ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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North High School and Hunter-Kinard-Tyler High School Band Programs Earn South Carolina's Highest Honor

Orangeburg, S.C. – Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) proudly celebrates a historic milestone for the band programs at North High School and Hunter-Kinard-Tyler High School, which have received the prestigious "Outstanding Performance Award" from the South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCBDA). This recognition is the highest honor a band program can receive in the state of South Carolina.

The SCBDA Outstanding Performance Award is given to band programs that consistently demonstrate musical excellence by earning "Excellent" and "Superior" ratings across a range of competitive and adjudicated events, including:

- Lower/State Marching Band Championships
- Concert Performance Assessment
- Region and All-State Honor Band
- Solo & Ensemble Festival

The South Carolina Band Directors Association (SCBDA) is a division of the South Carolina Music Educators Association and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). It provides educational performance opportunities, promotes the advancement of band programs throughout the state, and sets rigorous standards to recognize exemplary achievement in music education.

"This is truly a landmark moment for our band programs," said Mr. Herman Marsh, Band Director. "Our students have shown an exceptional level of commitment, passion, and resilience throughout the year. To earn this award—the highest distinction in the state—is a reflection of their hard work, the support of our school community, and the power of music education."

This marks the first time in the history of either school's band program that the Outstanding Performance Award has been achieved, setting a new benchmark for excellence in the district. "This accomplishment represents the very best of what we strive for in Orangeburg County School District," said Dr. Shawn D. Foster, Superintendent. "The students at North High and Hunter-Kinard-Tyler have not only excelled in their musical talents, but they've also demonstrated the values of perseverance, collaboration, and excellence. We are extremely proud of them, their director, and everyone who supported this outstanding journey."

The OCSD extends its appreciation to the administration, faculty, staff, and families at both schools for their unwavering support of the arts and student achievement.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Erica S. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent for Communications and Business and Community Partnerships, at erica.taylor@ocsdsc.org or 839-356-4040.

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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