



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



April 5, 2022

Missed last week's memos?

All SCDE weekly memo communications are archived [here](#). Individual memos can be found on the [School District Memoranda Archive](#).

ACCESSIBILITY

Website Accessibility Training for School Districts

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District HR Directors, District Instructional Leaders, District Information Technology (IT) Leaders, District Chief Information Officers, Public Information Officers, Web Access Coordinators (WAC)

CONTACT: Valarie Byrd, vbyrd@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education and the United States Department of Education-Office for Civil Rights is offering a two-part website accessibility virtual training session from 3:00-4:00 p.m. on April 19, and May 17, 2022. Through live demonstrations, participants will learn how to identify and remedy various website accessibility barriers to provide equitable access for individuals with disabilities. This training is offered at no cost to districts and participants can earn one continuing education unit per session. These sessions will not be recorded.

[Website Accessibility Training for School Districts - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

2021-22 Summer Reading Camps

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, PowerSchool Coordinators, Read to Succeed Liaisons, Summer Reading Camp Coordinators

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The Read to Succeed Team in the Office of Early Learning and Literacy (OELL) at the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is gearing up to support districts for the 2022 Read to Succeed Summer Reading Camps (SRC). This memorandum contains important information regarding this year's SRC, including:

Section 59-155-130 of the Read to Succeed Act that requires the SCDE to monitor and report

annually to the State Board of Education (SBE) on SRC. SRC implementation and data requirements and best practices, along with more information on data collection, may be [found here](#).

[2021-22 Summer Reading Camps - Memo](#) PDF (197 KB)

MILITARY

Month of the Military Child - Purple Up! For Military Kids

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Military Liaison Officers

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On April 6, 2022, Governor Henry McMaster will proclaim April as the ***Month of the Military Child or “Purple Up! For Military Kids”*** in South Carolina to celebrate students whose service member parents serve and protect our country. I hope that schools around the state will support “Purple Up! For Military Kids” by planning special activities and wearing the color purple, especially during Military Family Spirit Week, April 18–22, 2022.

During spirit week, please post pictures of celebrations and activities on your respective district and school websites and social media platforms, using #PurpleUpSC. A list of activities to support this special effort for military families may be found at [Month of the Military Child Ideas for 2022](#).

[Month of the Military Child - Purple Up! For Military Kids - Memo](#) PDF (215 KB)

RETURN TO IN-PERSON PLANS

Updated Guidance for Return to In-Person Plans

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Business Officials

CONTACT: scesser@ed.sc.gov

On February 22, 2022, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) issued revised guidance for South Carolina schools regarding how to best mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The updated guidance can be found [here](#).

Districts must update their Return to In-Person Plans by June 30, 2022, to ensure compliance with the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief grant (ARP ESSER). The updated plans should reference the new guidance. As a reminder, the Return to In-Person Plans must be posted publicly on district websites and districts must have gained public input upon implementing changes.

[Updated Guidance for Return to In-Person Plans - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

STANDARDS

English Language Development (ELD) Standards Framework Implementation

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, Principals, District Test Coordinators, ESEA Title III MLP Coordinators

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The *WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards Framework, 2020 Edition: Kindergarten-Grade 12* was publicly released on December 18, 2020, and formally adopted by the South Carolina Board of Education in May 2021. During the 2021-22 school year, professional learning opportunities and stakeholder committee work has served as a bridge to full roll-out and implementation during the 2022-23 school year. This updated, comprehensive edition fosters the assets, contributions, and potential of multilingual learners (MLs). With this edition, WIDA continues to advance the field of language development in support of disciplinary learning. A PDF of the *WIDA ELD Standards Framework, 2020 Edition* is available for download on the [WIDA website](#).

[English Language Development \(ELD\) Standards Framework Implementation - Memo](#)
PDF (179 KB)

TRUANCY

Truancy Intervention Programs

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

On March 23, 2022, the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of General Counsel received a letter from the South Carolina Court Administration expressing serious concerns with the truancy practices of several school districts. Specifically, Court Administration relayed findings that multiple school districts were operating "truancy courts" for students not in compliance with compulsory attendance requirements and issuing "orders" purporting to be from a South Carolina Family Court. Court Administration also noted that one district improperly issued communications related to the "truancy court" using the letterhead of the Circuit Solicitor. The letter noted, "[t]he conduct of these school districts unquestionably runs afoul of the criminal statute S.C. Code Ann. § 16-17-735 (2015). Additionally, persons involved in impersonating genuine courts could likely be found in contempt of the courts they are impersonating or of the Supreme Court." Court Administration advised that school districts should stop holding themselves out as courts of law, make any necessary revisions to their forms and orders to remedy confusion with actual courts, and make clear that truancy programs are in no way affiliated with the South Carolina Unified Judicial System.

[Truancy Intervention Programs - Memo](#) PDF (138 KB)

