

Charles County Public Schools

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**For Immediate Release
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Fresh Start Academy Advisory Board formed

Superintendent Kimberly Hill has announced the Fresh Start Academy Advisory Board, which is composed of members representing the community and various organizations.

Dr. Dianna Abney, a Waldorf pediatrician and former director of the Charles County Department of Health, is the advisory board chair. The board will offer input and feedback on the Academy programs, policies and practices.

Other board members include: Catherine Meyers, representing the Center of Children; Linda McLaughlin, representing the Education Association of Charles County (EACC); Yolanda Christian, representing the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); Janice Wilson, selected by the Board of Education; Del. C.T. Wilson, representing the Charles County Delegation; Kim Johnson, selected by the Charles County Commissioners; Dyotha Sweat and Christienne Coleman-Warren, representing the NAACP; and DaVida Usual, elementary parent representative.

“We have asked the Advisory Board to help us think about how to best serve students in the program and offer perspectives for us to consider as we move forward,” Superintendent Kimberly A. Hill said.

The Fresh Start Academy Advisory Board will hold its first meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 21.

About Fresh Start Academy

Fresh Start Academy is a regular education CCPS program for children in kindergarten through Grade 2. It is structured to help students who are still discovering how to adjust to school and to provide them the tools they need to access the curriculum and successfully return to their home school. The program is for students whose academic success is impacted due to disruptive, destructive or aggressive behaviors.

About CCPS

Charles County Public Schools provides 27,501 students in grades prekindergarten through 12 with an academically challenging education. Located in Southern Maryland, Charles County Public Schools has 36 schools that offer a technologically advanced, progressive and high quality education that builds character, equips for leadership and prepares students for life, careers and higher education.

The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Kathy Kiessling, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Nikial Majors, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 coordinator (employees/ adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 20646; 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.