

For Immediate Release

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Media Release



Latrice Smalls

Principal at Edith L. Frierson Elementary School

Office of Communications

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Edith L. Frierson Elementary School **principal Latrice Smalls to fill role** **permanently**

Charleston, SC – The Charleston County School District (CCSD) is excited to announce and welcome Latrice Smalls as the permanent principal at Edith L. Frierson Elementary School. Smalls has served as the interim principal since the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Prior to her time at Frierson, Smalls was the assistant principal at Stono Park Elementary School in West Ashley for seven years.

In 2008, Smalls joined the CCSD as a sixth-grade teacher at R.D. Schroder Middle School. She taught math and science for one year before joining nearby C.C. Blaney Elementary School as a fifth and sixth grade English Language Arts, math, science and social studies teacher. Recognized for her excellent ability to engage students in their work and foster personal growth and ownership of learning, Smalls was selected to become a personalized learning coach for the district in 2013.

As a personalized learning coach, Smalls supported the district's initiative to transition schools to a personalized, competency-based system focused on cross-curricular, data-informed instruction. In this role, Smalls collaborated with PreK-5 teachers and administrators, literacy strategists, instructional coaches, and leadership teams to develop professional development opportunities and robust instructional strategies to optimize student success. Additionally, she educated parents and stakeholders about personalized learning and its implementation in CCSD schools.

An outstanding leader in her field, Smalls was selected three years later to join the administration at Stono Park Elementary School as assistant principal. During her seven years at Stono, Smalls worked alongside the principal to implement research-based pedagogical practices and curriculum development leading to transformative change and progress. She also assisted in the implementation of the tenants of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and helped strengthen the use of differentiated instruction by teachers to address the needs of all students.

"Ms. Smalls has demonstrated tremendous leadership in her short tenure at Frierson," said Dr. Jennifer Swearingen, Interim Associate Superintendent of the Elementary Learning Community. "We are very excited to welcome her to this role permanently and to see the continued growth of Frierson under her leadership in the years to come."

Smalls earned a Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies from The College of Charleston and a Master of Arts in Teaching (K-8) from Pfeiffer University. She also holds a Master of Education in Administration (PreK-6) from Charleston Southern University. Smalls was also a member of CCSD's 2016 ASPIRE Leadership Academy cohort.

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.