

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Lara Latto to Serve as Principal of Chicora Elementary; Longtime Principal Mary Reynolds Set to Retire

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Charleston, SC — Faculty, staff, and especially the thousands of Charleston County School District (CCSD) students that she has served over the last 50 years will bid a fond farewell to long serving principal, Mary Reynolds. Reynolds has been serving as Principal of Chicora Elementary School during the current school year. Prior to that, Reynolds served as Principal of North Charleston Elementary for two years.

Reynolds began her career as a classroom teacher in 1967. Over the next 25 years, Reynolds instructed several grade levels ranging from kindergarten to middle school, including special education and social studies, in various locations across the Southeast. In 1993, Reynolds became a guidance counselor at Springfield Elementary in Charleston County. A few short years later, she was named Assistant Principal of the school before moving on to serve as Principal at Chicora Elementary in 2001.

Replacing Reynolds as the leader of Chicora will be Lara Latto, who for the last seven years, has served as the principal of Harbor View Elementary School. A 27-year veteran educator in CCSD, Latto is a proven academic leader who brings a unique and creative approach to school leadership, which will make her school transition seamless.

Prior to leading Harbor View, Latto served Murray-LaSaine Elementary School as the principal. She also served as an assistant principal and behavior interventionist at Midland Park and a teacher at Berry Elementary.

"We are so grateful for the dedicated support that Mrs. Reynolds and Ms. Latto have given to the students in Charleston County," shared Cindy Ambrose, Deputy Superintendent of Learning Services. I know they both will be missed by their school communities. We wish Mrs. Reynolds much success as she begins a new chapter in her life and look forward to working with Ms. Latto at Chicora."

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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.