



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**ELLEN E. WEAVER**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Accountability Directors  
Technology Directors  
Human Resources Directors

**FROM:** Matthew Ferguson  
Chief Academic Officer & Deputy Superintendent,  
Division of College & Career Readiness

**DATE:** February 28, 2023

**RE:** Maintenance and Access to Educator Data

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) uses data from the SC Educator system to determine participation requirements for the teacher climate survey and other data requests. Specifically, position code, start date, full time equivalency (FTE) and termination date are used to determine participation requirements. Teachers are then matched by Educator ID to PowerSchool to determine which school is responsible for administering a survey.

The accuracy of this data directly impacts school and district accountability ratings, district funding and the information shared with the general assembly and other stakeholders. To ensure accuracy of this matching process, SCDE will distribute initial participation expectations the week of February 27<sup>th</sup> and update those reports periodically during the teacher climate survey administration window. Prioritizing accurate updates of these data in SC Educator and PowerSchool will support your principals, technology directors, and accountability directors in accurately matching teachers for accountability ratings.

Past and current lags in data entry by schools have impacted SCDE's ability to accurately identify educators. The net result of this lag in data entry is that principals and superintendents will be held responsible for educator's participation when they are not aware that educator should be listed for their school.

SCDE uses the final data submission from SC Educator Compensation to determine both funding and the requirements for participation in accountability. The SCDE does not compel districts to record the data used for accountability prior to that report period, but the accuracy of all interim communication is predicated on keeping the educator data in SC Educator Compensation and the PowerSchool system current through the survey window from February 27 to April 14, 2023.

More information on the climate survey administration can be found [here](#).  
Information about the role of the survey in accountability can be found [here](#).

Please contact Dan Ralyea at [Dralyea@ed.sc.gov](mailto:Dralyea@ed.sc.gov) if you have any questions about survey administration.