



Charleston County School District
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Media Release

CCSD Recognizes Several Employees and Scholars at Board of Trustees Meeting

Charleston, SC (August 26, 2025) - At Charleston County School District's (CCSD) Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, August 25, 2025, several individuals were honored as part of the district's special recognition program.

Bill Joy, the financial literacy teacher at Lucy Beckham High School, was recently named as one of the eight inaugural Teacher Fellows for the Foundation for Economic Education. This new initiative identifies and supports outstanding educators who exemplify a deep commitment to the principles of liberty, individual responsibility, and free markets, which aligns with its mission to inspire, educate, and connect future leaders with the economic, ethical, and legal principles of a free society.

As part of the Fellowship, Joy will collaborate with the Foundation's Learning Center, a growing hub for educator support with members from all 50 states and beyond. Fellows serve as ambassadors of the Learning Center, leading professional development workshops, developing classroom curriculum, and contributing to innovative programs in economic and personal finance education.

Additionally, the Board celebrated the staff at Northwoods Middle School, as the Nighthawks were recently honored as one of America's Healthiest Schools by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. The national children's health organization released its 2025 list earlier this summer, which recognizes more than 1,000 K-12 schools throughout the country for their commitment to advancing whole child health.

Northwoods Middle is the only school in CCSD to earn this honor this year, and one of just four in the state to earn certification in all nine areas that are part of this recognition: Strengthening Social-Emotional Health & Learning, Cultivating Staff Well-Being, Increasing Family & Community Engagement, Improving Nutrition & Food Access, Implementing Local School Wellness Policy, Bolstering Physical Education & Activity, Enriching Health Education, Promoting Tobacco-Free Schools, and Supporting School Health Services.

Also, three R.B. Stall High School students received full scholarships to attend Charleston Southern University (CSU). Led by Keith Faulkner, and Dr. Anthony Turner, CSU has selected two of the school's very best to receive a 4-year full-ride scholarship to attend the school. This year, Dr. Turner surprised Stall by adding a third.

Miguel Berbisi, Melanie Garcia, and Deyron Cascante are the 2025 recipients of the Global Dreamer and the CSU Access Scholarships. As first-generation college goers, this remarkable

gift will no doubt unlock countless opportunities for these young people and their families. Miguel graduated with a 4.838 and plans to pursue Biology, Melanie graduated with a 4.5 and will study business, and Deyron graduated with a 4.5 and plans to study Computer Science.

“Having once been their principal, I am so very proud of their accomplishments and exceptionally grateful to Dr. Turner and CSU for their investment in our children,” said Principal Steve Larson.

The Financial Services team earned CCSD’s first-ever Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association.

“To be the largest agency in South Carolina and one of only two K-12 districts in the state to receive this honor is a powerful reflection of their hard work and commitment to serving our students and community with excellence,” said Superintendent Anita Huggins.

Chief Financial Officer Daniel Prentice, Jessica Carraher, the Associate of Finance, and Jennifer Carter, Executive Director of Financial Operations, as well as the whole Finance team, were recognized for their dedication and for setting such a high standard for CCSD.

Lastly, the inaugural **212° - The Extra Degree Award** was given out to Judy Wyndham, CCSD’s Director of Customer Support for Information Technology. On the first day of school, Ryan Cumback, Executive Director of the High School Learning Community, received a call from Brion Rutherford, principal at Baptist Hill High School. They were short 200 Chromebook chargers. Cumback called Wyndham, and within two hours, she was driving to Hollywood to personally deliver them.

This year, CCSD is embracing the theme of 212° — The Power of One Degree. Just as water becomes unstoppable when it shifts from hot to boiling, we believe that one small extra effort can change everything for our students, families, schools, and systems.

To recognize individuals who bring that “extra degree” of effort, care, and innovation that transforms outcomes for students, colleagues, and the community, we are launching a very special acknowledgement: **212° - The Extra Degree Award**.

Recipients of the Extra Degree Award will be those who demonstrate consistent excellence and extra effort. They go above and beyond in ways that directly improve student learning, well-being, or school culture. They have a positive impact on others. They embody Innovation and initiative and identify challenges, and take action. Recipients model the district’s commitment to respect, equity, collaboration, and student success.

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.

