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Media Release

CCSD Students Put Their Names on the Dotted Line at Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day

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North Charleston, SC – Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day might not have the same national notoriety as National Signing Day. However, in the Lowcountry, this regional collaborative effort with school districts, businesses, and organizations is picking up steam.

The 4th Annual Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day was held at Trident Technical College (TTC) August 8, 2017. Fifty-nine students, including 25 from Charleston County School District (CCSD), made their commitment to local businesses “official” by signing a document.

“Our Youth Apprenticeship Program is just one of many ways that CCSD prepares students to be college, career, and citizenship ready,” said Rich Gordon, CCSD’s Career and Technology Education Executive Director. “Apprenticeships, aligned with the appropriate classroom instruction, provide rigorous and relevant academic, technical, and employability training for a wide variety of high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand 21st century careers.”

Modeled after National Signing Day, where high school student-athletes sign National Letters of Intent to colleges or universities where they will play a sport, Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day gives students who are going into the workforce at a young age a similar experience when it comes to excitement and importance.

“This event provides us with the opportunity to celebrate the most exciting educational initiative I have experienced in my entire career,” said Trident Technical College President Mary Thornley. “It is exciting because this program has power. It has the power to change lives in remarkable ways and the power to accelerate our economy and build a strong community. It is also exciting because it is a shining example of the type of change that can occur when multiple organizations work together in a united effort to achieve a common goal.”

The following CCSD students and graduates participated in the 2017 Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day:

Academic Magnet

Kevin Boyd, Class of 2019 (Roper)
Jared Lipton, Class of 2019 (East Cooper Medical)

Burke

Sheniah Everson, Class of 2019 (Roper)

Charleston Charter School of Math and Science

Jackson Beall, Class of 2019 (Bosch)
Nicholas Brennan, Class of 2017 (Trident Technical College)
Charles Gries, Class of 2018 (North Charleston Fire Department)

Garrett Academy of Technology

NyAsia Green, Class of 2019 (Greystar)

James Island Charter

John C. Geiger, Class of 2017 (VTL)
Magjholly Miller, Class of 2018 (Kiawah Partners)

R.B. Stall

Joshua Blackwell, Class of 2019 (Hendrick)
Kyra Kriseman, Class of 2017 (Hyatt Place)
Cameron Lattimore-Johnson, Class of 2017 (Hendrick)
Kyle Masterson, Class of 2018 (Cummins)

Wando

Marco Barrera, Class of 2018 (Dorchester EMS)
Frederica Baldassarre, Class of 2017 (Dorchester EMS)
Patrick Boyle, Class of 2018 (NetGalaxy)
Holt Davis, Class of 2017 (Roper)
Callie Drinko, Class of 2019 (Anderson Automotive)
Parker Frontz, Class of 2018 (Hendrick)
Porter Rice, Class of 2018 (Anderson Automotive)
Allison Shipp, Class of 2018 (Meador)

West Ashley

Julian Aycock, Class of 2018 (MINI Charleston)
Tyler Brooks, Class of 2018 (Jones Ford)
Briana Brown, Class of 2017 (Roper)
Ashley King, Class of 2017 (Blackbaud)

The following CCSD students and graduates are going into the second year of their apprenticeships in the Lowcountry:

Academic Magnet

Michael Pi, Class of 2018 (Boeing)
Damon Otero, Class of 2018 (Kotori)

Garett Academy of Technology

Ty'Celia M. Young, Class of 2018 (VTL)

James Island Charter

Robert D. Paige, Class of 2018 (Bosch)

R.B. Stall

Ian K. Cole, Class of 2018 (IFA Rotorion)

West Ashley

Khaseem Capers, Class of 2016 (Limric)

Malik Miller, Class of 2016 (Cullum)

Keenah Saunders, Class of 2017 (Roper)

For more information about Youth Apprenticeship Signing Day, contact Noelle Blaney, TTC's Marketing Coordinator, at (843) 574-6556. To learn more about apprenticeship opportunities at CCSD, contact Chad Vail, Work-based Learning Partnerships Coordinator, at (843) 937-6489.

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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 several 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 led by associate superintendents. 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 Trident Technical College

Trident Technical College is a public two-year community college that provides quality education and promotes economic development in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties. An open-door institution of higher education, the college serves approximately 13,000 curriculum students who have a wide variety of educational goals, from personal enrichment to career development to university transfer. TTC further promotes economic development through continuing education courses; customized training for business, industry and government; and a variety of employment training programs.