ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Orangeburg County School District Unveils New Mascot for Robert E. Howard Elementary School: Meet "Wag the Wolverine"!

ORANGEBURG, S.C. – The Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) is proud to announce the official mascot for Robert E. Howard Elementary School: Wag the Wolverine!

The name and image of the new mascot were the result of a thoughtful, collaborative effort by a dedicated team representing Robert E. Howard Elementary School, Brookdale Elementary School, Whittaker Elementary School, and Mellichamp Elementary School. Teachers, parents, staff, community members, and school leaders worked together to guide the process and ensure all voices were heard.

Several designs of Wag the Wolverine were created and shared with students across the four schools, who then had the opportunity to vote for their favorite version. This student-driven decision-making added excitement, engagement, and school pride throughout the process.

What made this initiative even more meaningful was the creative talent behind the mascot. The final three versions of Wag were hand-drawn, digitized, and brought to life by the district's own

Graphic Specialist, Hatara Tyson. Tyson's deep connection to the community made her contribution especially significant—her grandmother is a proud alumna of the historic Wilkinson High School, class of 1965.

The new mascot is a tribute to the legacy of the school's namesake, Robert E. Howard, a beloved educator and respected community leader from Orangeburg, South Carolina. Howard dedicated more than 40 years of his life to education and the advancement of African American students during segregation and the Civil Rights Movement. He served as principal of the former Wilkinson High School and was instrumental in shaping academic and extracurricular excellence during a pivotal time in history. Known for his unwavering commitment to student achievement and character development, Howard left an indelible mark on generations of learners and educators. His life's work stands as a testament to the power of education, leadership, and community pride.

"Wag the Wolverine is more than just a mascot—he's a symbol of unity, pride, and the power of student voice," said Dr. Shawn D. Foster, superintendent of Orangeburg County School District. "This process brought together four schools, our families, our educators, and our community to create something meaningful that reflects the spirit of our students and the legacy of Robert E. Howard. I'm proud of the creativity and collaboration that made this possible."

The district looks forward to seeing Wag proudly represent Robert E. Howard Elementary School in years to come, rallying students, families, and the community in school spirit and success.

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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