

For Immediate Release

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Media Release



Loretta Hart

Principal at Mary Ford Early Learning and Family Center

**Division of Strategy and
Communications**

Donald R. Kennedy, Sr.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Erica S. Taylor, Ed.D.
Chief of Staff

Mary Ford to welcome new principal for 2022-2023 school year

Charleston, SC – Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce and welcome Loretta Hart as the principal at Mary Ford Early Learning and Family Center. Mary Ford Principal Ruth Taylor will retire at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year.

Hart began her career in CCSD in 2008 as a first grade teacher at Mary Ford (formerly Mary Ford Elementary now Mary Ford Early Learning and Family Center). The following year, Hart served as a kindergarten teacher before transitioning to serving as the school's master reading teacher for seven years. As a master reading teacher, Hart provided interventions in reading programs for students, and prepared and administered assessments to evaluate student progress in this area. She also served as the school's 21st Century Program's after school site coordinator during this time.

In 2017, Hart was promoted to assistant principal at Mary Ford. As assistant principal, Hart led turn-around team efforts to improve school climate in three years successfully reducing behavior challenges by eighty percent, coached teachers on effective instructional and classroom management strategies, and facilitated continued development for teaching staff by implementing quality curriculum training and appropriating resources. Additionally, Hart oversaw administrative functions such as schedule management, protocols for orientation, school registration, and other activities. It was during this time that Mary Ford increased its state report card rating from below average to average (2018-2019 school year).

Hart earned an Associate in Art from Trident Technical College and a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education from South Carolina State University. She also holds two master's degrees in Educational Administration and Language and Literacy from the University of South Carolina. Hart was a part of The Citadel's E.Ds. to E.D. Cohort and the Center for Educational Leadership University of Washington/College of Education's 2019 Cohort. She holds a Read to Succeed endorsement and an Education Leadership Certification. She was also a finalist for the 2021 South Carolina Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year Award.

For more information, contact the Division of Strategy and Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district 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 approximately 49,000 students in 88 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.