

For Immediate Release
February 5, 2019

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Media Release

CCSD Hosts Teacher of the Year Inauguration and Leadership Summit

Charleston, SC – Charleston County School District (CCSD) Teachers of the Year were honored Friday, February 1, 2019 at an inauguration and leadership summit designed to celebrate teachers with a professional development focus on leadership through connections, collaboration, and advocacy.

**Office of Strategy and
Communications**

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Superintendent of Schools

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The summit was organized by CCSD's 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year Mia Pace, Stephanie Haecherl, the 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year, and the District's Honor Roll Team (the top five finalists for Teachers of the Year from across the district).

The event featured speakers Dr. Jenna Hallman, 2008-2009 South Carolina Teacher of the Year, Nicholas Snyder 2017 Berkeley County Teacher of the Year, and Julie Chapman South Carolina Chapter Leader of Our Community Listens.

Breakout sessions and short lecture topics included everything from coaching, teacher recruitment, employee relations, mentoring and online learning.

"Being named as a school's Teacher of the Year is a huge accomplishment and speaks volumes about their work inside and outside of the classroom," said Haecherl. "It is a testament to how teachers truly have a positive impact on those in our profession and the community at large."

Haecherl described the day as an opportunity to show teachers they are appreciated and to encourage them to become more involved in things that truly have an impact not just in their classrooms and schools, but in the district as a whole.

"CCSD is working hard to try and ensure students, teachers, and staff members feel valued in their work and learning," said Haecherl. "This summit helps to inspire teacher leaders and build a foundation for collaboration that allows us opportunities to make a difference and promote change."

Haecherl attended the summit last year and left with a sense of enlightenment. She said networking with teachers from across the district and having the opportunity to meet with District representatives was priceless.

"There are incredible resources for teachers within the district if we focus on ways we can better connect the two," added Haecherl. "I wish every teacher could have an opportunity to participate in a similar professional development. Building stronger relationships between teachers and those who help make decisions about the future of education in our district are greatly needed."

To learn more about the 2018-2019 Teachers of the Year, visit ccsdschools.com.

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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 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. 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.