ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Whittaker Elementary School Welcomes Dr. Charlene Stokes as the New Interim Principal

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) Superintendent Dr. Shawn D. Foster is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Charlene Stokes as the interim principal of Whittaker Elementary School for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Dr. Stokes brings a wealth of experience and a distinguished career in educational leadership, having served in various capacities, including principal, assistant principal, and director of elementary and primary schools. Her expertise in instructional leadership, data-driven decision-making, and student achievement makes her an invaluable asset to Whittaker Elementary School.

"We are confident that Dr. Stokes' leadership and dedication to academic excellence will ensure a successful year for the students, faculty, and families of Whittaker Elementary," said Dr. Foster. "Her commitment to fostering a positive learning environment and driving student achievement aligns perfectly with our district's vision."

With over two decades of experience in school administration, Dr. Stokes has played a pivotal role in improving academic performance across multiple schools. Notably, under her leadership at Brookdale Elementary School, the school's accountability rating improved from an "F" to an "A,"

earning both Palmetto Gold and Silver awards for performance and closing the achievement gap. Her leadership at Robert E. Howard Middle School also contributed to its removal from the Priority School List.

"I am honored to serve as the interim principal at Whittaker Elementary and look forward to working collaboratively with teachers, students, and families to create an engaging and supportive learning environment," said Dr. Stokes.

Dr. Stokes holds an Ed.D. in Educational Administration from South Carolina State University, an Ed.S. from the University of South Carolina, and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from The City College of New York.

The Orangeburg County School District remains committed to fostering academic excellence and ensuring strong leadership in its schools. Dr. Stokes' appointment marks another step in the district's ongoing efforts to provide students with high-quality education and support.

For more information, please contact the Orangeburg County School District at (839) 356- 4040 or visit www.ocsdsc.org.

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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