SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Reporting facts. Measuring change. Promoting progress.

For questions or additional information, contact us at: 803.734.6148 or www.eoc.sc.gov

At a Glance

2012 Legislative Summary

July 2012

Investments in Education Accountability and Improvement

With improved revenue collections in the current fiscal year and increased revenue projections for FY2012-13, the General Assembly appropriated additional revenues to accomplish the following:

- **Education Finance Act (EFA) –** The EFA is funded with a base student cost of $2,012, a $141 above the current year's base student cost of $1,880. The Index of Taxpaying Ability continues to impute the value for owner-occupied residential property qualifying for the special four percent assessment ratios for Tier 1, 2 and Tier 3(A).

- **South Carolina Public Charter School District (SCPCSD) –** The General Assembly appropriated $30.3 million, an increase of $5.0 million in general fund revenues to the SCPCSD. In addition to existing state funds, pupils enrolled in virtual charter schools sponsored by the SCPCSD will receive an additional $1,700 per weighted pupil and pupils enrolled in brick and mortar charter schools, an additional $3,250 per weighted pupil.

- **Technical Assistance and Aid to Districts –** The General Assembly appropriated $5,250,000 for technical assistance.

- **IDEA –** The General Assembly appropriated up to $30.5 million of EIA revenuers to meet the maintenance of effort requirements under the federal law, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and $36.2 million to supplement a loss of federal funding from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) expected on October 1, 2012.

- **Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP) –** Recurring EIA monies continue to fund CDEPP at the prior year's level. The South Carolina State Department of Education (SCSDE) is appropriated $17,300,000 in EIA funds and the Office of First Steps to School Readiness, $2,484,628 in general funds, for the program. CDEPP provides full-day education services in public schools or private centers for four-year-olds who are eligible for the free or reduced price federal lunch program and/or Medicaid and who reside in the plaintiff districts of the Abbeville equity lawsuit.

- **Teacher Salaries –** The 2008-09 statewide minimum teacher salary schedule, which had been in place for the past three fiscal years without any changes, will be increased by 2 percent in 2012-13. Districts will also be required to give teachers at least a one-step increase for years of experience. The General Assembly appropriated $48.7 million in EIA revenues to cover the state share of the 2 percent increase. The projected Southeastern average teacher salary for FY2012-13 is projected to be $49,319. The actual SC average teacher salary in 2010-11 was $47,050. In the event that a midyear reduction in state funding to school districts occurs, districts may implement employee furloughs.

- **New Initiatives –** As recommended by the EOC, the General Assembly funded the following initiatives using EIA revenues: (1) Teach For America at $2.0 million; and (2) STEM (science, technical, engineering and mathematics) at $1,750,000.

- **Lottery and Unclaimed Prize Revenues –** Funding for Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies Program is $29,491,798 for grades K-5, the same level as in the current fiscal year. For grades 6-8, the level of funding also remains at $2.0 million. Lottery revenues of $12.2 million are also allocated for school bus purchases.

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY ACT APPROPRIATIONS SINCE FY09*

EAA ITEM	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
Technical Assistance	76,380,078	60,430,445	57,430,445	6,000,000	5,250,000
External Review Teams	1,292,108	1,019,880			
Assessment	22,290,943	22,152,624	*21,665,119*	21,665,119	24,761,400
Formative Assessment	4,950,000	3,472,470	3,096,281	3,096,281	
Summer School/Comp Remediation	29,514,247				
Summer School Transportation	4,000,000				
Alternative Schools	11,008,140				
Principals Executive Institute	853,592				
Professional Development on Standards	6,592,390	6,515,911	6,515,911	6,515,911	5,515,911
Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards **	2,825,310	2,230,061	2,230,061	2,230,061	
Report Card Printing & Development	915,205	722,385	722,385	722,385	
Data Collection	1,543,043	1,217,947	1,217,947		
Unique Student Identifier	1,250,708	987,203	987,203		
Power Schools/Data Collection				5,000,000	5,000,000
Education Oversight Committee (EOC)	1,658,805	1,016,289	1,016,289	1,193,242	1,193,242
EOC Public Relations	213,398	168,438	168,438		
SCDE Personal Service	1,821,889	1,236,436	1,236,436	1,236,436	1,236,436
SCDE Other Operating	1,638,815	1,174,752	1,174,752	1,174,752	1,174,752
Students at Risk of School Failure		136,163,204	136,163,204	136,163,204	136,163,204
TOTAL EAA:	**$168,748,671**	**$238,508,045**	**$233,624,471**	**$184,997,391**	**$180,294,945**
OTHER SUPPORTING PROGRAMS:					
Reduce Class Size	33,006,617				
EOC Family involvement	42,679	33,781	33,781		
K-5 Reading, Math, Science & Social Studies	47,614,527	47,614,527	47,614,527	29,491,798	29,491,798
6-8 Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
High School Reading	1,000,000	911,400	729,340	729,340	
Young Adult Education (30% of Adult Education)	4,706,832	4,018,351	4,072,121	4,072,121	4,072,121
Act 135 Academic Assistance	113,423,554				
Reading		6,542,052	6,542,052	6,542,052	6,542,052
Aid to Districts				68,250,835	37,736,600
TOTAL OTHER:	**$201,794,209**	**$61,120,111**	**$60,991,821**	**$111,086,146**	**79,842,571**
GRAND TOTAL:	**$370,542,880**	**$299,628,156**	**$294,616,292**	**$296,083,537**	**$260,137,516**

***** Includes all recurring and nonrecurring General Fund, EIA, and lottery revenues but excludes federal funds for testing. Line items in italics denote the suspension of the entire program or a portion of the program for other purposes (writing assessment suspended in grades 3, 4, 6 and 7; suspension of report card printing; etc.). Over time, several line items have been consolidated. Appropriations for Act 135, Summer School, Reduce Class Size, Alternative Schools, and Parenting/Family Literacy were consolidated and reallocated to Students at Risk of School Failure. Appropriations for Young Adult and Adult Education were consolidated. All line item appropriations for the EOC were consolidated, and appropriations for data collection and unique student identifier were consolidated into PowerSchool.
** For FY10, FY11 and FY12, the funds appropriated for the program were either suspended or reallocated.

Often, policymakers are asked about teacher salary and EFA base student cost funding. Below are some charts to give you a historical perspective

Actual Average Teacher Salary

Fiscal Year	South Carolina	Southeast	Difference
2004-05	$42,189	$41,464	$725
2005-06	$43,011	$42,863	$148
2006-07	$44,336	$44,544	($208)
2007-08	$45,758	$46,393	($635)
2008-09	$47,421	$47,445	($24)
2009-10	$47,508	$47,553	($45)
2010-11	$47,050	$47,692	($642)
2011-12	$47,050	$48,337	
2012-13		$49,337	

Southeast includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Salaries in blue are estimates.

Education Finance Act
Expenditures and Base Student Cost

Fiscal Year	Expenditures	Projected BSC	BSC Per Appropriation Act
2004-05	$1,027,089,281	$2,234	$1,852
2005-06	$1,078,998,156	$2,290	$2,290
2006-07	$1,367,973,500	$2,367	$2,367
2007-08	$1,426,544,209	$2,476	$2,476
2008-09	$1,506,691,472	$2,578	$2,578
2009-10 *	$1,339,202,159	$2,687	$2,334
2010-11 *	$1,088,894,001	$2,720	$1,930
2011-12 **	$1,004,394,001	$2,790	$1,788
2012-13 ***	$1,109,394,001	$2,790	$2,012

Source: "Historical Analyses," Office of State Budget, Last Updated October 2011. <http://www.budget.sc.gov/webfiles/OSB/historical/FY_2011_Historical_Analyses_for_webpage.pdf>.

*Base Student Cost includes federal funds authorized through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. Without ARRA funding, base student cost is $2,034 in FY2009-10 and $1,630 in 2010-11.

**Base Student Cost does not include $56,174,107 in non-recurring funds. Total funding is a base student cost of approximately $1,880.

*** EFA expenditures for 2012-13 reflect appropriations.

Other Legislation Impacting School Finance and Accountability

Act 148 (H4595, R167) – This law amends proviso 1A.54. of the current year's appropriation act, to reduce the amount of funds that must be expended for the maintenance of effort for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) from $45.5 to $33.5 million. The reduction reflects the appropriated Education Finance Act (EFA) base student cost and the 45-day average daily membership for students with disabilities. The balance of the funds may be expended by districts for other educational purposes.

Act 164 (H3241, R188) – This law amends the state's charter school legislation to:

- Expand charter school options to include single-gender public charter schools and public charter schools sponsored by institutions of higher education;
- Provide that a charter school is eligible for federally sponsored, state-sponsored or district-sponsored interscholastic leagues, competitions, awards, scholarships, grants, and recognition programs for students, educators, administrators, staff, and schools to the same extent as all other public schools;
- Permit public charter school students to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics, at their resident public school if that activity or athletic team is not offered by the public charter school they attend. A "resident public school" is the public school the student would attend if they were not enrolled in their public charter school;
- Amend the composition of the Charter School Advisory Committee to include a public charter school principal and a public charter school board member;
- Require the Charter School Advisory Committee to notify the county legislative delegation in which a proposed public charter school is to be located upon receipt of a public charter school application;
- Prohibit unlawful reprisal against an employee of a school district who is directly or indirectly involved in an application to establish a public charter school;
- Require school districts to release funds for public charter schools in a timely manner, and provides that failure to do so may result in a fine levied on the school district in an amount equivalent to the withheld funds; and
- Create the Charter School Facility Revolving Loan Program.

Act 170 (H4690, R194) – Known as the "Jason Flatt Act," this law requires that beginning with the 2013-14 school year, the Department of Education will require two hours of training in youth suicide awareness and prevention as a requirement for the renewal of credentials for individuals employed in a middle or high school.

Act 203 (S149, R212) – Known as the "Equal Access to Interscholastic Activities Act," this law gives any student enrolled in one of the Governor's Schools or taught at home the opportunity to participate in interscholastic activities at the school which correlates with the attendance boundaries for the student. The student must maintain the same responsibilities and standards of behavior and performance as any other student participating on the team or squad. These are the same privileges given to students in charter schools by Act 164.

Act 231 (H3028, R283) – The act increases the induction period for teachers from one to up to three-years. Districts have the flexibility at the end of each year of the three-year induction period to employ the teacher under another induction contract, to offer an annual contract, or to terminate employment.

H4632 (R168) – Effective July 1, 2012, the three school districts of Marion County will merge into a single school district, the Marion County School District. The existing boards of trustees will continue to serve until June 30, 2014 at which time they will be dissolved.

H4904 (R240) – This joint resolution allows the South Carolina Department of Education not to provide printed copies of the 2012 district and school report cards. Instead districts or schools are required to email parents a link to the report cards if the school maintains parent email addresses. The district or school must notify parents about the report cards through its newsletter or other regular communication channels. If the parent requests a printed copy of the report card, the district or school must provide a printed copy at no cost to the parent.

H4905 (R165) – The joint resolution allows school districts the ability to delay the issuance of teacher contracts for the 2012-13 school year from April 15 to May 15 and to negotiate salaries below the school district salary schedule for retired teachers who are not Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) participants.

EOC WORK IN PROGRESS

Copies of previous work can be obtained from www.eoc.sc.gov

Standards and Accountability:

Cyclical Review of the Science Standards **June 2012**

Recommendations for modifying the 2007 South Carolina Science Academic Standards were approved by the EOC and forwarded to the State Board of Education. These recommendations were compiled under the advisement of three review teams: a national experts team of individuals from institutions of higher education both in and outside South Carolina; a parent, business and community leaders' team drawn from various geographical areas in South Carolina; and a team of educators of students with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency, also from various geographical areas in South Carolina.

Family Friendly Standards **August 2012**

The publication that describes the standards in terms that parents can easily understand have been updated for school year 2012-13 and reflect the recently adopted social studies standards.

Cyclical Review of Accountability System **August 2012 – June 2013**

The EOC will work with the State Board and a broad-passed group of stakeholders to review the accountability system and make recommendations to accelerate improvement in student and school performance while looking at alternative and innovative ways to transform assessment and delivery of public education to increase student achievement.

Evaluation:

Annual Review of EIA-Funded Programs and Initiative **Fall of 2012**

EOC will make recommendations for Fiscal Year 2013-14 to Governor and General Assembly.

Reading **December 2012**

The EOC will consider the recommendations of the South Carolina Reading Achievement Systemic Initiative along with input from others and determine priorities in policies and programs to improve reading achievement.

Annual Evaluation of SC Teacher Loan Program **April 2013**

The EOC will report on the progress, challenges, and impact of the SC Teacher Loan Program on recruiting teachers into the teaching profession.

Efficiency Review **June 2013**

Per a proviso in the budget, the EOC will contract with an independent entity or entities to perform a review of the non-instructional expenditures of at least three school districts to identify opportunities to improve operational efficiencies and reduce costs. The initial results will be provided to the General Assembly.

Public Reporting and Engagement:

Public Awareness Campaign **August 2012**

The campaign will focus on raising awareness of the public of the need for post-secondary education and on improving reading/literacy in the state. A statewide media campaign using Ad Council advertisements and a high school student contest aimed at instructional technology will begin in the fall of 2012. In addition the EOC will provide information to educators on ways to improve reading/literacy achievement and to engage communities in improving literacy.

***Where Are We Now* Report** **February 2013**

In September of 2009 the EOC adopted a 2020 Vision Statement for South Carolina. Annually, the EOC documents progress of the state toward obtaining the Vision.

Annual Report of Parent Survey **April 2013**

The EOC will report on the results of the 2012 administration of the annual Parent Survey.

2011 Annual District and School Ratings

Districts: Between 2010 and 2011, 26 school districts improved their absolute rating while 9 districts had declines in their absolute ratings. The number of At-Risk districts increased from 6 to 9.

ABSOLUTE Ratings for School Districts
Number and %

Absolute Rating	2009	2010	2011
Excellent	1 (1.2%)	6 (7.0%)	11 (12.8%)
Good	0	12 (14.0)	22 (25.6%)
Average	24 (28.2%)	48 (55.9%)	35 (40.7%)
Below Average	39 (45.9%)	14 (16.3%)	9 (10.5%)
At-Risk	21 (24.7%)	6 (7.0%)	9 (10.5%)

Schools: Between 2010 and 2011 226 or 19% of all public schools improved their absolute rating while 74 or 6% had declines.

"Consistently Excellent" – 160 school report cards had an absolute rating of Excellent for the past three years.

"Consistently Improving" – 32 school report cards improved the absolute rating from 2009 to 2010 and again from 2010 to 2011

"Persistently Underperforming" – 37 school report cards had an absolute rating of At-Risk all three years.

2011 Absolute Rating	Schools (% of Schools)	Students (% Enrolled by Schools by Rating)	Average Poverty Index
Excellent	242 (21%)	25.2%	50.6%
Good	209 (18%)	21.1%	64.7%
Average	509 (44%)	41.4%	79.4%
Below Average	137 (12%)	8.6%	91.9%
At-Risk	69 (6%)	3.8%	94.8%

This table does not include ratings for career and technology centers.

Graduation Rates

South Carolina On-Time Graduation Rate

2009	2010	2011
73.7	72.1	73.7

Preparing for the Future Today

EOC's 2020 VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Reading Proficiency:
95% of students scoring on grade level at grades 3 and 8 and scoring Basic and above on NAEP at grades 4 and 8, eliminating the achievement gaps.

High School Graduation
88.3% of students will graduate on-time (NGA/USED) and 95 % of young people 21 and over will earn a diploma, GED or SBE-approved occupational certificate for students with severe disabilities. Achievement gaps will be eliminated.

Preparedness for Post-High School Success
85% of graduates will perform at levels for admission to postsecondary education and/or be employed. A measure of workforce readiness will be developed. Achievement gaps will be eliminated

Schools At Risk
There will be no school in this category.

2020 Vision Benchmarks

Green denotes achievement in 2011 that met the benchmarks for 2011.

Target	2009 Actual Performance	2010 Actual Performance	2011 Actual Performance	2011	2014	2017	Vision 2020
PASS, Reading, grade 3	**78**	**80.7**	**80.0**	**81**	**85.5**	**90**	**95**
Target: African American	67.1	70.9	68.4	72.1	79.6	87.1	95
Hispanic	67.8	74.5	**73.6**	72.1	79.6	87.1	95
White	86.5	87.9	**87.9**	87.9	90.3	92.7	95
Non-Subsidized	89.8	91.1	**91.0**	90.8	92.3	93.8	95
Subsidized Meals	69	73.6	72.4	73.6	80.6	87.6	95
With disabilities	48.4	50.2	45.9	56.8	69.5	82.2	95
Without disabilities	81.8	85.4	**85.1**	84.2	87.8	91	95
PASS, Reading, grade 8	**67.5**	**63.7**	**67.8**	**73.5**	**80.7**	**87.9**	**95**
Target: African American	53.8	47.2	51.9	61.2	72.3	83.4	95
Hispanic	60.6	58.1	64.8	66.8	76.1	85.4	95
White	79	74.5	77.8	81.8	86.2	90.4	95
Non-Subsidized	81.9	78.6	81.8	84.3	87.9	91.5	95
Subsidized Meals	56.7	50.7	55.5	63.7	74.2	84.7	95
With disabilities	25.3	19.9	22.8	37.9	56.8	75.7	95
Without disabilities	74.8	69.7	73.7	78.4	83.8	89.2	95

Target	2009 Actual Performance	2010 Actual Performance	2011 Actual Performance	2011	2014	2017	Vision 2020
NAEP, Reading, grade 4	**62**	**No new data**	**61**	**68**	**77**	**86**	**95**
Target: African American	53		44	60.4	71.8	83.2	95
Hispanic	49		**57**	57.4	70	82.6	95
White	74		73	78	84	90	95
Non-Subsidized	77		79	80.2	85	89.8	95
Subsidized Meals	49		48	57.4	70	82.6	95
With disabilities	34		19	45	60.5	75	95
Without disabilities	65		67	70.4	78.5	86.6	95
NAEP, Reading, grade 8	**69**		**72**	**73.8**	**81**	**88.2**	**95**
Target: African American	52		56	60	72	84	95
Hispanic	70		69	74.6	81.5	88.4	95
White	79		**82**	82	86.5	91	95
Non-Subsidized	81		**83**	83.6	87.5	91.4	95
Subsidized Meals	56		61	63	73.5	84	95
With disabilities	34		30	45	61.6	78.2	95
Without disabilities	71		**75**	75.4	82	88.6	95
On-time Graduation	**73.7**	**72.1**	**73.6**	**76.1**	**80.3**	**84.5**	**88.3**
Target: African American	69.1	68.0	69.7	72.5	77.6	82.7	88.3
Hispanic	68.3	62.6	68.5	71.9	77.3	82.7	88.3
White	77.1	75.5	76.8	79.1	82.1	85.7	88.3
Non-Subsidized	80.2	78.1	79.4	81.6	83.7	85.8	88.3
Subsidized Meals	65.2	64.9	67.0	69.4	75.7	82	88.3
With disabilities	42.9	45.1	38.4	51.1	63.4	75.7	88.3
Without disabilities	77.3	74.7	77.2	79.3	82.3	85.3	88.3
Preparedness for Postsecondary Success (High school completers enrolled in two or four-year colleges and technical schools)	2008 data 67.1%	2009 data 65.8%	2010 data 65.9%				
Schools Rated at Risk	83	69	**69**				**0**