Charleston County School District
Office of Communications
75 Calhoun St.,
Charleston, SC 29401
(843) 937-6300

Media Release

CCSD School Psychologist Shannon Hipp Selected for National Outstanding Advocate Award

CHARLESTON, S.C. (November 10, 2026) – In recognition of National School Psychology Week (November 9–13), Charleston County School District (CCSD) is celebrating the important contributions of its school psychologists and the national recognition of one of its own. Shannon Hipp has been selected to receive the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Outstanding Advocate Award, in recognition of her commitment to advancing the profession and advocating for children's needs.

National School Psychology Week highlights the essential role school psychologists play in supporting students' academic success, mental health, and social-emotional well-being. Through collaboration with educators, families, and communities, school psychologists help create safe, supportive learning environments where every student can thrive.
The NASP Outstanding Advocate Award recognizes individuals or groups in school psychology who have worked to create systemic change in policies governing the delivery of educational and mental health services while supporting NASP's mission and goals.
Hipp will represent South Carolina at the 2027 NASP Annual Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she will formally receive the award during a reception on Wednesday, February 24, 2027.

“Shannon's selection for this national recognition is a tremendous honor and a reflection of her dedication to children, families, and the school psychology profession,” said Superintendent Anita Huggins. “Her advocacy helps strengthen the systems and supports that allow students to thrive. We are incredibly proud of her and grateful for the work she continues to do on behalf of children.”

Hipp's recognition also highlights the important work of school psychologists throughout CCSD, whose expertise and dedication help address the diverse needs of students and ensure they have access to the support and resources they need to succeed.

“Advocacy is an essential part of ensuring that every child has access to the resources, services, and opportunities they need to succeed,” said Hipp. “I am honored to receive this recognition and grateful to be part of a profession that works every day to make a positive difference in the lives of children.”

The National Association of School Psychologists is the leading professional organization representing school psychology and works to promote effective practices that support students' learning, behavior, and mental health.

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 dedicated to ensuring every student has access to a high-quality education and the support needed to thrive. As South Carolina's second-largest school system, CCSD serves more than 50,000 students across 91 schools and specialized programs throughout 1,300 square miles of coastal communities, representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools.

Under the leadership of Superintendent Anita Huggins, CCSD is focused on accelerating student achievement, expanding opportunities, and preparing every student for success in college, career, and life. Recent district accomplishments include record-high academic performance on state assessments, increasing graduation rates, and significant gains in college and career readiness, reflecting the district's commitment to continuous improvement and educational excellence. Through the Peninsula Promise, CCSD is also expanding access to early learning, college and career pathways, arts, and family support services to create seamless opportunities for students living on the historic Charleston Peninsula.

CCSD offers a diverse and expanding portfolio of educational choices, including neighborhood, magnet, charter, Montessori, and International Baccalaureate (IB) schools and programs. Students have access to rich learning experiences in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); visual and performing arts; world languages; military and leadership programs; career and technical education; dual enrollment and early college opportunities; and other innovative pathways designed to meet a wide range of interests and aspirations.

Working in partnership with families, community organizations, higher education institutions, and industry leaders, CCSD remains committed to creating equitable opportunities, fostering student success, and ensuring that every graduate is prepared to contribute and compete in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.