

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

School Year Launches with NASA and Area STEM Businesses

Charleston, SC - On Wednesday, August 29 almost 1000 Charleston County School District (CCSD) students from over 20 schools will attend the STEM Career Fair where they will see demonstrations of NASA's new heavy-lift rocket, the Space Launch System. The event, hosted by Charleston County, allows students to explore STEM-related career opportunities.

Office of Strategy and
Communications

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Superintendent of Schools

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As part of the Career Fair, retired astronaut Dr. Don Thomas will be on hand to speak to the attending middle and high school students and later in the week will visit students at St. Andrew's School of Math and Science Elementary, Angel Oak Elementary, Mary Ford Elementary, Sanders-Clyde Elementary and North Charleston Elementary.

The career fair is being held from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the North Charleston Convention Center located at 5000 Coliseum Drive.

Students that attend will be able to:

- Meet retired NASA Astronaut Dr. Don Thomas
- Explore the NASA and STEM Expo
- Interact with NASA Staff
- Engage in hands-on STEM Activities
- Meet Representatives from local colleges and businesses

Chad Vail, Work-based Learning Partnerships Coordinator, Career & Technology Education Support Team with the Charleston County School District, said the invitation to Charleston County students to participate is one of kind. "The opportunity for career exploration this will provide our students is immeasurable."

"This is an amazing opportunity for our community for collaboration and commerce," said event organizer, and Charleston County Government Operations Officer Kevin Limehouse. "We feel this expo will be more than just connections

with NASA, and will allow likeminded businesses and organizations to meet and work together.”

Media Contacts: Please RSVP to Andy Pruitt at andrew_pruitt@charleston.k12.sc.us.

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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.