

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

CCSD teachers will receive extra planning time during the day

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Communications

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Charleston, SC – Certified classroom teachers throughout Charleston County School District (CCSD) will have more time to plan for instruction during the 2023-2024 school year. Thanks to an item in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget passed July 17, 2023, all certified classroom teachers will have a total of eight and a half (8.5) days of planning covered by a substitute.

District leaders recently notified administrators and staff regarding decision, so the plans for each school will be developed during the first part of the current school year.

Administrators have been asked to consider what teachers should focus on during this planning time and that this effort aligns with making progress towards CCSD's goals and identified priority strategies this year. For example, options for this extra planning time could include (but not limited to) the following:

- Researching/reviewing standards
- Preparing scripts for lessons, preparing scripts for reteaching
- Reviewing students' work to identify gaps
- Reviewing climate data to look at trends and possible solutions to stabilize classroom environments
- "Learning Walks" through other classes to identify the implementation levels of key environment practices

"We believe we have some of the most dedicated and talented educators in the state," said Interim Chief Academic Officer Michelle Simmons. "If we can provide our teachers with more opportunities to grow and strengthen their craft, our students will benefit tremendously. We are seeing significant progress throughout CCSD in student proficiency in literacy and moderate progress in math, and this decision will augment that progress while creating an atmosphere our teachers will authentically be a part of."

The extra planning time for all teachers in CCSD is in addition to the state law that now requires all elementary and special education teachers to receive at least 30 minutes of encumbered time each day.

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.