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CCSD Awarded Highly Competitive \$19.3 Million Race to the Top Federal Grant

Grant will help CCSD implement sophisticated technology and personalize learning

Charleston, SC – The Charleston County School District (CCSD) is one of 16 applicants nationwide to receive this grant. CCSD had the eighth best composite score nationally. The US Department of Education received over 370 applications representing 1193 school districts. This is the second of two large federal grants CCSD has received in the past few months. The first grant was the Teacher Incentive Fund grant totaling \$23.7 million. In all, CCSD has been awarded more than \$43 million in federal grants in the past few months.

The grant funds will help CCSD increase personalized learning environments in 19 target schools in the Burke, Stall and St. John's High School feeder patterns. The goal of the grant is to create learning environments that are designed to significantly improve learning and teaching through the personalization of strategies, tools, and supports for students and educators that are aligned with college and career ready standards. Some of CCSD proposed activities include: school and district training, new data resources, and a multitude of technology upgrades which would benefit approximately 9,500 students.

Personalized learning focuses on our students' individual learning goals and needs, and develops critical skills such as goal setting, teamwork, critical thinking, communication and creativity," says Superintendent Nancy J. McGinley. "This grant announcement coupled with the recent announcement regarding our \$23.7 million Teacher Incentive Grant award, positions the district for truly remarkable success over the next few years. Students and parents should be extremely happy. This infusion of resources directly supports our Vision 2016 goals."

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About the 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 of coastal lands. CCSD serves approximately 45,000 students in 80 schools and several specialized programs. CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options—including neighborhood, charter, and magnet schools—and is divided into elementary, secondary, and “Innovation Zone” Learning Communities, each led by an associate superintendent. With approximately 5,500 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

For more information, visit www.ccsdschools.com.

About *Vision 2016*

Vision 2016 is the next phase of Charleston Achieving Excellence, Superintendent McGinley’s flagship reform initiative. The five-year plan aims to dramatically improve the achievement of every student in Charleston County and includes three fundamental goals: 1) close the achievement gap, 2) elevate achievement overall and 3) raise the graduation rate. These goals were developed through a series of community engagement meetings in partnership with the CCSD Board of Trustees.

CCSD believes that by combining the right supports, high expectations, and great teaching—every child will graduate with the critical skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college and the 21st Century global workforce.

For more information, visit vision2016.org.