



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Identified District Superintendents & Technology Coordinators

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: November 24, 2015

RE: Readiness for Online Testing in 2017

This fiscal year the State has committed to providing technology consulting services to school districts that may need assistance preparing for 100 percent administration of assessments online, required by statute to begin in 2017. As part of the commitment, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has engaged independent third-party consultant services to offer individualized Technology Readiness Analysis beginning with a prioritized list of rural and “plaintiff” districts. If we have capacity for additional reviews, the invitation will be extended to other districts.

The lead consultant for this effort will be Robert Cardelli, Peak Performance Technologies, Inc. Mr. Cardelli was an instrumental resource to the state in gathering data metrics for our state 2014–17 educational technology plan and has over 20 years of consulting experience helping education and governments with assessments and advisory services. Each district will receive detailed findings and recommendations at no cost to the district. Areas which will be addressed in this report will include the district’s technology readiness to deliver state-required and other local online assessments, 1:1 computing, enhanced Internet connectivity for the support of instruction in their schools, and related IT operational aspects of school operations related to technology.

Time is of the essence. We would like to begin preliminary discussions immediately with your district to understand your team’s availability and work on scheduling conference calls and site visits around your calendars. Please respond to this invitation by **Friday, December 4**, with a primary point of contact for scheduling next steps and future discussions. Please respond to Don Cantrell, SCDE Chief Information Officer, at DCantrell@ed.sc.gov.