

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

District Hosts Topping Off Ceremony for New C.E. Williams Middle School

Charleston, SC – A “topping off” ceremony was held Thursday, May 30, 2019, to celebrate the construction of the new C.E. Williams Middle School in West Ashley.

**Office of Strategy and
Communications**

Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Erica Taylor
Chief of Staff

Students and officials from the school and Charleston County School District signed a beam that was raised and put in position. This commemorative gesture represents the last beam being placed atop a structure during its construction.

The new 137,227 square-foot, 900-student, two-story facility is located at 3090 Sanders Road.

The contractor for the \$53.3 million project is Contract Construction Incorporated, and LS3P is the architect. The school is scheduled to open in August 2020.

C.E. Williams was established in 1968 and named after Chalmers Elliott Williams who served as the Superintendent of St. Andrew’s Parish School District 10 from 1943 to 1975. Principal Kevin Smith, a native of Charleston, attended the middle school when he was growing up.

“It was at CEW that I developed confidence in my artistic talent which led me to obtain a degree in visual arts and I returned to CCSD to teach,” said Smith. “As life does, the twists and turns have led me back to CEW. Having the opportunity to be a part of building a school that helped build me is an honor.”

Superintendent Dr. Gerrita Postlewait said the district is committed to creating and maintaining the best possible learning and work environments.

“Our Board of Trustees has been responsive to facilities needs and ensuring our students have state-of-the-art facilities to learn,” said Dr. Postlewait. “This is a milestone in the school’s long history and a well-deserved upgrade for the students and the community.”

Smith said he hopes that the new building becomes an integral part of the community as it prepares learners for high school, college, and careers.

"May this building provide them with a physical environment that will shelter, nurture and prepare them for great things to come and to be a place of which we can all be proud," said Smith

For more information about the ceremony or C. E. Williams Middle School, please contact Principal Kevin Smith at (843) 763-1529.

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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 spanning 1,300 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.