

The Charleston Public Charter School for Math and Science (CCSMS) proudly announces the hiring of our principal, Peter O. Smyth. Mr. Smyth brings to CCSMS nearly 30 years of extensive experience of engaging students in the classroom and in developing curriculum and faculty as an administrator. Mr. Smyth will direct Charleston's new public charter school where he will lead the teaching of mathematics and science with an emphasis on problem solving, technology, and connections across the curriculum. He will work to create a culture at the school that supports the mission of the school: To educate students for success in college and careers, by providing an innovative learning environment that is academically excellent, developmentally responsive and socially equitable.

Mr. Smyth said, "This school, the ideas, the people who have brought it this far, represents one of the most exciting challenges I have ever been involved in. Most importantly, this school belongs to the people, the students, the parents, and the faculty. It is about math and science, but it is about more, it is about building a community. I am honored, excited, and even overwhelmed, about where this school can go. The bottom line: we do this together."

He has an undergraduate degree in biology from The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee and a master's degree from The Citadel in Mathematics. He has also taught graduate level courses in Education for the Citadel.

The Charleston Public Charter School for Math and Science is putting together a strong management team that will ensure a successful inaugural school year. Dr. Elizabeth Jennings has been hired to coordinate hiring of faculty and curriculum development. Dr. Jennings brings experience as a teacher and teacher educator. She has experience partnering and organizing professional development with Washington DC's Public Charter Schools. Mary Carmichael has been hired to oversee the administrative and financial needs of the school. Mrs. Carmichael has over 15 years of non-profit management experience with a focus on programs strengthening families and communities.

CCSMS is a public charter school bringing the discovery of math and science to life for Charleston County middle and high school students. The hand-on, project based curriculum will provide students with opportunities to explore how math and science are used everyday in engineering, business, and bio-medicine.

CCSMS will open with grades 6 through 9 for the 2008-2009 school year with grades added each subsequent year, building to grade 12 by 2011. The school held a public lottery on January 15, 2008 and has begun enrolling students. If you missed the lottery and would like to be put on the waiting list for 2008-2009, please visit our website at www.charlestonmathandscience.org or call 628-1200 for an application.

CCSMS will begin the faculty search February 1, 2008 and look forward to hiring a diverse and dedicated faculty for the opening year. Interested educators should visit the website for job descriptions and the application.