



Camp Road Middle School

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Media Release

One Island Science and Math Night a success at Camp Road Middle

James Island, SC – A parent’s vision of bringing all James Island community schools together for a night of science and math fun turned out to be a success. Jamie Meisner, Camp Road Middle School (CRMS) School Improvement Chair, collaborated with teachers, parents and students from all four feeder elementary schools to host the first “One Island Science and Math Night” on March 7, 2024, at Camp Road Middle School.

Parents and students from James Island Elementary School (JIES), Harbor View Elementary School, Murray LaSaine Montessori School, Stiles Point Elementary School, and James Island Charter High school were invited to participate in the event filled with science projects, a group math competition, and STEM focused interactive booths.

Eighty-six students from the various schools presented 64 science fair projects. Nine judges from the community included:

- Beth Bradley, Master Gardner
- Kelly Burbage, retired Charleston County School District (CCSD) librarian, NASA Solar System Ambassador
- Katy Calloway, District 3 Constituent Board Member
- Natasha Mack, retired director at Trident Technical College-Palmer Campus and a Walgreen Pharmacy Technician
- Gerald Mackey, retired CCSD administrator and educator
- Matt Olson, Environmental Education Coordinator at the City of Charleston
- Ellie Setser, Public Policy Chair for American Association of University of Women
- Tracey Smart, Department of Natural Resources Senior Marine Scientist
- Elizabeth Uptegrove, CCSD Gifted and Talented Assistant Academic Director

Camp Road science teachers David Stanford and Noel Bridges volunteered after school to advise students on their projects.

The winners of the science fair included:

- 1st place – “Potential vs. Kinetic Energy” - CRMS sixth grader Meira Harris
- 2nd place – “The Effects of Light and Moisture on the Durability of Moss” - Murray-LaSaine fifth grader Harry Smith
- 3rd place - “Does the weight of the vehicle impact the distance it will travel off a ramp?” – JIES fifth grader Sawyer Smith
- Honorable Mention – “Reaction times among gamers” - Stiles Point’s Eben Obenza, Fischer Caine, and Will Hauss and “Bacteria” Stiles Point’s Luna Laurentano and Sloane DeWitt

In a lightning-speed team math competition, 36 students in small groups challenged each other to see who could race to the podium with the correct answers to a variety of math questions. Math coaches included CRMS teachers Janese Reed-Davis and Shalea Griggs, and seventh grade administrator Anne McKendry. The winning team included a mixed-grade team that called themselves the Space Cumbers. They included Drew Boucher, Dennis Bondar, Ellis Breland and Sterling DeCiantis.

Superintendent of Schools, Anita Huggins, kicked off the event with a welcome address. Former principal David Parler, Associate Superintendent Dr. Joe Williams, several CCSD and Constituent Board members were also in attendance. Organizers hope to make this an annual event.

For more information, contact Erica Ciucci at (843) 762-2784.

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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 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 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.

