



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



August 1, 2023

Missed last week's memos?

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

ASSESSMENT AND STANDARDS/ EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

Professional Development for Fall 2023 for the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Mandy Hocker, mwhocker@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Assessment and Standards (OAS) will offer free, two-day professional development (PD) for two instructional leaders from each district in SC (preferably those who serve in roles such as district administrators/content specialists/teacher leaders). Sessions build upon one another; therefore, representatives should plan to attend both days. Sessions will consist of face-to-face experiences to focus on the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards. The sessions are designed in the train-the-trainer model where attendees will be equipped to prepare the appropriate staff in their districts to transition to the new ELA standards in the 2024-2025 school year.

[PD for South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards - Memo](#) PDF (177 KB)

Office of Assessment and Standards & Office of Early Learning and Literacy Professional Development for 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards

AUDIENCE: School Literacy Coaches

CONTACT: Marie Gibbons, mgibbons@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Assessment and Standards (OAS) and Office of Early Learning and Literacy (OELL) will offer free train-the-trainer professional development (PD) for literacy coaches from each school in SC. Sessions build upon one another; therefore representatives should plan to attend both days. Sessions will consist of face-to-face experiences to focus on the Foundations of Literacy strand of the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards with a specific focus on the kindergarten through second grade standards. The sessions are designed in the train-the-trainer model where attendees will be equipped to prepare the appropriate staff in their schools to teach the Foundations of Literacy standards as part of English language arts in the 2024-2025 school year.

[OAS OELL PD for 2023 SC College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards - Memo](#) PDF (174 KB)

Office of Early Learning and Literacy Learning Engagement Opportunities for Families

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Early Childhood Coordinators, District Family Engagement Liaisons

CONTACT: Wendy Burgess, wburgess@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Assessment and Standards (OAS) and Office of Early Learning and Literacy (OELL) will offer free train-the-trainer professional development (PD) for literacy coaches from each school in SC. Sessions build upon one another; therefore representatives should plan to attend both days. Sessions will consist of face-to-face experiences to focus on the Foundations of Literacy strand of the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards with a specific focus on the kindergarten through second grade standards. The sessions are designed in the train-the-trainer model where attendees will be equipped to prepare the appropriate staff in their schools to teach the Foundations of Literacy standards as part of English language arts in the 2024-2025 school year.

[Office of Early Learning and Literacy Learning Engagement Opportunities for Families Fall 2023 - Memo](#) PDF (202 KB)

SAFE SCHOOLS

2023 Model Safe Schools Checklist Submission

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Safety Coordinators

CONTACT: James Rawl, jbrawl@ed.sc.gov

Proviso 1A.37. (SDE EIA: Aid to Districts Draw Down) states, in part, that school districts, Palmetto Unified District, and the Department of Juvenile Justice must work with local law enforcement agencies, and when necessary, state law enforcement agencies in order to ensure that the district has an updated school safety plan in place.

To meet the requirements of Proviso 1A.37, districts must complete the 2023 Model Safe Schools Checklist, which was approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) on June 13, 2023. Districts representatives should submit their official 2023 Checklist electronically via the SC School Safety Portal (SCSSP) by September 1, 2023.

[2023 Model Safe Schools Checklist Submission - Memo](#) PDF (115 KB)

School Safety Grant Funds

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Safety Coordinators

CONTACT: James Rawl, jbrawl@ed.sc.gov

Proviso 1.81 of the FY 2024 Appropriations Act authorizes the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) to distribute up to \$20,000,000 to public school districts and charter school districts to make upgrades aligned with school safety priorities.

Eligible school facility upgrades shall include:

- classroom/internal door locks
- window film/covers or bulletproof glass or bulletproof film for windows
- secure school entry points and access control
- electronic or other technology

[School Safety Grant Funds - Memo](#) PDF (154 KB)

South Carolina Department of Education
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