



For Immediate Release

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Contact:

David Parler 843-762-2784

Media Release

Camp Road Middle Breaks Ground for New School

Camp Road Middle School

Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Cynthia Ambrose
Deputy Superintendent of Learning
Services

Joseph Williams, Ed.D.
Executive Director of Middle School
Learning Community

David Parler
Principal

Charleston, SC - Charleston County School District (CCSD) officials joined local dignitaries Friday, December 7, 2018 to break ground for the new Camp Road Middle School building. Construction is scheduled to be complete for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

School administrators from Camp Road Middle, CCSD Board of Trustees members, leaders from the District, City of Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg, Town of James Island Mayor Pro Tem Leonard Blank, and Town of Folly Beach Mayor Tim Goodwin participated in the event. They were treated to a choral performance by Camp Road students, including 6th graders who will be the first 8th graders at the new building.

In November 2014, the citizens of Charleston County voted to continue the penny sales tax to help fund building projects for the 2016-2022 building phase. A community task force was created in January 2015 to create the vision for this project. Part of that vision was merging the two former middle schools, Fort Johnson Middle School and James Island Middle School, into one middle school and building one middle school for all students on James Island.

"We are building on what I consider an 'historical site'; this is where the first high school was built on James Island, in 1953," said Camp Road Middle School Principal David Parler. "As part of this vision, we hope to continue to honor this piece of community history with a strong alumni group that has stayed in close contact with CCSD throughout this process. The community now has one middle school to support and we look forward to bright future with a state of the art facility in the spring of 2020, when the 6th graders who recited the Pledge of Allegiance today will be 8th graders in the new building."

The school's mascot is the Cougars, and the colors are silver and royal blue.

"I am so excited about this opportunity for the James Island community," said Dr. Joe Williams, Executive Director of the Middle School Learning Community. "We are building one amazing middle school for scholars that will give all access to a state of the art facility supporting the high-quality education they will receive."

The new Camp Road Middle School will be approximately 137,000 square feet and have an initial capacity to serve 900 students, with a core and expansion space for a future capacity of 1,200 students.

The middle school serves all of James Island students. The school is currently housed on the campus of the former James Island Middle while the state-of-the-art new school is being constructed on the former Fort Johnson Middle property. The school offers Project Lead the Way engineering classes, chorus, French and Spanish.

Fast Facts

Construction Management: Cumming
Project Manager: Joe Christian
Site Manager: Ryan Jordan
Architect: Rosenblum Coe
General Contractor: TQ Constructors
Project budget: \$43 million
Square Footage: 137,000 SF
Site Size: 15 acres

For more information about the ceremony or the school, contact Principal David Parler at (843) 762-2784.

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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.