



Williamsburg County School District

"Imagine Greatness"

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Dr. Angela K. Jacobs, Interim Superintendent

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WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD CHAIR PRESENTS AT STATEWIDE SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE

Dr. Marva Cannon, Chair of the Williamsburg County School District Board of Trustees, delivered a featured presentation recently at the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) Annual Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. Her presentation, titled "SDE State of Emergency: From State Oversight to Shared Governance – A Case Study of Williamsburg County School District," offered school board members and educational leaders across the state a detailed look at the district's remarkable progress following its transition from state intervention to a shared governance model.

Dr. Cannon highlighted Williamsburg County School District's journey beginning with the State Department of Education's declaration of a state of emergency, and the subsequent restructuring of leadership roles, accountability systems, and collaborative decision-making processes. She emphasized how the district's shift to shared governance—a cooperative structure involving the local board, district leadership, and state oversight partners—has strengthened academic outcomes, fiscal stability, operational efficiency, and community engagement.

"Our progress is a direct result of clarity, collaboration, and commitment," said Dr. Cannon. "Moving from full state oversight to a shared governance model empowered our district to implement meaningful reforms, restore public trust, and place student success at the center of every decision."

During the session, Dr. Cannon presented key areas of improvement, including:

- Academic Growth: Increased student achievement results and targeted instructional support
- Stronger Governance: Enhanced board training, policy alignment, and accountability systems
- Improved Fiscal Management: Greater transparency, strategic budgeting, and more efficient resource allocation
- Operational Improvements: Expanded student services, strengthened safety protocols, and facility upgrades
- Community Partnerships: Renewed engagement with families, local organizations, and stakeholders

Dr. Cannon also highlighted Williamsburg County School District as an emerging statewide model for school district recovery and sustainable governance, particularly for rural districts facing complex needs.

The presentation was well received by board members, superintendents, and education leaders seeking insights on effective turnaround strategies and board governance practices.

Williamsburg County School District remains committed to maintaining its upward trajectory and continuing its mission to provide high-quality, equitable education for all students.

The mission of Williamsburg County School District is to prepare students for college, careers, and citizenship in a global society.