

**For Immediate Release**

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## Media Release

### **CCSD Scholars Show Artistic and Writing Skills in Poster and Essay Contest**

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**Charleston, SC** – Charleston County School District (CCSD) students are provided with a host of avenues to express themselves through art and writing, thanks to their teachers. Those teachers, in turn, encourage their students submit their work to local, regional, and national competitions. One of those local competitions is the annual Charleston Soil & Water Conservation District's (CSWCD) Poster and Essay Contest; several CCSD schools and students captured the top prize in their division.

This year's theme was "Watershed, Our Water, Our Home." CSWCD's mission is to preserve and enhance water quality, working farms, natural areas, and wildlife through locally-led conservation efforts. This contest is meant to inspire students to think about these themes and incorporate them into the posters and essays. The competition is open to every school in Charleston County, public or private; the poster contest is for K-4 students, while the essay competition is for scholars in grades 5-9.

The following CCSD elementary schools finished in first place in the poster portion of the contest:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Laurel Hill Primary School (teacher - E.C. Setser)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Mount Pleasant Academy (teacher - Laura Graham)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Mount Pleasant Academy (teacher - Laura Graham)

The following CCSD students finished in first place of the essay portion of the competition:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Katelyn Thorn, Jerry Zucker Middle School (teacher - Erik Hilden)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade - Logan Baker, Charleston County School of the Arts (teacher - Kevin Short)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Gabrielle Kohler, Wando High School (teacher – Callie Dollahan)

E.C. Setser's second grade class from Laurel Hill also won this year's Most Creative Poster award, and Gabrielle Kohler of Wando earned the honor of Best Conservation Essay.

There will be an awards dinner Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Johnson Marine Center Outdoor Classroom, located at 217 Fort Johnson Road on James Island.

For more information about the contest, or the awards ceremony, contact CSWCD's District Manager, Debbie Eckard, at [Debbie.eckard@sc.ncacdn.net](mailto:Debbie.eckard@sc.ncacdn.net) or (843) 727-4160 x3.

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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.