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Charleston Leadership Visit Speakers Addendum

Charleston speakers with available bio information added to agenda after printing of Leadership Visit Briefing Books.

Addition to Charleston County Public Schools Panel Thursday, June 9, 2016

Reverend Dr. Eric L. Mack Sr. Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church Board Member, Charleston County School District

The Rev. Dr. Eric L. Mack Sr., a native of Wadmalaw Island, is the Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in the City of Charleston and currently employed at The Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Mack was licensed to preach in April 2001. He was officially installed as Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in December 2003 and became an ordained reverend in January 2004. Being educated through the Johns and Wadmalaw Island school system has solidified his zeal for serving in multiple capacities within the area. A vocal advocate for public education and political issues, Dr. Mack served three consecutive four-year terms on the Charleston County Constituent School Board District Nine from 1996-2008. He is the founder and past chair of The Islanders' Education Fund Board of Trustees and a past board member of the Sea Island Youth for Partnership. In November 2014, he successfully ran and was elected to the Charleston County School Board of Trustees. His passion for seeking a higher education in religious studies resulted in his graduation from Andersonville Baptist Theological Seminary with a Bachelor's & Master's degree in Christian Education. He furthered his trajectory of higher learning and earned a Doctorate of Divinity from International Seminary. He is the past president of The Wadmalaw Island Precincts I and II, as well as a past executive committee member for the Charleston County Democratic Party. Presently, he serves as treasurer for the Cooper River Baptist Association. He is a past board member of The Sea Island Habitat for Humanity and past member of the Family Services Committee. Dr. Mack was the past chairperson for the South Carolina Minority Rural Outreach Program for disabled people. A recipient of numerous awards for his commitment and leadership, in April 2008, Dr. Mack was honored with the S.C. Protection and Advocacy Lena Myers Minority Rural Award for outreach efforts. In January 2010, he was awarded the MLK Picture Award from the City of Charleston.



of Charleston since 2015. His current board memberships include the President's Diversity Review Committee for the College of Charleston, the Diocese of Charleston Finance Board, and the Wells Fargo Bank Local Advisory Board. He served as Chairman of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce in 2002-03 and was on the Board of Directors and Executive Board from 1996-2012. Mr. Waring was also Chairman of the Charleston NAACP Freedom Fund Celebration in 2003, and has also served on the boards of the Charleston Regional Development Alliance and the College of Charleston Foundation. In 1995, he was the recipient of the South Carolina Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and in 2002 was presented with the Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Award for Excellence in Economic Development.



Addition to Charleston County Public Schools Panel Thursday, June 9, 2016

Gene Wilhoit CEO of Center for Innovation in Education University of Kentucky

Gene Wilhoit is the CEO of the Center for Innovation in Education at the University of Kentucky. Gene served as executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) from 2006 until 2013, having spent his entire professional career serving education at the local, state, and national levels. At CCSSO, Gene spearheaded the states' collective action to adopt the Common Core State Standards, marshaled a comprehensive restructuring of teacher and leader supports including consensus on preparation reform, stimulated state action to improve data systems and founded the multi-state Innovation Lab Network. From 1994 to 2006, Gene led two state education agencies, as director of the Arkansas Department of Education and commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education. Gene began his career as a social studies teacher in Ohio and Indiana. He served in the Indiana Department of Education, an administrator in Kanawha County West Virginia, and a special assistant in the U.S. Department of Education and executive director of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). Gene holds degrees from Georgetown College and Indiana University. He is a member of numerous education organizations, serves on several boards, has served on national and state commissions and has written and spoken on a variety of education issues.



Addition to A Courageous Conversation Session Friday, June 10, 2016

Perry K. Waring Charleston City Councilmember (District 7) Past Chairman of Charleston Metro Chamber

Perry K. Waring is registered principal of Charlestowne Associates, which was formed in 1982 and specializes in planning individual investment strategies that include the proper asset allocation of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. Mr. Waring serves as District 7 Councilmember for the City of Charleston and is currently in his second term. He has also been Mayor Pro-Tem for the City

