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Media Release

South Carolina CTE Teacher of the Year Award Goes to St. John's High School Instructor

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Charleston, SC — Darwin Shorters, a computer science instructor at St. John's High School, was recently named the 2016 South Carolina Career and Technology Education (CTE) Teacher of the Year by the South Carolina Department of Education. He is known for his commitment to his students, his devotion to teaching, and his far-reaching leadership. His passion for and knowledge of career and technology programs is recognized widely at his school.

"Darwin has made a profound impact on the students of St. John's High School," said Andre Dukes, principal at St. John's High School. "I am proud of his work for preparing our young people to be Scholars of the Island, Citizens of the World. The role of a teacher is challenging and Darwin has conquered the challenge with the utmost professionalism."

This isn't the first time that Mr. Shorters has been recognized for his contributions. Earlier this year he was recognized as the 2016 Teacher of the Year by Project Lead the Way.

"I am a firm believer that if you do good things, then good things will happen," said Darwin Shorters. "Winning this award is definitely an honorable, good thing. More importantly, it shows everyone that at St. John's High School, we have incredible top notch students. Our slogan is not just a collection of words. We have Scholars on the Island and our students will be Citizens that will lead our World."

Mr. Shorters will formally receive his award at the 2016 SC Education and Business Summit on Monday, June 27, 2016, at the TD Convention Center in Greenville, SC in the Main Ballroom. The event will start at 9:00 a.m.

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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.

About Vision 2016

Vision 2016 is the next phase of Charleston Achieving Excellence, CCSD's flagship reform initiative. The five-year plan aims to dramatically improve the achievement of every student in Charleston County and includes three fundamental goals: 1) close the achievement gap, 2) elevate achievement overall and 3) raise the graduation rate. These goals were developed through a series of community engagement meetings in partnership with the CCSD Board of Trustees.