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Melissa Brubaker
Principal at North Charleston Elementary

CCSD Welcomes New Principal at North Charleston Elementary

Charleston, SC — Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce and welcome Melissa Brubaker as principal at North Charleston Elementary School. Brubaker joins CCSD from Dougherty County Schools (DCS) in Albany, GA where she has served as the principal of Alice Coachman Elementary since 2016. Current North Charleston Elementary Principal, Jeff Beckwith, will be transitioning to serve as the district's Director of Elementary Learning this year.

Brubaker began her career as a guidance counselor at East Coweta High in Sharpsburg, GA in 2005, eventually advancing to director of guidance within a few years. In 2013, Brubaker moved into administration, taking on the role of assistant principal at East Coweta for a year before transitioning to DCS to serve in the same capacity at Southside Middle School for the next two years. In 2016, she accepted the position of principal at Alice Coachman Elementary.

During her time at Alice Coachman, Brubaker led, recruited, and trained a staff of 70, as well as led a volunteer Local School Governance Team comprised of parents, community leaders, and school members. Through her leadership and community relations skills, Brubaker was successful in building strong community partnerships for philanthropic support and volunteerism, and strong parental support through school activities, personal home visits, and social media engagement. Additionally, she increased extracurricular offerings by starting track, robotics, chorus, and art club, and increased field trip opportunities for all students by requiring two field trips per grade level annually funded by private support. Among many notable accomplishments, Brubaker increased the 2018-19 Georgia College and Career Readiness Performance index score for the school by 10.2 points, with an anticipated 10-point increase for 2019-20, enabling the removal of Alice Coachman from the

state's turnaround list. She was also able to reduce major discipline incidents by 50% over four years and achieve a Five Star School Climate Safety Rating.

Brubaker earned a Bachelor of Science in Recreational Therapy from Western Carolina University and a Master of Education in School Counseling from Valdosta State University. She holds an Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership from the University of West Georgia, as well as a Georgia Level 6 Education Leadership Tier II certification and Level 6 School Counseling certification. She is a member of the Georgia Association of Elementary School Principals and the Georgia Association of Educators, and was a graduate of the inaugural 2018-19 Georgia Governor's School Leadership Academy. She completed the Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement Leadership Development Program in 2018 and was a participant in the Chief Turnaround Office's School Turnaround Leadership Professional Development in 2019.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.