



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Duke Energy Carolinas President Brett Carter to speak to students at Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology**

*Charlotte, NC* – Brett Carter, president of Duke Energy Carolinas, will visit Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology on Monday, December Dec.14, to tour the school and then speak to 500 selected Berry Academy students. His visit will begin with a tour of the school at 12:30, followed by his presentation at 1:15 in the school's gymnasium.

The focus of Mr. Carter's remarks will be about pursuing careers in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ("STEM"), but he will also incorporate his personal story of growing up in a challenging environment with six siblings and limited resources.

Mr. Carter is a native of Pittsburgh and holds a B.S. in accounting from Clarion University and an M.B.A. with a concentration in marketing from the University of Pittsburgh. He is active in the community and serves on the Board of Directors of Mecklenburg Citizens for Public Education and is a graduate of Leadership Charlotte. He also completed the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program. Mr. Carter joined Duke Energy in 2005 and was named to his current position of president of Duke Energy Carolinas in 2008.

Since 2007, Duke Energy has sponsored the Communities In Schools (CIS) program at Phillip O. Berry, which includes a financial commitment to provide a full-time CIS employee at the school who provides dropout prevention services and resources to students and families. Duke Energy also encourages its employees to volunteer at the school and lead special programs about careers in technology and engineering. Mr. Carter's visit is part of Communities In Schools' "Speaker Series" that invites guest speakers who can motivate and inspire disadvantaged students who may be at-risk for dropping out of school.

"Duke Energy is one of our premier partners," said Bill Anderson, CIS executive director. "The leadership at Duke Energy understands the great need for the corporate sector to be engaged in our schools. The company is also a perfect fit for partnering with Phillip O. Berry, since the school's focus is on careers in technology and engineering. CIS and the students at Berry Academy are very fortunate to have Duke Energy's support and the commitment of its employees who volunteer on a regular basis."

Communities In Schools of Charlotte-Mecklenburg is part of a national dropout prevention program that provides support and resources to some of the district's most impoverished schools. In addition to school-based services coordinated by a CIS employee at the school site, CIS recruits corporate, civic, and faith-based organizations to partner with these schools to provide financial, volunteer, and in-kind support. For more information about partnering with Communities In Schools to support students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, contact Dr. Bill Anderson at 703-335-0601, ext. 9442 or [banderson@cischarlotte.org](mailto:banderson@cischarlotte.org).

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**About Communities In Schools**

*Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's largest and most effective dropout prevention organization, helping young people stay in school, successfully learn, and prepare for life by connecting needed community resources with schools. CIS of Charlotte-Mecklenburg currently serves more than 5,000 students annually in 43 Charlotte-Mecklenburg public schools. For more information, visit [www.cischarlotte.org](http://www.cischarlotte.org).*