

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Charleston County School District Launches Education Foundation, Names Patrick Arnold as Executive Director

Office of Communications

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Charleston, SC - Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce the formation of the CCSD Education Foundation, a new philanthropic initiative focused on strengthening public education through community partnerships and private support. The Foundation's mission is to expand opportunities and resources for CCSD's students, educators, and families, helping to ensure that every child has access to the tools and support needed to succeed in school and beyond.

The CCSD Education Foundation will serve as the center for innovation, investment, and collaboration, aligning community generosity with strategic district priorities. It will help drive progress across Charleston County's public schools by enhancing classroom instruction, recognizing outstanding educators, and supporting family engagement and student well-being.

The district has named Patrick L. Arnold as the Foundation's first Executive Director. A longtime nonprofit leader and government relations expert, Arnold brings more than 15 years of experience leading advocacy efforts, managing complex initiatives, and building collaborative networks across the Lowcountry and beyond. Most recently, he served in leadership roles with the Historic Charleston Foundation and the Charleston Home Builders Association.

"Charleston County is filled with individuals and organizations who want to invest in the future of our children," said Superintendent Anita Huggins. "The CCSD Education Foundation will give them a clear, coordinated way to do that with transparency, creativity, and purpose. Patrick's experience in advocacy, policy, and community leadership makes him the perfect choice to lead this work."

"We have a unique opportunity to bring bold ideas to life and ensure that every student in Charleston County has the tools they need to succeed," said Arnold. "I'm honored to help launch this foundation and look forward to working alongside our schools and community to turn vision into impact."

"By housing the Foundation within the Finance Division, we're ensuring that every contribution is handled with care, transparency, and strategic alignment," said Daniel Prentice, CCSD Chief Financial Officer. "Our goal is to build lasting trust with

donors and partners while maximizing the impact of every dollar in support of students and schools.”

The CCSD Foundation will launch this summer, with upcoming details on how individuals and organizations can get involved and support key district priorities.

For more information, please contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.