GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

April 21, 2021

To the AJ Whittenberg Community,

I am incredibly honored to be joining the AJ Whittenberg Community as principal. AJ Whittenberg has a strong reputation of student achievement grounded in meeting the needs of all students, a first in the state engineering program, and an emphasis on public-private partnerships that welcome a variety of engineering-focused and community-minded organizations into the school to support students and bring engineering to life. Excellent teachers have shaped me into the leader that I am today. Teachers that presented me with an engaging education, built relationships with my family, and always held me to high expectations are the foundation that my career is built upon. I am blessed to be joining AJ Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering to ensure that all students receive an excellent education.

Joining me in Greenville will be my family. My wife Lauren, an early elementary teacher, continues to teach students the foundations of reading and a love for exploration. My two boys, Dalton and Henry, are elementary age and keep me smiling, moving, and building. . . with magna-tiles and legos. Our dog, Charlie, gives us all much needed appreciation and exercise. Each of us is looking forward to becoming a part of AJ Whittenberg Elementary.

The teachers, staff, and families have done a phenomenal job of preparing students for success at AJ. AJ was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School and SC State School of excellence due to the dedication and commitment of Dr. Stevens, school leadership, teachers, students, and families of AJ. I look forward to working with the community to ensure the spotlight of success continues to shine on AJ Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering.

As I join the AJ Whitteberg community, my mission is to create relationships built on trust, honesty, and transparency with each of you. I am excited to meet all of our students, staff, and community members over the next few months, so that collectively, we can build upon the already established excellence that exists at AJ. As the transition process unfolds over the next few months, I will be at AJ to develop and strengthen relationships with the students, staff, and community. I will be sharing information about a listening tour, once it is finalized, to accelerate my learning. I am grateful to Greenville County Schools and the AJ Whittenberg community for entrusting me with the distinct privilege of serving as its next principal. I know that together we will continue providing the best education for the AJ Whittenberg Community.

Sincerely,

**Preston Spratt**