

For Immediate Release

January 11, 2019

Contact:

Erica Taylor 843-937-6303

Media Release

“Reading Around the Bases” with the RiverDogs Continues

Office of Strategy and
Communications

Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Erica S. Taylor
Chief Officer

Charleston, SC — Charleston County School District (CCSD) is proud to announce its joint program with the Charleston RiverDogs, “Reading Around the Bases,” is back for the third year in a row.

“Reading Around the Bases” began during the 2016-2017 school year as a way to encourage literacy. The Lowcountry’s professional baseball team (and South Atlantic League affiliate of the 27-time World Series Champion New York Yankees) is excited to help generate excitement for reading with second graders again in CCSD this year.

On Monday, January 14, 2019, 22 elementary schools throughout Charleston County will start a 10-week baseball-themed incentive program. Each student will receive a Reading Challenge packet that includes a scorecard, tracking sheet, and their very own personal baseball card.

To move around the bases on the scorecard, a student must read a certain number of pages: 100 pages for a single, 200 pages for a double, 300 pages for a triple, and 500 pages for a home run. Students also earn points for their class depending on how far they advance and how many times they “round the bases” on the scorecard.

Special guests from the RiverDogs will visit schools in the District throughout the 10 weeks to provide encouragement, fun, and serve as volunteer readers.

“This effort to encourage literacy and reward our students for their accomplishments is one of the highlights of the school year,” said Cindy Ambrose, CCSD’s Deputy Superintendent of Learning Services. “The RiverDogs remain one of our most engaged and enthusiastic community partners. We are grateful for their support.”

The unofficial kickoff event for “Reading Around the Bases” this year will be at Stono Park Elementary School (at the St. Andrew’s campus) in West Ashley on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Media outlets are invited to attend.

The top-25 second graders from each participating school will be honored during the Education Day Game at Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Park at 11:05 a.m. on May 28, 2019.

"The RiverDogs are excited to team up with Charleston County School District for the third year in a row for Reading Around the Bases!" added RiverDogs President and General Manager Dave Echols. "As this program continues to grow, so too does the RiverDogs' eagerness to promote literacy among Lowcountry youth in a fun and interactive manner."

For more information on "Reading Around the Bases," please contact Christy James, CCSD's Library and Media Services Specialist and Textbook Coordinator, at (843) 937-6300, or Walter Nolan-Cohn with the RiverDogs at (843) 723-7241.

###

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 the RiverDogs

On the heels of their second straight year eclipsing 300,000 fans through the turnstiles, the RiverDogs have already begun preparations for another year down at The Joe. RiverDogs season tickets, partial season plans, and group tickets, including options to the Riley Park Club, are now available for the 2019 campaign at riverdogs.com/tickets or by contacting the RiverDogs front office at 843-577-3647 (DOGS).

The RiverDogs begin their home schedule on April 11 when they host the Greensboro Grasshoppers at The Joe, preceded by a weeklong road trip. A full schedule and list of game times for the 2019 season is available at riverdogs.com.