



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



November 22, 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](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

[Professional Development for Educators](#) (through 12/20/2022)

[Annual Audit Report Submission](#) (12/1/2022)

[Academic Recovery Plan Updates](#) (12/15/2022)

DHEC UPDATES

DHEC would like to remind districts about the following information.

COVID-19 Vendor Testing Interest Form

DHEC is able to offer turnkey vendor COVID-19 and Flu A/B testing free to public school districts and charter schools. The vendors that have been awarded these contracts have extensive experience providing testing services in South Carolina and will provide everything necessary for a successful testing program, including all materials, staff, result reporting and consent management systems. We hope these testing services will greatly benefit school communities, and encourage you to consider filling out [this form](#) to learn more if you have not already. For additional information, please contact Kendra Neely at COVID19SCschools@dhec.sc.gov.

COVID-19 At-home Test Request Form

At-home COVID-19 tests continue to be an important prevention measure for disease spread and outbreaks, especially in light of upcoming winter breaks during respiratory infection season. Consider ordering at-home tests for distribution prior to winter break. Giving every student and staff person the ability to test before returning to school may prevent infectious disease spread after travel and time spent in groups during the holidays. At-home COVID-19 tests for distribution to students and staff may be ordered with [this form](#).

ASSESSMENT & STANDARDS

Career-Readiness Assessment: New Contract Awarded

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Test Coordinators

CONTACT: Christina Melton, csmelton@ed.sc.gov

The State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA) secures contracts for state agencies, including the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). The SFAA awarded a contract for a career-readiness assessment to Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN).

The SCDE and WIN are scheduling a meeting to begin planning for the spring 2023 test administration. More detailed information for the spring administration will be shared with District Test Coordinators following the meeting.

[Career-Readiness Assessment: New Contract Awarded - Memo](#) PDF (176 KB)

Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) 4K Readiness Assessment

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Instructional Leaders, District Test Coordinators

CONTACT: Susan Creighton, screight@ed.sc.gov, Meghan Walters-Branham, mgwalters@ed.sc.gov

This memo is to advise districts of an upcoming change in the readiness assessments administered to four-year-old kindergarten (4K) students. Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS™) will be retired on June 30, 2023. Districts using PALS™ will continue to have access to assessments, the online system, and customer support through the end of the 2022–23 school year. Renaissance will be providing additional support and information regarding how to access and save all of your historical PALS™ data.

[Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening \(PALS\) 4K Readiness Assessment - Memo](#) PDF (143 KB)

REGULATIONS

Flag/Motto Display Regulations

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Public Information Officers

CONTACT: Kenzie Riddle, emriddle@ed.sc.gov

State law requires schools to ensure that they display the official mottos of the United States of America and South Carolina by the start of the 2023-24 school year. To provide more guidance on the display of these mottos, Senate Bill S.969, which amends S.C. Code Ann. § 59-1-325 (Supp. 2021), states that “the state board of education is required to make rules and regulations requiring the display of the official mottos of the United States of America and South Carolina.”

[Flag/Motto Display Regulations - Memo](#) PDF (134 KB)



Unsubscribecommunications@ed.sc.gov

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent bycommunications@ed.sc.gov