



For Immediate Release
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Media Release

Charleston Progressive Academy Named *Leader in Me* Lighthouse School

Charleston Progressive Academy

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Charleston, SC — Franklin Covey Education (FCE) recently announced that Charleston Progressive Academy (CPA) has been certified and named a [*Leader in Me*](#) Lighthouse School. This recognition is evidence that the school has produced outstanding results in school and student outcomes, by implementing the *Leader in Me* process with fidelity and excellence. It is also a testament to the extraordinary impact the school is having on staff, students, parents, and the greater community.

"We are honored to have been certified and named a *Leader in Me* Lighthouse School," said Wanda Wright-Sheats, CPA's principal. "We have seen a transformation of our school's culture, instruction, and mindset of our students."

Wright-Sheats said parents were attending less than 70 percent of the student conferences when CPA started using the *Leader in Me* model in 2013. The following year, the attendance rate for those conferences was up to nearly 100 percent, and the rate remains at that level.

The Lighthouse Certification is a highly-regarded set of standards by FCE that is attainable by every *Leader in Me* school. As it is a significant benchmark, applying for this certification typically occurs three to five years after a school begins the *Leader in Me* process.

"We are thrilled to recognize Charleston Progressive Academy as a *Leader in Me* Lighthouse School and the first in the Charleston County School District to achieve this certification," stated Sean Covey, FCE President. "Schools who achieve this Lighthouse Certification are great examples of a strong leadership model and process, and of what it means to be a *Leader in Me* school. This school has experienced transformational results by implementing the principles and practices related to *Leader in Me*. We are so pleased and honored to celebrate the success they are experiencing."

Since its official launch nearly a decade ago, nearly 4,000 public, private, and charter schools across 50 countries have adopted the *Leader in Me* process, while more than 300 schools have achieved the prestigious Lighthouse certification. It is earned by schools that demonstrate the following:

- The principal, school administration, and staff engage in ongoing learning and develop as leaders.
- Leadership principles are effectively taught to all students through direct lessons, integrated approaches, and staff modeling. Students are able to think critically about and apply leadership principles.
- Families and the school partner together in learning about the [7 Habits of Highly Effective People](#) and leadership principles through effective communication and mutual respect.
- The school community is able to see leadership in the physical environment, hear leadership through the common language of the 7 Habits, and feel leadership through a culture of caring, relationships, and affirmation.
- Leadership is shared with students through a variety of leadership roles and student voice leads to innovations within the school.
- School, classroom, family, and community leadership events provide authentic environments to celebrate leadership, build culture, and allow students to practice leadership skills.
- The school utilizes the [4 Disciplines of Execution](#) (4DX) ® process to identify and track progress toward Wildly Important Goals (WIGs) for the school, classroom, and staff.
- Students lead their own learning with the skills to assess their needs, set appropriate goals, and carry out action plans. Students also track progress toward goals in Leadership Notebooks and share these notebooks with adults in student-led conferences.
- Teacher planning and reflection, trusting relationships, and student-led learning combine to create environments for highly engaged learning.

CPA will maintain its Lighthouse Certification the next two years and will continue to foster its growth and proficiency by exemplifying a leadership culture and principles. At the end of the two years, CPA will be able to recertify through a virtual self-assessment by describing and celebrating its growth and accomplishments.

For more about this honor, contact Principal Wright-Sheats at (843) 720-2967. To learn more about the *Leader in Me* process, please visit <http://www.theleaderinme.org/>.

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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.

About Franklin Covey Education

For nearly three decades, Franklin Covey Education has been one of the world's most prominent and trusted providers of educational leadership programs and transformational processes. Franklin Covey's programs, books, and content have been utilized by thousands of public and private primary, secondary, and post-secondary schools and institutions, including educational service centers and vocational schools in all 50 states within the United States and in over 150 countries.