

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release – February 24, 2023

<u>Contact</u>: Ashley Epperson Director of Communications <u>aepperson@erskinecharters.org</u> (803) 995-0527

Lowcountry Leadership Charter School Named Charter Institute at Erskine Platinum School of Excellence

MEGGETT, SC— Lowcountry Leadership Charter School (LLCS) has been named a Charter Institute at Erskine 2021-2022 Platinum School of Excellence. The Charter Institute at Erskine (Institute) staff celebrated the accomplishments of LLCS with a surprise presentation on February 22, where they awarded the school with a commemorative banner and a plaque. School Leader Ms. Julianne Lang recognized students, classes, and various grade levels for their high performance on state tests. She also named LLCS' Teacher of the Year – high school Social Studies teacher Ms. Susanne King.

Also in attendance were special guests, including Institute Board Member Ms. Helen Taylor and founding members of LLCS.

As a Platinum School of Excellence, LLCS' elementary program scored in the top 25% of all South Carolina Department of Education schools in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. Additionally, LLCS's elementary program was named a Gold Local School of Distinction, which means that they outperformed the local district and demonstrated above average growth in ELA and Math.

The Institute's other Schools of Excellence categories include Diamond and Gold.

"This is a school that's very special to us," says Mr. Cameron Runyan, Superintendent of the Charter Institute at Erskine. "It's bringing excellence in academics to a rural community, giving opportunities to children in a part of the state where they might not have otherwise had them. We're really excited for the next decade with Lowcountry Leadership Charter School as part of the Erskine portfolio."

<u>Lowcountry Leadership Charter School</u> is a public, tuition-free charter school that serves students grades K5-12. LLCS' mission is to provide a safe, exceptional academic environment that cultivates independent learning, character enrichment, and regional awareness while developing accountable leaders, community stewards, and diverse thinkers through project-based experiences. LLCS is authorized through the Charter Institute at Erskine, whose board recently renewed the school's charter for an additional ten years.

"Other than continuing to increase student achievement and close the achievement gap, we really want to see our school continue to grow and expand," says Ms. Lang regarding next steps after being named a School of Excellence. "In the next couple of years, we're adding additional wings to the school, we're growing our agriculture program, and we're also looking at other programs that we can add to our high school."

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.





Charter Institute at Erskine team with LLCS School Leader, Ms. Lang, and her staff.



Institute Superintendent, Cameron Runyan, congratulates LLCS Teacher of the Year, Ms. King.



Ms. Lang recognizes elementary students for achieving perfect reading sub-scores on the state test.



Deputy Superintendent of Accountability, Ms. Christy Junkins, presents School of Distinction plaque to Ms. Lang.