



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

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May 12, 2020

ACCOUNTABILITY

Title IX Initiative and the District Entity & Information Management System

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Holly Hadden, hhadden@ed.sc.gov, 803-734-1807.

On February 26, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a new Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) enforcement initiative to combat sexual assault in K–12 public schools. This initiative will also work to further implement and enforce the Every Student Succeeds Act's (ESSA) directive that prohibits education agencies from assisting a school employee in obtaining a new job if the agency knows or has probable cause to believe the employee was engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student. The ESSA directive has exceptions, and all districts are advised to review the law at 20 U.S.C. § 7926.

As part of the initiative, the OCR will conduct compliance reviews, data quality reviews, and propose more data collection. The OCR also aims to increase public awareness and support to address the issue of sexual assault in K–12 schools.

[Title IX Initiative and the District Entity & Information Management System - Memo](#) PDF (163 KB)

EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

Updated MTSS Universal Screening Approved List for the 2020–21 School Year

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Quincie Moore, qmoore@ed.sc.gov, 803-737-3150

On March 2, 2020, the Office of Early Learning and Literacy distributed a memorandum to district superintendents containing the approved universal screening list for the 2020–21 school year. Please see the memo below for further details about the approved screening list.

EDUCATOR LEADERSHIP

Collective Leadership Initiative, Cohort Three Request for Nominees

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Olivia (Libby) Ortmann, oortmann@ed.sc.gov

Since 2017, the Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development (OEELD) has worked with administrators and teacher leaders from schools across South Carolina to implement a cohesive vision for teacher leadership roles.

In preparation for the 2020–21 school year, the OEELD seeks school teams of principals and teachers to be a part of Cohort Three of the Collective Leadership Initiative. Selected school teams will learn and implement the collective leadership framework.

If you or your principals would like to participate, please [click here](#) to complete the application survey. Applications must be completed by Friday, May 29, 2020.

[Collective Leadership Initiative, Cohort Three Request for Nominees - Memo](#) PDF (197 KB)

CHARTER SCHOOL GRANTS

Charter Schools Program--Planning and Implementation Subgrant Opportunity

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Public Information Officers

CONTACT: Natasha Anderson, charterschoolgrant@ed.sc.gov, 803-734-0526

The South Carolina Department of Education announces that the 2020–21 Request for Proposals for the Charter Schools Program Planning and Implementation subgrant is now available online. Approximately \$10 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is June 8, 2020.

Visit the [SCDE Grant Opportunities page](#) for updated information on grants, eligibility, application deadlines, and technical assistance.

[Charter Schools Program--Planning and Implementation Subgrant Opportunity - Memo](#) PDF (137 KB)

MONTESSORI

Montessori Basics for Administrators

AUDIENCE: Instructional Leaders, Principals

CONTACT: Kristen Logan, klogan@ed.sc.gov, 803-734-1213.

The South Carolina Department of Education's Office of Personalized Learning and Office of Virtual Education are excited to announce a new course: Montessori Basics for Administrators!

Beginning March 2, 2020, VirtualSC PD will be offering this self-paced course that brings together Montessori principles with public school guidelines and requirements. For more details, see the attached flyer, or visit [VirtualSC PD](#).

[Montessori Basics for Administrators - Memo](#) PDF (159 KB)

[Montessori Basics for Administrators - Flyer](#) PDF (231 KB)

STANDARDS AND LEARNING

Selection of the State Standards Review Panel for the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Cindy Oxford, coxford@ed.sc.gov, Nita Lyda, jlyda@ed.sc.gov, or Dawn Hawkins, dhawkins@ed.sc.gov.

The South Carolina Department of Education is organizing a Standards Review Panel for the revision of the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts. The role of the panel in the cyclical review process is to evaluate the current standards and make recommendations for revision.

The application will open May 12, 2020. Candidates must apply via the [application link](#) no later than **Friday, September 11, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

[Selection of the State Standards Review Panel for the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts](#) PDF (175 KB)

Selection of the State Standards Writing Committee for the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Cindy Oxford, coxford@ed.sc.gov, Nita Lyda, jlyda@ed.sc.gov, or Dawn Hawkins, dhawkins@ed.sc.gov.

The South Carolina Department of Education is organizing a State Standards Writing Committee for the revision of the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts as part of the Cyclical Review process. The role of the committee is to develop a draft of revised academic standards aligned with research and best practices in the field to be approved for adoption by the State Board of Education. Please see the memo below for further details.

The application is open as of May 7, 2020. Candidates must apply via the [application link](#) no later than **Friday, September 11, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

[Selection of the State Standards Writing Committee for the 2015 South Carolina Academic Standards for English Language Arts](#) PDF (175 KB)