

For Immediate Release

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Paul Padron

Deer Park Middle School Principal Set to Retire

Charleston, SC — Charleston County School District (CCSD) Principal of Deer Park Middle School Paul Padron will retire at the end of July, bringing to a close his near three decades long service in education. Padron has served and led the students and staff at Deer Park since 2016.

Prior to his time at the school, Padron served in a variety of roles in the district. Over the years, he has served as principal at Haut Gap Middle, assistant principal at Laing Middle, and as a teacher and interim assistant principal at the former Brentwood Middle. Padron was also the interim associate superintendent of the Middle School Learning Community and executive director during the 2015-2016 school year after previously holding the position of assistant associate superintendent in the Office of Access and Opportunity.

During his career, Padron has been responsible for the oversight and support of 13 middle schools and two alternative programs, led the merger of two large middle schools, including the building renovation and development and implementation of an advanced studies magnet program, and successfully guided a Title I school from "At-Risk" to "Good" in its State Absolute and Growth Rating, among many other accomplishments. He also led a school to become the district's first Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) demonstration school and guided the implementation of CCSD's iPad Pilot project, becoming the only middle school at the time to infuse current technology into the curriculum with one-to-one student to iPad use. Padron is also bi-lingual with fluency in Spanish.

While Padron's presence will be missed, the district is excited to welcome Celeste Spires to Deer Park as interim principal for the 2018-19 school year. Spires has served as the principal of Ladson Elementary since 2011.

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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.