



Deer Park Middle School

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For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Deer Park teacher awarded grant from Kappa Delta Pi

North Charleston, SC – Marsha Neal, a sixth grade teacher at Deer Park Middle School, has been awarded a \$150 classroom teacher grant from Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education.

Neal, a 24-year veteran in the classroom, will use her funds to provide robotic kits for the after-school robotics program. In the past, Deer Park participated in the LEGO League robotics program. However, with the grant money's help, Deer Park students will now be able to compete in the First Tech Challenge robotics program, which is a higher level of robotics and coding.

Neal submitted a written proposal last fall, describing the classroom project or materials she wanted to provide to her students and how she would allocate the funds. A review committee evaluated all educator proposals and selected the recipients in December 2019.

"This grant is significant to the future robotics program at Deer Park Middle School," said Neal. "Since we are changing the program for our robotics team, we need to purchase all new robotic kits and supplies. This grant will enable us to purchase some needed equipment and allow the students to compete next year at a much higher level. I believe all students, regardless of where they attend school, should have every opportunity afforded to them to ensure each student has a chance at a better future."

Kappa Delta Pi believes that a teacher's effectiveness has the most significant impact on students' achievement and learning. As part of its efforts to provide members with tools to be more effective educators, Kappa Delta Pi offers Classroom Teacher Grants. These grants offer members who are practicing teachers with funds to support specific innovative and creative programs or activities at the classroom level. These projects are designed to engage students in the learning process through interactive activities, purchase classroom supplies, or fund field trips for which school funds aren't available.

Founded in 1911, Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education, is a dynamic learning community that maintains memberships for 40,000 pre-

service and practicing educators. Kappa Delta Pi recognizes and enhances growth in scholars and leaders. The Society's vision is advanced through:

- Recognizing and confirming the status of scholars and educators to achieve and sustain preeminence in teaching, scholarship, and service;
- Focusing on effectively addressing the needs of members through the phases of their careers as scholars and educators; and
- Providing an energetic, diverse learning community that enhances professional growth through high-quality programs, services, and products.

For more information, contact Principal Shanita Deas at (843) 990-5200. To learn more about Kappa Delta Pi's Classroom Teacher Grants, go to <https://www.kdp.org/resources/scholarshipsandgrants/classroomteachergrants.php>.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally-accredited school district that is committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents 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 87 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.