

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Marsha Neal wins PSTA scholarship for professional development

Deer Park Middle School

Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Karolyn Belcher
Chief Academic Officer

Joseph Williams, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent of Middle
School Learning Community

Shanitra Deas
Principal

North Charleston – Deer Park Middle School teacher Marsha Neal has been selected as one of ten winners of the [2021 Dr. Elizabeth Gressette Professional Development Scholarship](#). The scholarship is sponsored by Palmetto State Teachers Association's (PSTA) Foundation for Professional Development and is awarded annually to encourage and support PSTA members in pursuing advanced degrees. Applicants must be a PSTA member for at least three years and be currently enrolled in a higher education program to apply for the scholarship. Neal is a sixth grade math and science teacher at Deer Park. She is pursuing a Doctorate of Education degree at American College of Education.

The scholarship winners were each awarded \$1,500 and will be recognized at the Palmetto State Teachers Association Annual Business Meeting on May 1, 2021.

"We are extremely proud of Ms. Neal and her devotion to lifelong learning," said Shanitra Deas, Principal of Deer Park Middle. "Every day we remind our scholars to put their futures into focus. As we continue to focus on college and career readiness, Ms. Neal provides an example to our scholars that learning never stops."

To watch the surprise, click this link to watch the [video](#).

Palmetto State Teachers Association is the largest professional education association for teachers in South Carolina. Dr. Elizabeth Gressette, a former public school kindergarten teacher, was the founding member of PSTA in 1976. PSTA provides professional benefits to support its members throughout their careers in education. More information can be found at www.palmettoteachers.org.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally-accredited school district that is 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 more than 50,000 students in 87 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.