduated from Baptist Hill High School in 1981.

Mungin's journey to becoming a CCSD bus driver started in April 1987 when her 5-year-old daughter passed away. She decided she needed a job where she could work with children every day.

- Pamela Mungin, who has 31 years of service in bus transportation, joined CCSD in 1993. During her entire time with the district, she has driven special needs students because she loves kids and recognizes that these particular students require extra attention and love.

A product of CCSD, Mungin is a 1983 graduate of Baptist Hill High School. Before becoming a full-time bus driver, she worked as a teacher assistant in a special needs classroom at Baptist Hill. This motivated her to become a full-time Special Needs Bus Driver.

- Yvonne Perry who also has 44 years of service in bus transportation, joined CCSD in 1980. Perry graduated from the former Bonds-Wilson High School and attended St. Augustine College and majored in Early Childhood Education. Her first job was working with special needs students as a teacher's assistant. Her experience working with special needs students led to establishing a special needs programs at Mary Ford Elementary, Berry Elementary, Hunley Park Elementary School, and A.C. Corcoran Elementary School, where she has worked for the past 20 years.

In addition to working as a teacher assistant, Perry has been a bus driver since she was a high school junior at Bonds-Wilson High School. Perry likes to point out she was driving a school bus when there were stick shifts, and hand cranks were necessary to operate the wheelchair lift.

- Susan Singleton, who has 36 years of service in bus transportation, joined CCSD in 1988 and was named CCSD Bus Driver of the Year in 1994. Singleton graduated from the former Fort Johnson High School.

She has served as a safety trainer for the past 20 years. During this time she has trained over 1,300 individuals to receive their Commercial Driver's License and become bus drivers.

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.