



Williamsburg County School District

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Dr. Kelvin Wymbs, Superintendent

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2024

THE RIVER OF SOUL MARCHING BAND HAS TRAVELLED ALL OVER THE STATE COMPETING THIS YEAR AND APPEARING ON A NATIONAL TELEVISION NETWORK!

The Kingstree High "River of Soul" Marching Band participated in the ESPN Charleston Classic Basketball Tournament in downtown Charleston, SC, for two consecutive days. The event included a joint rehearsal and performance with the Philip Simmons High School Band, led by Dr. Patterson, who conducted both the rehearsal and the performance.

The band also took part in South Carolina State University Band Day, receiving rave reviews from spectators. Band Day at S.C. State University, there were over 1,000 students from across the East Coast. The musicians enjoyed meeting and performing with their new musical friends, as Philip Simmons High School treated them like family. According to Dr. James Patterson, Director of Bands, "The band is improving daily! The River of Soul Marching Band includes students from CE Murray Middle School, Kingstree Middle Magnet School of the Arts, and there is also an instructor from Kenneth Gardner Leadership Academy and W.M. Anderson Primary School."

The Kingstree High School "River of Soul" Marching Band is not merely an extracurricular activity; it serves as an active pipeline for students in the Williamsburg County School District to advance to the collegiate level on scholarship. The core principles of the band program are discipline, leadership, and accountability. One of the primary goals is to establish a standard that will continue to transform the lives of countless band scholars through hard work and dedication. Dr. Patterson explains, "We want to create something that becomes a staple in this community."