



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



November 29, 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)

[Preschool Curriculum Showcase Registration](#) (12/30/2022)

EARLY LEARNING & LITERACY

Preschool Curriculum Showcase

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Early Childhood Coordinators

CONTACT: Jamie Sanders, jasanders@ed.sc.gov

The Office of Early Learning and Literacy (OELL) will host a showcase of the approved 4K curricula providers on January 17, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the South Carolina Archives and History Building located at 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 29223. The purpose of the showcase is to give district representatives the opportunity to participate in a presentation and review materials from each provider. All districts that have been using Big Day in PreK curriculum and all new CERDEP districts since the 2020-21 expansion need to attend the showcase. Districts will be required to submit curriculum choices by March 10, 2023.

[Preschool Curriculum Showcase - Memo](#) PDF (165 KB)

GRANTS

2023 African American History Instructional Materials

Grant - Round Two

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Public Information Officers, Nonprofit Organizations, Institutions of Higher Education

CONTACT: Stephen Corsini, spcorsini@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2023 Request for Proposals for the African American History Instructional Materials Grant—Round Two is now available online. Approximately \$200,000 in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **January 19, 2023**.

For this funding round, the SCDE will fund nonprofit organizations, school districts, or Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) that are capable of developing one of the African American History instructional materials as detailed in the Request for Proposals. The purpose of this program is to facilitate the development of additional instructional materials for African American history curricula.

[2023 African American History Instructional Materials Grant - Round Two - Memo](#)
PDF (144 KB)

MEMOS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22

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)

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)

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