



# Williamsburg County School District

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Dr. Angela Jacobs, Interim Superintendent

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES YEAR WITH DYNAMIC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS**

The Williamsburg County School District (WCSD) Food Service Department kicked off the new academic year with energy and enthusiasm during its Beginning-of-the-Year Professional Development Sessions, held earlier this week. The sessions were designed to empower school nutrition staff with the tools, training, and motivation needed to ensure a successful start to the 2025–2026 school year.

With the theme “Lettuce Grow to the Next Level...Together,” the sessions focused on enhancing food safety, nutrition standards, customer service, and operational efficiency. Attendees participated in hands-on training, breakout workshops, and motivational talks led by district leaders and food service professionals. Dee'on Bellamy, National Executive Board Member of the School Nutrition Association, and Angela Long, Middle School Cafeteria Manager from Horry County, were in attendance. The keynote speaker was Ms. Yolanda McCray from the Black River United Way. She spoke on the topic of “Bringing Inspiration to Our Work.”

“We want to make sure our team is not only prepared, but inspired,” said Tory P. Gibson, Director of Food Services. “Our cafeteria teams are essential in supporting student health and learning, and we’re committed to making every meal count.”

The opening session set a high tone for the year, featuring team-building exercises, updates on USDA guidelines, and best practices for serving nutritious meals with excellence. Staff also had opportunities to collaborate, share ideas, and celebrate past accomplishments.

WCSD remains committed to providing high-quality, nutritious meals to students across the district while continuing to invest in professional growth for its dedicated team.