



Williamsburg County School District

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Dr. Kelvin Wymbs, Superintendent

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2025

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY PARTNER FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES

South Carolina State University (SCSU) and the Williamsburg County School District (WCSD) have partnered to sponsor a cohort for doctoral-level studies. The proclamation program was signed on the campus of South Carolina State University on January 17, 2025, at 10:30 AM. This Doctor of Education (Ed.D) degree focuses on Educational Leadership. In the fall, an interest meeting was held in Kingstree, and applications for the program were opened shortly after.

The inaugural cohort will include several educators from the Williamsburg County School District, with the expectation that they will complete the program around December 2028. Graduate academic cohorts consist of grouped courses designed for administrators and educators seeking to enhance their skills and knowledge in Educational Leadership. After completing the courses, administrators can apply to the state for additional endorsements or certifications to be added to their educator licenses.

These cohorts are specifically aimed at aiding districts in areas of critical need and typically comprise between 12 and 22 students at the graduate level. Courses will be offered online, in-person, or in a hybrid format during the fall, spring, and summer terms.

The program participants for the Signing of the Proclamation are as follows:

Presiding: Dr. Percy A. Mack, Acting Chair of the Educational Leadership

Welcome: Dr. Mack

Greetings: Dr. M. Evelyn Fields, Ph.D, Dean, College of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences

Reading of the Proclamation: Dr. Mack

The Signing of the Proclamation: Representatives from South Carolina State University and Williamsburg County School District

Remarks: Dr. Kelvin T. Wymbs, Superintendent, Williamsburg County School District

Remarks: Colonel (Ret.) Alexander Conyers, 13th President, South Carolina State University

Questions: Media Representatives

The Ed.D in Leadership is designed to provide both current and aspiring leaders with the opportunity to earn a professional doctoral degree. Tailored for working adults, this program focuses specifically on K-12 administrative leadership roles in education. It requires the completion of 60 semester hours, with courses offered in traditional on-campus or hybrid formats. Students typically take up to six credit hours per term. Through this doctoral cohort, students will conceptualize research and apply it in their professional settings. By utilizing the leadership principles learned in the program, doctoral students can collaborate to improve the communities they serve.

SCSU's doctoral program includes: -

- A curriculum designed to enhance knowledge and skills through the study and research of various leadership models.
- A dissertation phase that enables students to develop and implement research grounded in both theory and practice.
- A research core that provides advanced skills in writing and analysis.
- A unique course on ethical and character-based leadership, which is specific to the SCSU program of study.