

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

One of CCSD's own debuts children's books to elementary school children

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Charleston, SC — Dr. Melvin Middleton, Jr. Charleston County School District's (CCSD) Interim Director of Pathways to Teaching, on February 14, 2023, traveled across the district reading to elementary aged students.

Middleton is the author of "Jameel's Valentines" – illustrated by Milan Ristic'. He introduced this book to CCSD students. Although centered on Valentine's Day cards, the message to students is to stand up for their friends, be unique, kind, and show up for those that are important to you.

Middleton's second book is called "Our Teacher is a Doctor" – illustrated by Milan Ristic'. This story is about being a doctor of education and a continual learner.

"I have been a student most of my life," said Middleton.

Most importantly, both books show readers that with determination and tenacity, grown males of color can achieve anything, Middleton explained.

Born in Southfield, Michigan and raised in Charleston, Middleton is a graduate of Florida A&M University, Nova Southeastern University, and Florida State University. He has worked with learners of all ages as a mentor, teacher, program director, school administrator, and college administrator.

Middleton is a product of CCSD, having attended the former St. Andrew's High School. Middleton served in various roles in CCSD and other districts before returning in January.

"I have always loved children's literature," said Middleton. "Even as a child, I loved to tell and write stories."

Middleton was inspired to write his books after completing his dissertation. He said he thought to himself, 'what do I do next?'

"I had neglected a creative piece of myself and my work so I pulled it back out and got to work," said Middleton. "It was therapeutic for me. I enjoy a creative outlet."

To learn more about Middleton's children's books, visit Drmelvinmiddletonjr.com.
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 of 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 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.