

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

CCSD Educators Receive Generous Support from Stephen Colbert and Ripple for DonorsChoose.org Projects

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Charleston, SC — Charleston County School District (CCSD) is excited to announce that over 80 educators received full funding for their DonorsChoose.org (a nonprofit website) projects thanks to the generosity of Ripple, a San Francisco-based technology company. Lowcountry native Stephen Colbert announced on The Late Show last night that Ripple donated \$29 million to DonorsChoose.org to fully fund every single U.S. classroom project currently on the website.

In a single instant, a total of 98 projects for 84 CCSD teachers were funded, totaling \$67,120. Combined with citizen and corporate donations already given, \$79,374 in classroom supplies and resources were supported yesterday. The funded projects and items include a stationary bike for students in a classroom at Laurel Hill Primary School, flexible chairs for students at Haut Gap Advanced Studies Magnet, and carpets at James Island Elementary School.

"Oh my goodness," exclaimed Shantequa Green, a fifth grade teacher at Drayton Hall Elementary School. "Yes! This is awesome! This makes it the third DonorsChoose.org project that I've had fully funded!"

"Our school is getting comfortable seating for the library," said Zack Musallam, Science Teacher at Daniel Jenkins Academy. "I am super excited!"

"Yes!" stated West Ashley High School's Brooke Baily, who teaches exceptional children. "My classroom got a new area rug and bean bags today thanks to the #BESTSchoolDay!"

Stories are being shared on social media, using the hashtag #BestSchoolDay.

DonorsChoose.org can be used by any school staff member who works with students: teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologists, therapists, athletic coaches, and club sponsors.

This is the third time the district has benefited from flash funding on DonorsChoose.org. AT&T supported 130 requests on October 1, 2014, and on May 6, 2015, Colbert and the Morgridge Family Foundation funded 320 educator requests.

For more about the projects funded for educators in CCSD, please contact the Office of Strategy and Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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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 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. 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.