

Florence County School District 3 Graduation Initiative hosts a College Discussion Panel Dec. 18, 2015

By **Valerie Gotten** - Nov 30, 2015



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LAKE CITY, S.C., Nov. 30, 2015 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) — The Florence County School District 3 Graduation Initiative (Lake City, S.C.), will host its first college discussion panel, on Friday, December 18, 2015, from 10 a.m. – Noon. Appearing on the panel will be students from the Lake City High School graduating class of 2015 representing such colleges and universities as the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, Claflin University, University of South Carolina-Upstate, South Carolina State, Francis Marion, Coastal Carolina, College of Charleston, Wake Forest, Southern Wesleyan, and Winston-Salem State.

Panelists include 2015 Gates Millennium Scholar and Meyerhoff Scholar, Mikayla Hanna; Palmetto Scholars Christian Luna and Kaitlyn Luna; and Marie McClary and

Shaunice Fulmore who received athletic scholarships.

Florence County School District 3 Superintendent, Laura Hickson, notes, “Our first college discussion panel represents another step toward our goal of cultivating a college-readiness culture in our district. We are so proud of our 2015 graduating class and their historic level of college scholarship offers. Our consultants, Mychal and Nina Wynn, from the Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity — a Georgia-based nonprofit — who are currently working with our 2016 college planning cohort, continue to provide encouragement and maintain on-going communication with students from our 2015 college planning cohort. Consequently, our current college students are overjoyed at the opportunity to return home and share their first-year college experiences. Our panelists will provide great insight into all aspects of their college experiences, including if they made the right college choice.”

Mychal Wynn (<http://mychalwynn.com/>) of the Foundation for Ensuring Access and Equity notes, “Many of our students are the first in their family to attend college. My wife, Nina, exchanges regular text messages with students as a means of providing ongoing support and encouragement. Students are eager to share their first-year experiences and have been asking about participating on the panel since leaving for school in August.”

The Florence County School District 3 Graduation Initiative, supported by a state grant and local funds, has implemented support programs and provided enrichment activities to expose Lake City High School students to college, career, and scholarship opportunities. Over 100 high school seniors have been supported in their college and financial aid planning as part of the 2016 college planning cohort.

More information: <http://www.florence3.k12.sc.us/> and <http://accessandequity.org/>

Florence County School District 3, 125 South Blanding Street, Lake City, SC 29560.

* PHOTO Caption: Several 2015 Lake City High School College Planning Cohort

students, like Eddie Brown, pictured here, will be participating on the college panel.

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ABOUT THE EDITOR: Valerie Gotten (aka Valerie G) is an abstract painter, former movie stand-in, and volunteers for "green events" to help raise awareness about global warming, and help preserve California's wilderness and natural beauty.

