



Barnwell School District 45

Innovation – Integrity – Investment – Community

CONTACT:

Crissie Stapleton
Superintendent, BSD45
803-541-1300
Warhorses@bsd45.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barnwell Primary School Hosts Early Childhood Mini-Summit

Barnwell, S.C. {May 11, 2022} – On April 28, 2022, Barnwell Primary School (BPS) and Save the Children hosted an Early Childhood Mini-Summit for students and families who participate in Barnwell Primary School’s Save the Children In-School Literacy program, as well as the school’s Early Childhood Program. This family night event was hosted at the district’s new Family Engagement Center.

BPS has partnered with Save the Children (STC) for over 10 years to provide literacy support for K-3rd grade students.

Elizabeth Hutson works with kindergarten

and first graders in

the Emergent Reader program, and Amy Bozard works with second and third graders in the GIRP (Guided Independent Reading Practice) program. Brittany Daniels works in the Early Childhood program which serves families of children from birth to five years of age.

BPS Media Specialist Melanie Dobson was the guest speaker at the event. She read aloud *The Very Impatient Caterpillar* by Ross Burach. “I wanted our

families to see, and hear, a wonderful example of reading aloud with their children. BPS has the absolute best example of that in Ms. Dobson. She brings books to life for our students.” says Amy Bozard, STC Program Coordinator.

BPS Media Specialist Melanie Dobson modeled a read-aloud for the families.



Families attended the Early Childhood Mini-Summit in the district’s family engagement center.



Funded by a mini grant from STC, families were served dinner and received door prizes. Each student in the program received a bag with books, activities and some STC merchandise. "Overall I think we had a wonderful turnout for our first event of this kind. I hope we can make this an annual event to celebrate our Save the Children program students and their families" said Donna Selvey, BPS Principal.

More information about the Save the Children programs in South Carolina may be found at

<https://savethechildrenactionnetwork.org/state/south-carolina/>.



Barnwell Primary School's STC Program Coordinator Amy Bozard secured the grant funding and planned the event for families.