

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

CCSD 2017 Teacher of the Year Finalists Named

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Charleston, SC — The Charleston County School District (CCSD) is pleased to announce the Top 5 Finalists for Teacher of the Year. It was a day full of excitement, as District officials traveled across Charleston County with Charlie the RiverDog and MINI of Charleston to surprise the five unsuspecting finalists on Thursday, March 9, 2017.

Vehicles were provided by MINI of Charleston, which allowed the group to showcase the grand prize, a free year lease on a brand new MINI, to each potential District Teacher of the Year. LIVE social media posts happened throughout the day, to make for an even more engaging experience for all following the excitement.

The five finalists for 2017 are:

- **Barbara Allen**, *third grade teacher*- Mt. Pleasant Academy
- **Elizabeth O'Brien**, *special education teacher*- Laurel Hill Primary
- **Mia Pace**, *computer lab teacher*- Mitchell Elementary School
- **Eric Stallings**, *eighth grade teacher*- Baptist Hill Middle-High School
- **Glenn Tollefsen**, *kindergarten teacher*- Stono Park Elementary School

The 2017 District Teacher of the Year will be announced at the Teacher of the Year Celebration Dinner on Thursday, May 4, 2017. All media partners are invited and encouraged to attend this special evening where CCSD will honor each school's Teacher of the Year, in addition to announcing the 2017 District Teacher of the Year.

For biographies and photos on the five finalists, click [here](#).

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along

the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and several specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities led by associate superintendents. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.