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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From L to R: Shaunta Murray, Titorya Armstrong, and Aaron Oliver

**OCSD WELCOMES THREE NEW TEACHERS THROUGH LOCAL COLLEGE
PARTNERSHIP'S TEACHER SIGNING DAY**

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) proudly hosted its Teacher Signing Day event, welcoming three talented new educators through a unique celebration. Modeled after athletic signing day events, the Teacher Signing Day highlighted student teachers from local colleges committing to begin their careers with OCSD. This special event was made possible through the district's strong partnerships with South Carolina State University and Claflin University, marking a major step in strengthening the future of education in Orangeburg County.

The three student teachers who signed to teach with OCSD are:

- Titorya Armstrong from Claflin University, who will be teaching 1st grade.
- Aaron Oliver from Claflin University, who will be teaching 6th grade Social Studies.
- Shaunta Murray from South Carolina State University, who will be teaching 1st grade.

The Teacher Signing Day event also featured inspiring reflections from teachers who joined OCSD last year. These educators, having just completed their first year, offered valuable insight into what it's like to work at OCSD.

One teacher shared, *"We are a family,"* while another reflected, *"There is no other place I would rather be."* Their words offered encouragement and support to the new signees, demonstrating the welcoming and collaborative environment OCSD is known for.

This program would not be possible without the support of our local college partners. Special thanks go to Dr. Janice Belton Owens, Director of Clinical Experiences at South Carolina State University, and Clarissa Graham, Instructor and Coordinator of Clinical Experiences and Community Engagement at Claflin University, for their continuous collaboration and guidance.

"These new teachers represent the future of education in Orangeburg County. We are excited to see the fresh perspectives and passion they will bring into their classrooms," said Dr. Sharon F. Hampton, OCSD Coordinator of Retention and Recruitment.

"This program is a testament to what we can achieve through collaboration. Our partnership with Claflin University and South Carolina State University ensures a pipeline of exceptional educators ready to make an impact in our schools. We are honored to welcome these educators into our district family." stated Dr. Shawn D. Foster, OCSD Superintendent.

OCSD is grateful to all who made the Teacher Signing Day event a success, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact these new teachers will have on our students and community.

Orangeburg County School District

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at ocsdsc.org

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