



For Immediate Release

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Contact

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Cario's Hamil named Southern District PE Teacher of the Year

Thomas C. Cario Middle School

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

Joseph Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Superintendent of
Middle Schools

Bryan Coleman
Principal

Mount Pleasant, SC — Thomas C. Cario Middle School is proud to announce Dr. Jason Hamil is the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) America 2024 Southern District Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year. The Southern District for SHAPE is the second largest district in the country; it includes 13 states, from Virginia to Texas.

Dr. Hamil is now one of four finalists for National Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year. He will be honored for his District award at the SHAPE America National Convention in Cleveland, OH in March. This is also when SHAPE America will announce all of their National Teachers of the Year.

"This is not a Dr. Jason Hamil award," explained Dr. Hamil. "This is an award that everyone associated with Cario contributed to and shares in. I want to thank my amazing students, our incredible administration, faculty members, the community, and my fellow physical education teacher- Jeff Gratzmiller. To get to this level requires a team effort, and we are the best physical education team."

Dr. Hamil started teaching PE in CCSD in 2002 at the former Alice Birney Middle School, and been at Cario Middle since 2006. He is also a successful boys' varsity soccer coach; he has guided Academic Magnet High School (AMHS) to five South Carolina High School League state championships and received multiple region and state coach of the year honors. His soccer team at AMHS has also been awarded with the highest boys soccer team grade point average (GPA) in the nation seven times, most recently in the 2023 season when they posted a team GPA of 4.84.

In addition to the Southern District award, Dr. Hamil has been the South Carolina Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (SCAHPERD) PE Teacher of the Year two times (2015 and 2023).

"Dr. Hamil believes in developing lessons and units that emphasize the positive contributions of every student on the team. He believes that all students contribute to success," said Cario's principal, Bryan Coleman.

Dr. Hamil is heavily involved in what students in the district and state are learning; he helped write the district's online curriculum of eight grade physical education and serves on the CCSD middle school PE curriculum team. He also is

part of the South Carolina Middle School Standards Writing Committee and the South Carolina Learning Object Repository Committee.

"Students develop skills at a different pace," added Dr. Hamil. "If a student is developing the skill slower than another student, then encourage them and be positive about their progress. Encouragement and a positive attitude helps all students."

For more information, please contact Bryan Coleman at (843) 856-4595.

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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.