

# Alumni News

Connecting Alumni, School and Community

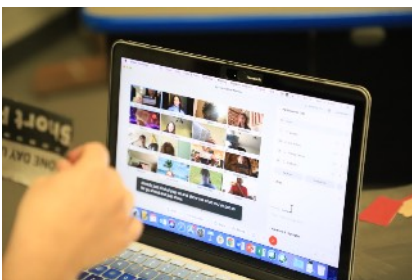
## A New Style of Learning

2020 will go down in history as one of the most uncertain years we've known, and it appears the uncertainty continues to spill over into 2021. This, too, has been a year like no other for our school district, but as usual, Clover School District worked quickly to meet the needs of its students offering face-to-face, hybrid, and virtual learning opportunities.



At the elementary level, small class sizes have been a major factor in students being able to attend school face-to-face five days a week. At the beginning of the year, each class became a small community within the school while classes such as art, music, and physical education came to the class community rather than moving the class. This worked well to establish the classroom communities, and now students have resumed most of their regular routines.

Unlike the class communities at the elementary level, secondary students have subject differences and need to change classes to gain access. Because of this, students are exposed to more individuals as they move throughout the building and participate in classes with different students. This posed a significant challenge at the secondary level, and, for the first half of the year, secondary students learned through a hybrid model. With this model, students participated in face-to-face learning and online learning. Half of the secondary students came on "A" day while the other half came on "B" day. This allowed both A and B day students to participate in face-to-face two days per week and online learning two days per week. The fifth day was used to provide



assistance for those who might need additional face-to-face instruction. This model allowed class sizes to be much smaller since only half of the students are in the building on any given day. Although this model served the students for the first part of the year, the district worked diligently to bring secondary students back to school at least 4 days per week. To assist with this transition, 54-inch desk shields supplied by the state department of education were installed in student work areas to add an additional layer of safety. With these in place, students were able to return to school in the 4 +1 hybrid model in which students received face-to-face instruction four days per week with

additional assistance being provided for those in need on the fifth day. If this model is successful, all secondary students will return to five-day face to face instruction on March 8, 2021. With little time to prepare for a school opening like no other, Clover School District has provided an array of options to educate its students in a safe environment.

## The Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center

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In 2010, Roosevelt Community Watch, in collaboration with the Clover School District, the town of Clover, and the YMCA, created a tutorial program for youth in the surrounding communities. Not only does a collaborative relationship exist between these entities, the school district, the town, and the YMCA are also valuable contributors providing resources such as financial and material support, internet access, man power, and transportation.

The initial program began in a 900 square foot mobile unit in Roosevelt Park originally used as the Community Watch meeting place. In 2012, the center was dedicated and named the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center in honor of Mr. Stellie J. Jackson for his 16 years of service as the first African-American member of the Clover School District Board of Trustees. In September 2014, the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center became a certified incorporation for nonprofit corporation, and in February 2016, received 501(c)3 status. Over the years, the center has expanded, and in the summer of 2020 a new building was completed to house the center.



From the beginning, the program has been faith based focusing on academic assistance as well as social, spiritual, and moral growth. After school program activities include Bible study incorporated into life lessons and resilience skills, one-to-one homework help in reading, math and science. Reading to understand is also a major focus of the center. Students also enjoy music and art activities and participate in field trips to musical performances and museums. Students are involved in the community by participating in parades and church activities as well as assistance with the elderly.



Since the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center is located in the Kinard Elementary School attendance area, the center is able to serve up to 15 Kinard students each year. In a recent interview with Mr. George Smith, principal of Kinard Elementary School, he stated that " The partnership

with the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center and Kinard Elementary school provides many students experiences far beyond the classroom. For several years, students participating at the center have moved from Kinard to Clover Middle School and on to Clover High School to become leaders and to give back to their community. We hope to continue our partnership with the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment center for years to come." In addition to working with Kinard Elementary students, a summer reading readiness program began in 2013 as an extension of FIRST STEPS of York County and BRIGHT BEGINNINGS of the Clover School District. The program is designed to help preschool age children entering kindergarten or first grade have the best possible start in school by helping them adjust to school and develop a love of reading. In 2014, the program was expanded to include first and second grade students needing reading improvement.



If you would like to learn more about the Stellie J. Jackson Enrichment Center, please visit the website at <https://www.sjjec.org> or follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/StellieJJacksonEnrichmentCenter>.

## The Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund

Your Donations  
Make a Difference



2019  
Catherine Faulkner  
\$1,000.00



2020  
Cody Cook  
\$1,500.00



2020  
Samuel Gossett  
\$1,500.00

Your donations make a difference. Since 2019, the Clover Schools Alumni Association has awarded three scholarships totaling \$4,000.00. This year, students graduating during Winter and Spring will each have the opportunity to apply for the Clover Schools Alumni Scholarships. All scholarship applications submitted will be evaluated in the spring. Scholarships will be awarded in the areas mentioned below:

\$1,500.00 - Awarded to a student attending an accredited 4-year institution

\$1,000.00 - Awarded to a student attending an accredited 2-year institution

\$1,000.00 - Awarded to a student obtaining a technical or industry required certification

Please consider donating to the Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund. Donations may be made through PayPal or by completing and mailing the donation form found at [www.clover.k12.sc.us/Page/13433](http://www.clover.k12.sc.us/Page/13433) or by obtaining a donation envelope from the Clover School District Office at 604 Bethel Street. The Clover Schools Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) eligible (charitable) organization.

### 2021 Scholarship Applications

All scholarship applications were due on February 26. Forms will be submitted to the scholarship committee for selection and scholarship recipients will be notified in May.

## Winter Graduates

Winter graduation continues at Clover High School and this past December 77 seniors became Clover High graduates. To maintain appropriate distance, half of the students graduated in one ceremony while the second half graduated in another ceremony.



### 2021 Graduates

Join the Clover Schools Alumni Association Today!



The Clover Schools Alumni Association is proud of the class of 2021. We wish to extend our congratulations to you and encourage you to become part of the Alumni Association. Since our organization opened in February 2018, nearly 1,000 alumni have signed into the database. Joining the association is easy.

Paper data forms may be picked up at the Clover School District Office or downloaded from our website at [clover.k12.sc.us/alumni](http://clover.k12.sc.us/alumni) (under the alumni database registration tab), by calling the alumni office at 803-810-8027, or by submitting information online at the web address above. In addition, the QR code provided may be scanned using your cell phone to join the organization. We hope you will join our efforts as we work together to connect alumni, school, and community! Please help us spread the word!





## Celebrating Our Athletic Hall of Fame

The Clover School District Athletic Hall of Fame was formed in order to honor those who, by outstanding achievement or service, have made lasting contributions to the cause of sports in the Clover School District. In our newsletter, we highlight our Hall of Fame inductees. This month, we're happy to celebrate two members inducted into the 2017 Hall of Fame.



A Blue Eagle at heart, **Bennie Bennett** graduated from East Clarendon High School and Winthrop College. Following an outstanding basketball career at Winthrop, Bennett had a successful 15-year coaching career at both Fort Mill High School and Clover High School. While serving in the role of administrator and athletic director, Bennett coached the Blue Eagle boys' basketball teams from 1989 until 1998. During his coaching career, Bennett's teams qualified for the playoffs 10 times, won 5 region championships, and he was named region coach of the year 5 times. He became principal of Clover Middle School in 1998, and later was appointed as an assistant superintendent in the Clover School District in 2002. After leaving Clover, Bennett served as superintendent of the Newberry County School District for 10 years. Bennett was named the 2009 SC Athletic Administrators Association Superintendent of the Year and served on the

South Carolina High School league's Executive Committee from 2003-2014. In addition Bennett is also a member of the Winthrop University Athletic Hall of Fame and the York County Athletic Hall of

**Clarence Robert Munday** graduated from Clover High School in 1962. Considered one of the best running backs to ever play for the Blue Eagles, Munday's career numbers included 29 touchdowns, 17 extra points as the team's kicker, and a total of 191 points scored. Monday rushed for 2994 yards during his time with the Blue Eagles and was selected to the North/South All-Star game at the conclusion of his senior season. Munday was named to the all-area team in 1960 and 1961, named the team's top offensive player in 1960, and the team's most valuable player in 1961. After his senior season, Munday signed a grant-in-aid to play football at Clemson University. In addition to football, Munday played baseball for the Blue Eagles.



### Mission & Purpose Restated

The mission of the Clover Schools Alumni Association is to promote the spirit of loyalty among graduates and former students; support the Clover School District's goals as it pursues excellence; and communicate alumni and school news.

The Clover Schools Alumni Association seeks to:

- \* Preserve and celebrate the history, heritage and traditions of Clover schools and alumni
- \* Promote an active interest in the current affairs of Clover schools.
- \* Foster alumni relationships with the schools and with each other through regular written communication and through social media.
- \* Acknowledge and recognize outstanding, successful, and distinguished former Clover students
- \* Create a secure, searchable, comprehensive database.
- \* Organize alumni events.
- \* Provide support for classes as they plan reunions.
- \* Encourage current students to participate in the alumni association following graduation.
- \* Develop the Alumni Association as a financially self-sufficient and fiscally responsible organization within the community.
- \* Generate funds to provide student scholarships and to support alumni activities.

# Alumni Spotlight

## Matt Hogue

### Coastal Carolina University Athletic Director



Matt Hogue, a 1989 graduate of Clover High School, currently serves as the athletic director at Coastal Carolina University. During his time at Clover High School, Mr. Hogue was active in organizations such as the French and Bi-Sci-Chem clubs. In addition, he was part of Mu Alpha Theta and the National Honor Society. Mr. Hogue played on the varsity basketball team and the golf team at Clover High where he was an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. According to his senior yearbook, Mr. Hogue had his eye on a future in broadcasting when he graduated, and, as one reviews his accomplishments, it seems broadcasting helped pave the way to his success. After graduation, Mr. Hogue attended the University of South Carolina where he pursued a degree in broadcasting. In his free time, he looked for ways to use his talents and often covered Gamecock women's basketball games on the campus radio station. After graduation from the University of South

Carolina, he worked for a variety of radio stations, but finally made his way to Coastal Carolina in 1997. Mr. Hogue may be best known for his 17-year stint as the "Voice of the Chanticleers" on the Chanticleer Sports Network where he provided live game broadcasts, features, and weekly programs about Coastal Carolina athletics. In fact, Mr. Hogue was the play-by-play announcer for the school's radio station when the Coastal Carolina football team won its first game. Although his path at Coastal Carolina has ultimately led him to director of athletics, he began his career at Coastal Carolina as an assistant sports information director. During this time, he continued to work as the play-by-play announcer for the school's basketball team. He was later promoted as the associate athletic director for marketing before becoming the associate vice president of marketing in 2009. Throughout this time, Mr. Hogue continued to spend his nights and weekends broadcasting. Because of his varied experiences at the university, Mr. Hogue was the perfect candidate for interim athletic director in 2014, and in 2015 the job became permanent when the "Voice of the Chanticleers" became the "face of Coastal Carolina Athletics." In 2013, Mr. Hogue was named a finalist for the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association (NSSA) Sportscaster of the Year for the state of South Carolina. In spite of his accomplishments, Matt Hogue has not forgotten his roots. In a recent article in "The Herald", Hogue said he still considers Clover home. He said "It was a great place to grow up." "It had a great school system, that I often cherish now. I didn't know how good we had it. There were a lot of great people who led me then. And I think back to going to football games when I was a kid." The Clover Schools Alumni Association is proud to highlight Matt Hogue.

## Class News & Information

As things slowly return to normal, classes may consider getting together for a reunion. If your class is planning a reunion or has had a reunion, please contact us at [alumni@clover.k12.sc.us](mailto:alumni@clover.k12.sc.us). We'd love to help you and share your pictures in our next issue.

# Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund



Please consider sending your donation today . . .

Your donation to the Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund can help make the dreams of Clover High School graduates come true. Donations to the scholarship fund may be made in memory of classmates, teachers, friends and family members, in recognition of a special person or occasion, in commemoration of class reunions, and more by using the attached form. The Clover Schools Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) eligible (charitable) organization.

## Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund Donation Form

Mail to: Clover Schools Alumni Scholarship Fund  
604 Bethel Street  
Clover, SC 29170

Donation Information:

Donor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

The donation is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ General Donation
- \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (Name). \_\_\_\_\_ (Class year, if alumni) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Class year, if alumni) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . From the Class of (Year) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Tax deductible notification should be mailed to: (All donations will be acknowledged by mail.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_