

**For Immediate Release**

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## **CCSD Announces Christine 'Chris' Ryan as Interim Principal of James Simons**

**Charleston, SC** — Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce Chris Ryan as Interim Principal of James Simons. Ryan has served as Assistant Principal of James Simons since 2012.

**Office of Strategy and  
Communications**

**Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.**

Superintendent of Schools

**Erica S. Taylor**

Chief Officer

Ryan began her career in 1983 as an elementary school teacher in Alachua and Kane County School Districts in Florida and Illinois.

In 1993, Ryan moved to Kansas where she served as a reading and ED self-contained teacher in Leavenworth County School District and at a local catholic school for two years. Returning to South Carolina in 1995, Ryan joined Horry County School District where she served as a school resource teacher at St. James Middle, Socastee High, and Forestbrook Middle. Ryan also taught as an elementary teacher at St. Andrew Catholic School for four years where she was given the Wellman, Inc. Golden Apple Award of Teacher of the Year for 1998-1999. She was also a middle school language arts and math teacher at St. Michael Catholic in the area from 2003-2005.

In 2005, Ryan relocated to Charleston to serve as a teacher coach at Laing Middle School. During her time at Laing, Ryan assisted in the development of middle school math curriculum, the CCSD FIT Band Instruction Lesson Bank, and conducted professional development on how to create effective formative and summative assessments, as well as how to understand test results and set SMART goals. In 2007, she moved to the District 3/9 Office to serve as a learning specialist. Within this role, she supervised teacher coaches and planned district-wide teacher coach meetings, conducted induction teacher trainings in math and MAP, supported the Associate Superintendent, and led summer professional development for school leaders on common assessments. In 2012, Ryan was named the Assistant Principal at James Simons.

Ryan holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Special Education from Illinois State University, a Master of Education in Reading from University of Florida Gainesville, and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from The Citadel.

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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.