

Focus ON CCSD

News for, by and about Charleston County School District,
the state of South Carolina's premier school district where *Students are the Heart of Our Work.*

Volume 2 | Edition 3 | March 2019



Top 5 Finalists for 2019 Teacher of the Year Announced



ERIN BUA
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT
JAMES B. EDWARDS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



JAMES COSTNER
MATH TEACHER AT
LAING MIDDLE SCHOOL



JAYUNTAY WILLIAMS
MATH TEACHER AT
WEST ASHLEY MIDDLE ADVANCED
STUDIES MAGNET



MELISSA REESE
PRIMARY MONTESSORI TEACHER AT
MURRAY-LASAINE ELEMENTARY



SHANTIA WILDER
CHILD DEVELOPMENT TEACHER AT
CHICORA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Becoming a Teacher of the Year (TOY) at a school is a significant honor. So, to be named a Charleston County School District (CCSD) TOY finalist is a huge deal.

On Thursday, March 7, 2019 the district's current TOY, Stephanie Haecherl, (Whitesides Elementary School) and District officials surprised the 2019 Top 5 finalists for CCSD Teacher of the Year.

Live announcements and updates were provided on the District's social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter (@CCSDConnects).

Photos from the day can also be found there.

Each finalist had the opportunity to check out a BMW from Rick Hendrick BMW of Charleston that the District Teacher of the Year will receive at the TOY Celebration, which is scheduled for May 9, 2019. Congratulations to each of our finalists!



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Young Author Shares Book With Peers at A.C. Corcoran

“Please Don’t Touch My Magical Hair” is the latest children’s book from the Chocolate Kid Chronicles, written by the mother and son duo, Dr. Vivian Jolley Bea and Charles Bea, Jr.

They were invited to A.C. Corcoran Elementary by Principal Quenetta G. White, to make a guest appearance while on their book tour Friday, February 15, 2019.

Charles is a former student at James Simons Elementary School where at the time, White was his principal. The family has since moved out of state but the third-grader loves to read and is a rising star in the tennis world.

According to Dr. Bea, children seek to understand their place in the world.

“The Chocolate Kid Chronicles shares stories that are unique to children of color while celebrating the beauty and uniqueness of their experiences,” said Bea. “This assurance gives them a sense of pride and confirmation that their stories matter.”

“Please Don’t Touch my Magical Hair” is the first picture book of the series and aims to teach the importance of respecting one’s space while encouraging self-love and confidence. The book features an imaginative and courageous boy named Champ with big, brown eyes whose mission is to share his experiences with the world.

Understanding the importance of education and early childhood literacy, this mother and son team decided to create a diverse picture book series of stories relatable to all children.

Dr. Bea is a Board Certified General Surgeon, specializing in Breast Surgical Oncology. She is also an author, speaker, educator, community activist, and mother of two boys, Caden and Charles. She remains passionate about her community and is the founder of a youth mentorship program.



CHARLES BEA, JR.

DR. VIVIAN JOLLEY BEA

“The Chocolate Kid Chronicles shares stories that are unique to children of color while celebrating the beauty and uniqueness of their experiences. This assurance gives them a sense of pride and confirmation that their stories matter.”

DR. VIVIAN JOLLEY BEA

Bread + Butter Chef Program Teaches Culinary Skills to CCSD Students



Bread+ Butter

Aaron Siegel, owner and founder of Home Team BBQ demonstrates salad preparation to West Ashley High School culinary students as part of the Bread + Butter program.

Bridging the gap between job training and placement for Charleston’s hospitality community is the mission of Bread + Butter a program that provides culinary arts students the hands-on training they need to be successful in the hospitality industry. Co-founders Xan McLaughlin and Becky Burke developed this initiative idea in 2015.

Two years ago, a partnership was formed with Charleston County School District to enable students to learn how to be chefs, leaders and confident members of their community. Bread + Butter launched its pilot program with Burke High School (BHS) students. It resulted in 30 percent of those students finding employment in the hospitality industry.

Bread + Butter placed those students in jobs after they met the application and interview requirements. Students completed a 120 hour paid externship for academic credit. That success led to the program expanding to West Ashley High School (WAHS).

Bread + Butter facilitates opportunities for local chefs to enrich the current culinary curriculum at the two schools. Guest chefs commit to teaching two classes a semester and hiring one student within the next year. Each class is like a working interview, and chefs get to know the students and their skill level.

“There will be 4,400 new jobs in Charleston’s hospitality industry by 2021,” said Burke. “There are over 1,700 restaurants in Charleston and more opening every day. Between 2015 and 2017, the number of National Restaurant Association members reporting labor recruitment as their top challenge more than doubled. Training and placing these students is critical to the industry.”

Participating chefs represent Charleston Country Club, Farmstead, Home Team BBQ, Husk, Les Dames, Magnolia’s, McCrady’s, Minero, Ms. Roses, SMG Entertainment, Swig and Swine, Trident Technical College, and Uptown Social.

Aaron Siegel, owner, and founder of Home Team BBQ, was recently a guest chef at West Ashley. While he demonstrated the art of blanching, shocking and plating vegetables, he weaved in soft-skill lessons that are critical to any line of work.

“I went to culinary school, not business school,” Siegel told the students. “In the beginning, I depended on my partners and investors to show me the business side of running a restaurant. What I learned through that process is that you have to take care of your employees and each other. Everything else will fall into place. Everyone has a home team. You take care of your team, hence the name of our restaurant.”

WAHS culinary instructor Jason Wheless said the course teaches essential life skills that students need to learn, even if a student doesn’t pursue culinary arts.

“Bread + Butter has tied in a lot of things as far as soft skills, that these students can take anywhere,” said Wheless. “Things such as being on time, being a member of a team, helping out your teammate, giving back to the community, being a good employee and being a good citizen are just some of the things being taught through this program and in this class.”

Wheless said that Bread + Butter mirrors his culinary curriculum in that it teaches front-of-the-house service techniques, customer

service, human resources, and management.

West Ashley student Brazil Murry recently completed the culinary courses at WAHS and has started her work-based learning requirements with a job at a local smoothie shop. She’s also been accepted to two renowned culinary institutes and is working to secure scholarships to attend one of them.

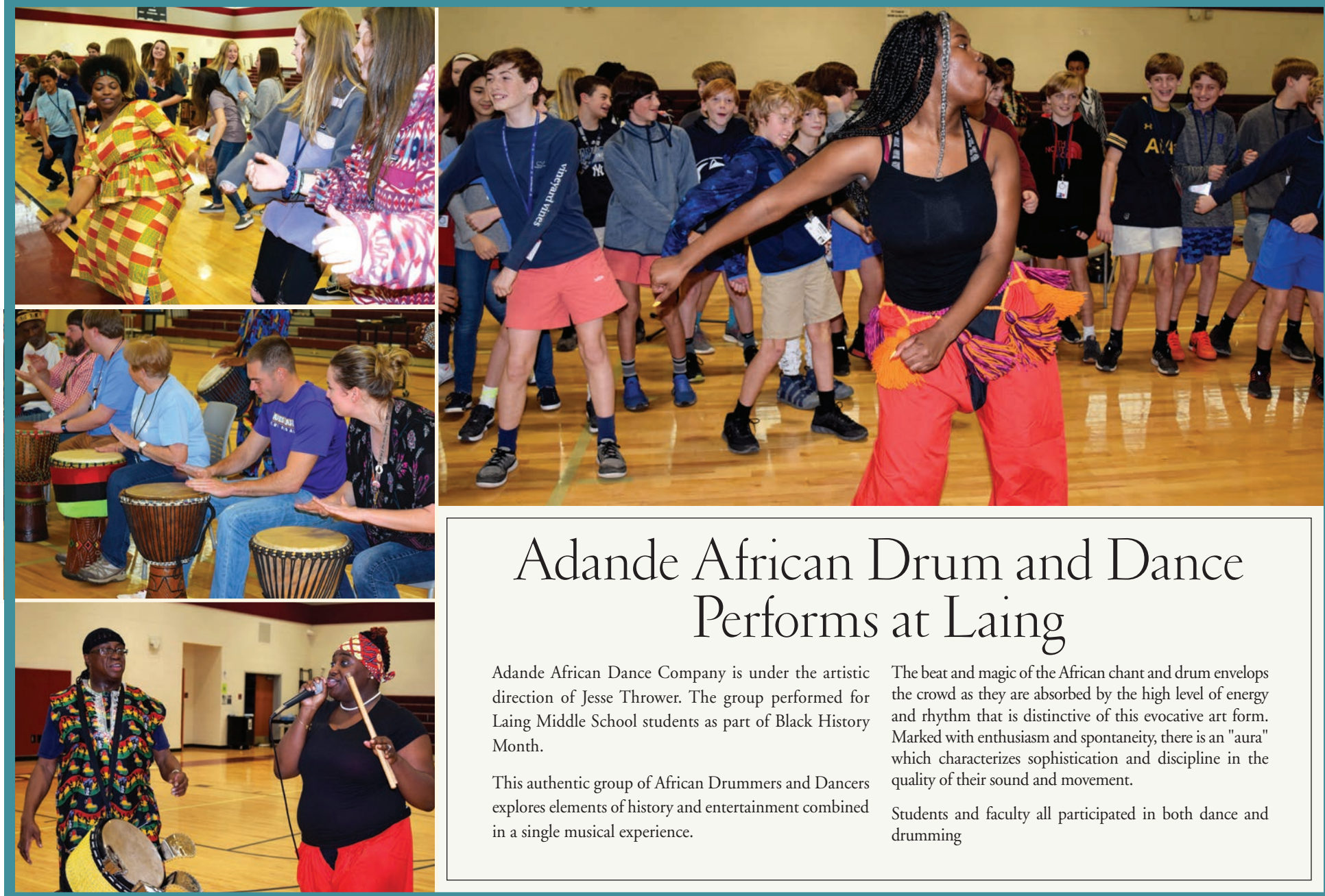
“Chef has taught me a lot in these classes,” said Murry. “I’ve learned everything from knife skills to sanitation. Taking those out into the real world and using them is important. The importance of building relationships is also something we’ve learned; you never know who is going to open a door for you.”

Those lessons went a long way for one BHS student. According to Burke, that student started the Bread + Butter program wearing an ankle monitor due to some poor choices he had made.

“Once he got immersed in the program he connected with a bunch of local chefs, began volunteering with them, helping out in any way he could and just kept up a terrific, positive attitude,” said Burke. “He ended up working at one of Charleston’s premier restaurants and is now on track for a leadership position all while balancing football, his home life, and school. He is growing as a person by working there, and they all love him.”

To learn more about CCSD’s culinary curriculum contact the Office of Strategy and Communications at 843-937-6303. For more information about Bread + Butter, visit www.breadandbutterchs.org.





Adande African Drum and Dance Performs at Laing

Adande African Dance Company is under the artistic direction of Jesse Thrower. The group performed for Laing Middle School students as part of Black History Month.

This authentic group of African Drummers and Dancers explores elements of history and entertainment combined in a single musical experience.

The beat and magic of the African chant and drum envelops the crowd as they are absorbed by the high level of energy and rhythm that is distinctive of this evocative art form. Marked with enthusiasm and spontaneity, there is an "aura" which characterizes sophistication and discipline in the quality of their sound and movement.

Students and faculty all participated in both dance and drumming

10 CCSD Students Participate in Boeing South Carolina High School Internship Program



Administrators of the Boeing South Carolina High School Internship Program have accepted ten Charleston County School District (CCSD) seniors to participate in this year's spring cohort.

The students are paid to work Monday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Their first day on the job was Friday, February 15, 2019. Their excitement at orientation was written all over their face.

It is a competitive application process that involves resumes, reference letters, and real-life interviews.

Joshua Sandoval a Garrett Academy senior chose to apply for the program because it directly leads to the career he's been interested in.

"I'm seeking a Mechanical Engineering degree, and this gives me the opportunity to discover future jobs available to me," said Sandoval. "I want to learn, discover and build my resume and prove who I am to my community. I want to give my community hope that anyone can do anything if they try hard enough."

Sandoval has been accepted to Clemson University and is waiting on a response from prestigious schools such as M.I.T. and Georgia Tech. Mechanical Engineering has been his dream profession since he was in second grade.

The students work on a specific reclamation program that sorts small parts from the manufacturing process for reuse and recycling. They are also afforded many opportunities to see behind the scenes in the Boeing process and forge invaluable relationships with professionals.

"This is a real-world experience for these students," said Chad Vail, Work Based Learning Partnership Coordinator with Career & Technology Education (CTE). "Their resumes are evaluated, and the students go through the interview process plus several onboarding steps."

- ### PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

Dinh Le, *Charleston Charter School for Math & Science*

Faith Polite, *Charleston Charter School for Math & Science*

Verenice Avila, *Garrett Academy*

Aquil Jenkins, *Garrett Academy*

Joshua Sandoval, *Garrett Academy*

Shy'Dazja Wright, *Garrett Academy*

Branden Foster, *RB Stall High School*

Mikai Keitt, *Wando High School*

Tyler Stryker, *Wando High School*

Joshua Harrington, *West Ashley High School*

This is the fifth year that the CTE department has coordinated the Boeing South Carolina High School Internship Program opportunity, growing the total number of spots with each new cohort.

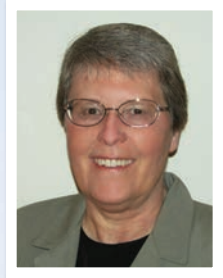
"This program is a win-win for Boeing and the students," said Erin Fisher, manager of global engagement at Boeing South Carolina. "The students have an opportunity to engage in on the job training while Boeing extends our reach in the local community to engage our future workforce."

Shy'Dazja Wright learned about the program from a classmate. She wants to be a lawyer but also wants to explore professional options.

"Boeing is more than just airplanes," said Wright. "I wanted to find out for myself if there were opportunities for me within the aviation industry."

For more information about CCSD's Career and Technology Education, visit ccsdschools.com.

CCSD'S SUSAN FRIEDRICH RECEIVES COABE RECOGNITION



SUSAN FRIEDRICH
CCSD's DIRECTOR OF ADULT EDUCATION

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce Susan Friedrich is the Coalition on Adult Basic Education's (COABE) 2019 Outstanding Administrator of the Year. Friedrich, who is CCSD's Director of Adult Education, will be honored in New Orleans at COABE's national conference in April.

COABE advances national and international adult education and literacy opportunities for all persons and represents the system of 55,000 adult educators in the United States.

COABE membership allows for participation in professional development webinars, attending virtual and national conferences and regional institutes, downloading the research journal, participating in and legislative advocacy initiatives, and joining in the award-winning "Educate and Elevate" national public awareness campaign.

The Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award is awarded to an adult education administrator with five or more years of experience who has made an outstanding contribution toward fostering the concept of education as a continuing life-process.

"I am humbled by this recognition," said Friedrich. "This award is for the hard working dedicated staff of the district's adult education program, who every day for years, have assisted the adult learner with earning their high school diploma, improving their English skills and/or preparing for post-secondary education/employment. Thank you to the numerous partner agencies who have opened their doors so adult education can provide on-site programs in the communities they serve and to the students and their families in making the commitment to overcome barriers to achieve success."

Friedrich was recently named the South Carolina Adult Education Director of the Year. The state recognition was announced on Friday, February 15, 2019 at the South Carolina Adult Education Spring Institute and Celebrating Success Recognition Ceremony. She has 37 years of experience – 35 of which have been in adult education with CCSD.

Rich Gordon, CCSD's Executive Director of Career and Technology Education (CTE), nominated Friedrich as an acknowledgment of her work in developing and implementing education and workforce development training programs over sixty agencies and businesses, representing a cross-section of non-profits, faith-based organizations, governmental agencies, and institutions of higher learning.

"Susan has made a tremendous impact on both the child, young adult, and adult learning communities," said Gordon. "As the Adult Education Director of one of the largest school districts [in South Carolina], she works tirelessly to ensure that students receive an appropriate and rewarding educational experience. With this assignment, she has had the capability to deliver a greater impact on courses, curriculum, professional development, and students, and she has greatly surpassed all expectations."

"I am grateful to the district for the opportunity to serve our community and assist the adult learner and their families toward academic and workforce success," added Friedrich.

Winners of the COABE National Awards (which also include a Teacher of the Year and Student of the Year) receive \$10,000 each and are sponsored by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

For more about this award for Susan Friedrich, contact Rich Gordon in the CTE department at (843) 402-704. To learn more about the District's Adult Education program, please visit the department's section on the CCSD website.

MILITARY MAGNET STUDENTS PREPARING TO SECURE THEIR DREAM JOBS



Carla Ferrette-Clark, TSgt (US Air Force Reserve) SC PACE Candidate Educator at Military Magnet Academy (MMA) has a mission to expose her students to as much information as possible. Whether it be technological, career-focused, or any skills that would add to their toolbox.

Her students are immersed in a once a week program called “Microburst Learning, EmployABILIY Soft Skills” which is a District-wide push through the Career & Technology Education department.

“We all know that employers require their workforce to demonstrate employability soft skills and Microburst has developed a turn-key certification system for cultivating student’s soft skills,” said Ferrette-Clark. “Our Cadets will have the opportunity to receive a certificate upon completion that will be recognized by over 30 employers in the State of South Carolina.”

In addition Ferrette-Clark has teamed up with Chimere Hunter, CEO and Founder of LeadHER Enterprises, LLC who specializes in Career Coaching. She has developed "BOSS UP" which teaches MMA Cadets what they need to secure the job through interview techniques, resume writing, 30-60-90 day plan and a host of other skills necessary to be successful in securing their dream job.

“Our students will not only walk away with a Microburst Soft Skills certificate, but they will also secure a portfolio which they will be able to use to market themselves upon graduation,” said Ferrette-Clark. “Our Cadets have been participating in activities that have pushed them beyond their comfort.”

“Our Cadets will have the opportunity to receive a certificate upon completion that will be recognized by over 30 employers in the State of South Carolina.”

CARLA FERRETTE-CLARK, TSgt (US Air Force Reserve)
SC PACE CANDIDATE EDUCATOR AT MILITARY MAGNET ACADEMY



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Volvo Car Open



Volvo Car Open // March 30 - April 7, 2019 // Charleston, South Carolina

Board of Trustees Approves 2019-2020 School Calendar

Charleston County School District (CCSD) Board of Trustees approved by an 7-0 vote Option 1 of the two options presented by CCSD staff for the 2019-2020 Academic Calendar.

Based on survey feedback, two minor changes were made to Option 1. The early release date for September was moved to Friday, September 20, 2019 and the Teacher Workday in October was moved to Friday, October 25, 2019.

Highlights of the 2019-2020 calendar are as follows:

- Start date is August 21, 2019
- End date is June 5, 2020
- Fall Break will be November 27-29, 2019
- Winter Break will be December 23, 2019 through January 2, 2020 (district teachers and staff would report to work on January 3, 2019; students return January 6, 2020).
- First semester ends January 17, 2020
- Spring Break will be April 6-10, 2020
- State-required Weather Makeup Days are set for November 25-26, 2019 and April 13, 2020. If the Weather Makeup Days are not used, they will turn into days off for students.

Major highlights also include a midweek (Wednesday) start, and a guarantee President's Day holiday for students.

The calendar must now be submitted to the State Department of Education for final approval.

CCSD believes that each and every instructional day matters, and will do everything it can to protect instruction. According to state law (S.C. Code of Laws Title 59 Education, Chapter 1 SECTION 59 1 425), academic calendars must:

- Have 190 days total
- Cover at least nine calendar months
- Not start before the third Monday in August (unless a state exemption is created and approved for a specific year)
- Use 180 days for instruction
- Use three days for PD
- Use the remaining seven days for teacher planning, academic plans, and parent conferences

In addition, districts must have three weather make-up days built into their academic calendars. If there is severe weather and the district is forced to close school, the district is required to use these built-in make-up days first (for instructional days). This is not an option, even if the governor calls for a mandatory evacuation due to an impending storm.

If inclement weather causes a district to cancel school for more than three instructional days (and the district has been forced to use all of its built-in make-up days), the Board of Trustees can then vote to forgive up to three additional days. If more than six days are lost to inclement weather, the state can forgive an additional five days.

CCSD has State’s Top School Nurse for Second Year in a Row

Focus ON CCSD

Focus on Charleston County School District is published for, by and about CCSD, the state of South Carolina's premier school district where *Students are the Heart of our Work.*

Gerrita Postlewait, *Superintendent of Schools*
Erica Taylor, *Chief Officer, Strategy & Communications*
Sully Witte, *Communications Officer*

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JILL BURGIN
SCHOOL NURSE, STILES POINT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce Jill Burgin, the school nurse at Stiles Point Elementary School, was named the 2019 South Carolina School Nurse of the Year by the South Carolina State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) this week. This is the second straight year a nurse from CCSD has earned this honor; Mary Ford Elementary School's Charlene Barbot won this award in 2018.

Burgin has been a nurse for 25 years, including the past 14 at Stiles Point Elementary. She graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina's College of Nursing in 1992, earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She is a member of the National Association of School Nurses, the South Carolina Association of School Nurses (SCASN), and the Association of Camp Nurses. Burgin is responsible for the health and wellness of over 700 students and staff members at Stiles Point where she administers medications, manages diabetics, completes screenings, and trains staff for emergencies.

“Jill Burgin is undoubtedly the best ‘hands-on’ health professional that I have ever had in any of my schools,” explained Stiles Point Principal Michael Ard. “I have been a school administrator for more than 20 years. She has made many ‘calls’ during my tenure at Stiles Point, and she has yet to miss the mark on any of them. I trust her; that is a big statement.”

Burgin will receive her award at the 38th Annual SCASN Conference Saturday, February 2, 2019, in Columbia, SC.

“Jill is a professional nurse who provides compassionate, effective nursing practice and is an advocate for her students,” added CCSD’s Director of Nursing Services, Melissa Prendergast. “She has also implemented numerous school-wide health promotion and wellness strategies, all of which have had a positive impact on students, staff, and families.”

“Jill Burgin is undoubtedly the best ‘hands-on’ health professional that I have ever had in any of my schools.”

MICHAEL ARD
STILES POINT PRINCIPAL