

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

RiverDogs to Partner with CCSD for "Reading Around the Bases"

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Charleston, SC — Charleston County School District (CCSD) is excited to announce a partnership with the Charleston RiverDogs called "Reading Around the Bases".

In an effort to encourage and improve literacy, the Lowcountry's professional baseball team and South Atlantic League affiliate of the 27-time World Series Champion New York Yankees, has agreed to work with second grade classes throughout CCSD.

Starting tomorrow, Thursday, January 19, 2017, schools from all over CCSD will start "Reading Around the Bases," a 12-week baseball-themed incentive program. Each student will receive a Reading Challenge packet that includes a score card, tracking sheet, and their very own personal baseball card.

To move around on the bases on the score card, a student must read a certain number of pages; 100 pages for a single, 200 pages for a double, 300 pages for a triple, and 500 pages for a home run! Students also earn points for their class depending on how far they advance on the score card.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our district's second graders. Hopefully, the competition between classes in each school will motivate students to read more than they have in the past," said Terri Nichols, CCSD Associate Superintendent of Schools. "More importantly, we believe this program can enhance literacy, and lead to a lifetime of reading for fun and expanding each student's world."

During the program, special guests from the RiverDogs will visit schools in the District to provide encouragement, fun, and serve as volunteer readers.

"Literacy has long been a community initiative of the Charleston RiverDogs," added Dave Echols, RiverDogs' President. "We are excited to partner with CCSD in bringing our 'Fun is Good' approach to reading to Lowcountry second graders."

The winning second grade class from each participating school will receive special seating at the Educators Day game at Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Park on May 31, 2017, as well as participate in special events before and during the contest.

For more information on "Reading Around the Bases," please contact Jessica Richards with CCSD at (843) 937-6300, or Zana Bowens with the RiverDogs at (843) 723-7241.

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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.