ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
We Are One
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **Thursday, April 3, 2025**

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From left to right: Dr. Shawn Foster, Mrs. Lakekia Lewis, Mrs. Starleigh Jefferson (Staff Support of the Year), Ms. Kristi Kittrell (Teacher of the Year), Ms. Chasity Fralix, Mr. James McQuilla, and Mrs. Candace Vaughan proudly celebrate the dedication and commitment of OCSD's outstanding employees.

Orangeburg County School District Teacher and Employee of the Year Recognized at Rotary Club of Orangeburg-Morning

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District's (OCSD) 2025 Teacher of the Year and Employee of the Year were honored at the Rotary Club of Orangeburg Morning meeting held yesterday. These outstanding individuals were recognized for their exceptional dedication, hard work, and contributions to the success of students and the district.

Superintendent Dr. Shawn D. Foster expressed his gratitude to the honorees, stating, "Our educators and staff are the backbone of our district, shaping the lives of our students daily. We are thrilled to celebrate these two outstanding professionals whose commitment to excellence continues to impact our schools and community profoundly."

The Teacher of the Year (TOY), Kristi Kittrell, has demonstrated exemplary leadership in the classroom, fostering a love of learning and inspiring students to achieve their fullest potential. Through innovative teaching methods and an unwavering commitment to student success, Kristi Kittrell has set a standard of excellence that serves as a model for educators across the district.

The Staff Support of the Year (SSOY), Starleigh Jefferson, has played a pivotal role in ensuring that the school district operates smoothly, providing invaluable support to students, staff, and families. Their dedication to service and steadfast commitment to excellence make them a

deserving recipient of this distinguished recognition. The Rotary Club of Orangeburg-Morning, known for its commitment to service and community engagement, provided a fitting venue for this special recognition – Cornerstone Church in Orangeburg. Members of the Rotary Club joined district leaders, educators, and community stakeholders in celebrating the achievements of these remarkable individuals.

The Orangeburg County School District extends heartfelt congratulations to both honorees and thanks them for their tireless efforts in supporting the students and schools of Orangeburg County. The district also recognizes the invaluable role that community organizations and partnerships play in enhancing educational opportunities and fostering positive outcomes for students and educators. These collaborations provide essential resources, mentorship, and encouragement that contribute to the overall success of OCSD. The district deeply appreciates the Rotary Club of Orangeburg-Morning for its recognition and continued support of public education.

For more information about the Orangeburg County School District and its initiatives, please visit https://www.ocsdsc.org or contact Dr. Erica S. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent of Communications and Business and Community Partnerships.

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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