

MEDIA RELEASE

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<u>Calhoun Falls Charter School recognized by Charter Institute at Erskine for statewide academic excellence</u>

COLUMBIA – Calhoun Falls Charter School principal Kalan Rogers was presented with the Charter Institute at Erskine's *Move the Needle* award at a principal's meeting in Columbia on March 4. The award recognizes a charter school for producing superior academic performance.

"The partnership between our schools and the Institute is creating lasting impacts throughout South Carolina," said Cameron Runyan, CEO and Superintendent for the Charter Institute at Erskine. "The work that Mr. Rogers, his administrative team, and school staff are doing to improve educational outcomes for Calhoun Falls students is outstanding and worthy of great celebration."

The 2018-2019 school year was one of tremendous academic growth for the public charter school from Abbeville County, which serves students in grades 6-12. High school end-of-course assessments show significant single-year improvements, boasting gains in some content areas of nearly 20 percentage points, and outperforming the resident school district in Algebra, English, and Biology. These gains place Calhoun Falls in the top 10% of all schools in South Carolina with regard to the levels of school-wide improvement produced.

Calhoun Falls has seen extraordinary growth under Rogers, who became principal of the school in July of 2018. Under his leadership, the school has seen the actualization of its mission to provide the children and families of Calhoun Falls a safe and supportive learning environment where students are actively engaged in the educational process, develop strong leadership qualities, and create an opportunity for the children and families of Calhoun Falls to leave behind a living legacy for future generations. The performance demonstrated by Calhoun Falls will serve as a model and standard for the entire charter sector.

"Our team has been working incredibly hard to move the needle this year," said Rogers. "It's wonderful to see our school and our students getting the recognition they deserve. This award is proof that if a school is dedicated, and students and families have the same buy-in, success can be achieved anywhere."

Calhoun Falls Charter School is one of 17 charter schools authorized by the Charter Institute at Erskine. For more information on the Institute and its schools, please visit www.erskinecharters.org.

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