



MEDIA RELEASE

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Belton Preparatory Academy named Charter Institute at Erskine Diamond School of Excellence

BELTON, SC— Belton Preparatory Academy (Belton) has been named one of the Charter Institute at Erskine’s 2021-2022 Diamond Schools of Excellence for the second consecutive year. The Charter Institute at Erskine staff celebrated the accomplishments of Belton Preparatory Academy with a surprise presentation on February 6 at the school, where they awarded the school with a commemorative banner. Also in attendance were special guests Dr. Steven Adamson, President of Erskine College, and South Carolina Representative Jay West, District 7, who presented a resolution to the school celebrating their successes.

As a Diamond School of Excellence, Belton scored in the top 10% of all South Carolina Department of Education schools in both ELA and Math. The school was also recognized as the highest-performing Title I school in the state of South Carolina, the sixth highest-performing school in the state for ELA, and the second highest-performing school in the state in Math. These accomplishments make Belton the highest-performing charter school in South Carolina.

“We are thrilled to be receiving this award for the second year in a row,” said Deirdre McCullough, Principal. “Our students take great pride in their education, and today they get to celebrate the fruits of their labor.”

[Belton Preparatory Academy’s](#) classical curriculum provides high-quality instruction in phonics, Latin, logic, literature, history, math, and science (STEM). Belton’s entrepreneurial and free market competition component emphasizes the development of leadership qualities and behaviors such as taking positive risks, viewing errors as opportunities, working to recover from a mistake, giving and receiving feedback, collaboration, and more.

“Ms. McCullough has created and maintained a high standard of excellence for this school,” says Mr. Cameron Runyan, Superintendent of the Charter Institute at Erskine. “Not only are Belton’s students performing academically, but they are also learning how to live well through hard work, perseverance, and quality of character. We are excited to come back next year for another celebration.”

The Institute’s other Schools of Excellence categories include Platinum and Gold.

For more information about the Charter Institute at Erskine's School of Excellence Awards, visit <https://erskinecharters.org/schools-of-excellence/>.

About The Charter Institute at Erskine

The Charter Institute at Erskine is the fastest-growing school district in South Carolina. Serving 24 schools and 24,000 students across the state, the Charter Institute at Erskine is committed to innovative, creative, high-quality methods of education. For more information about the Institute, please visit www.erskinecharters.org.



Erskine College President Dr. Steven Adamson and Charter Institute at Erskine team with BPA School Leader, Ms. McCullough.



Ms. McCullough with House Representative, Mr. Jay West and Mr. James Galyean, CEO of Reason & Republic.



Erskine College President & Institute Board Chairman, Dr. Steven Adamson honors third grader Lada Belle Cleveland for scoring a perfect score on the SC Ready exam.



BPA teachers are recognized for their continuous hard work, earning them their second consecutive Diamond School of Excellence.