

## SCHOOL'S MESSAGE

James Simons Elementary School (JSES) is a Title I school located in downtown Charleston in our beautiful state-of-the-art school. For the past three years James Simons has been a full Montessori school with no traditional classes. We have six primary classes, five lower elementary classes, five upper elementary classes and two middle school classes (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades). It is easy to see that our highly qualified staff is passionate about serving children when you experience our positive nurturing school environment. Initiatives in place for continued improvement include 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology enhancements and a rigorous Montessori curriculum designed to meet children at their learning levels and accelerate achievement.

In addition to ensuring our students grow academically, socially and emotionally, our staff is continuously growing professionally as they learn more about the teachings, instructional best practices and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. Our staff's journey to develop personally and professionally is rewarding and enlightening.

Various events held this year for our school community include the Health and Wellness Fair, Parent Education Nights, College and Career Day, and several Parent Literacy events. For the first time in its history, James Simons had a volleyball, basketball, and track teams. Additionally, our staff and students benefited greatly from the many programs sponsored by our community partners such as Rotary Reads, Social Studies Bowl, Backpack Buddies, and Kids Well Clinic. We greatly appreciate the support of our PTO, School Improvement Council (SIC), Rotary of Charleston, Communities in Schools, Charleston Promise Neighborhood, Friends of James Simons (FoJS) and The Citadel. We look forward to our continued collaboration and success.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

*Pamela Bryant*  
*Beth Dillenkoffer*  
*Rosa Fulmore*  
*Kimberly Gleason*  
*Angie Greene*  
*Pamela Heyward*  
*Anthony Montagna*  
*Chris Ryan*  
*Conway Saylor*  
*Paul Stoney*  
*Milissa Stooks*  
*Aaron Whitney, Chairperson*  
*Sally Young*

### James Simons Elementary School *A Montessori Focus*



### 2019 Annual Report To Parents and the Community

Charleston excellence is our standard  
County SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fall to Winter 2018-19 Reading MAP Results: Percent of Students Meeting Growth Targets

Gr	%	Fall '18	Winter'19	Gr	%	Fall '18	Winter'19
2	63%	185	181	6	27%	199	205
3	55%	184	195	7	39%	207	211
4	48%	196	204	8	46%	213	217
5	32%	198	202				

Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) creates a personalized assessment experience by adapting to each student's learning level—precisely measuring student progress and growth for each individual. You'll have essential information about what each student knows and is ready to learn within 24 hours.

