

Results of Survey of Educators

On October 18, 2011, the staff of the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) mailed letters to 23 educators, asking for their assistance in completing a survey. The survey, designed to give educators the opportunity to rank in order of priority education programs funded by the Education Improvement Act (EIA), was identical to the survey taken by the EOC members in December of 2010. Appendix A is a copy of the results of the 2010 budget survey conducted by the EOC. The EOC advised the educators that the results of the survey would be used to recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly how the EIA funds should be allocated.

The twenty-three persons were selected to participate in the survey. These individuals included: 7 local school board members; 8 administrators; and 8 classroom teachers. The names came from multiple sources: (1) nominations from the South Carolina School Boards Association; (2) names from advisory groups that had worked on projects with the EOC in the past; and (3) names included on actual EIA program reports submitted by entities that are funded with EIA revenues. With multiple and diverse perspective, these individuals represented 22 school districts with multiple and diverse perspectives that:

- Serve a total of a total of 347,320 students or approximately 48% of the state's student enrollment in 2010;
- Include rural, urban and suburban districts from all regions of the state;
- Have enrollment sizes that range from 701 to 70,069; and
- Earned Absolute ratings in 2010 of

2010 Absolute Rating	Number of Districts in Survey
Excellent	2
Good	5
Average	10
Below Average	5
At Risk	<u>0</u>
TOTAL:	22

The EOC provided to all survey participants both a physical and an electronic version of the survey. They were also given access to the actual program and budget reports submitted to the EOC this fall. Survey participants were asked to use these reports and any firsthand knowledge to "rank each EIA program as either having a High, Medium or Low priority for continued funding" and "an opportunity to recommend the reduction, increase or elimination of any EIA program." As in all surveys conducted by the EOC, individuals were told that the results would be aggregated and not individually reported. Completed surveys could be emailed, mailed or even faxed to the EOC. The original deadline for submission of the survey was November 8, 2011; however, the deadline was extended until Friday, November 11, 2011.

A total of 15 or 65% of those surveyed responded. As in the EOC survey last year, approximately two-thirds of those surveyed responded. To quantify the results, the following numerical values were assigned to the following response rates and a mean ranking for each EIA-funded program calculated:

High = 5
Medium = 3
Low = 1

The results of this survey are reflected in Table 1. The data document the EIA program, the current year's funding level, and the mean ranking.

The survey also gave educators the option of recommending increased or reduced funding for each program. Ten of the 15 survey respondents recommended specific changes in funding for some EIA programs. Table 2 summarizes the responses of these ten respondents. As you will note, one respondent gave detailed reflections on each EIA program. Another recommended several line items to be consolidated and funding reallocated to school districts.

Table 1

EIA Programs that Provide:	2011-12 Funding Level	Mean Rating
School Bus Transportation (Of this amount, \$3,301,850 is non-recurring)	\$20,764,522	4.87
<i>P.L. 99-457 Preschool Children with Disabilities</i>	\$2,878,146	4.71
<i>Half-Day Four-Year-Old Program</i>	\$15,813,846	4.60
<i>Aid to Districts (of which \$30,514,235 is non-recurring)</i>	\$68,250,835	4.57
<i>Reading</i>	\$6,542,052	4.47
Instructional Materials	\$13,761,587	4.43
Technology	\$10,171,826	4.33
<i>Professional Development</i>	\$6,515,911	4.33
<i>Students at Risk of School Failure</i>	\$136,163,204	4.29
Teacher Loan Program -- State Treasurer	\$4,000,722	4.20
<i>Services for Students with Disabilities</i>	\$3,045,778	4.14
<i>High Achieving Students</i>	\$26,628,246	4.14
<i>School Health & Fitness Act -- Nurses</i>	\$6,000,000	4.14
Modernize Vocational Equipment	\$2,946,296	4.08
<i>Teacher Salary Supplement & Fringe Benefits</i>	\$92,828,102	4.07
Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA)	\$3,935,725	4.07
Other State Agencies/Programs Teacher Pay	\$11,069,037	4.00
SCDE - Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP)	\$17,300,000	3.93
Teacher Supplies	\$12,999,520	3.80
EAA Technical Assistance	\$6,000,000	3.80
PowerSchool/Data Collection	\$5,000,000	3.80
<i>Tech Prep/Work-Based Learning</i>	\$3,021,348	3.77
SCDE - Other Administration & Support	\$7,771,918	3.71
South Carolina Autism Society (\$350,00 by Proviso)		3.57
Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty at Francis Marion, (\$350,000 by proviso)		3.57
OFS - Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP)	\$2,484,628	3.53
Assessment/Testing	\$17,652,624	3.53
<i>Adult Education</i>	\$13,573,736	3.43
SC State Minority Teacher Recruitment	\$339,482	3.40
<i>High Schools that Work</i>	\$743,354	3.29
National Board Certification	\$68,564,000	3.27
Education Oversight Committee	\$1,193,242	3.27
SC Middle Grades Initiative (\$75,008 by proviso)		3.27
Writing Improvement Network - USC (H27)	\$182,761	3.13

EIA Programs that Provide:	2011-12 Funding Level	Mean Rating
Teacher Quality Commission (SCDE)	\$372,724	3.13
Palmetto Gold & Silver Awards	\$2,230,061	3.13
Aid Other State Agencies	\$121,276	3.13
SC Youth Challenge Academy	\$1,000,000	3.13
Arts Curricular Grants	\$1,187,571	3.00
<i>ADEPT</i>	\$873,909	3.00
Science PLUS	\$150,000	3.00
Centers of Excellence - CHE	\$887,526	3.00
ScienceSouth	\$500,000	2.87
Office of First Steps to School Readiness (OFS) General Operations	\$1,490,847	2.86
<i>Teacher of the Year Award</i>	\$155,000	2.73
SC Educational Policy Center (\$75,008 by proviso)		2.73
SC Geographic Alliance	\$155,869	2.47
School Improvement Council Project	\$127,303	2.20
EAA Report Cards	\$722,385	2.14
TOTAL:	\$598,116,919	

Appendix A



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the EOC

FROM: Melanie Barton *Melanie D. Barton*

DATE: January 19, 2011

IN RE: Results of EIA Budget Survey

On December 13, 2010 the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) asked the staff to distribute to each member a survey, ranking each EIA-funded program on a scale of High, Medium or Low priority. As of January 3, 2011, ten members of the EOC responded to the survey. On January 3, there were fifteen active members of the EOC with one ex-officio member. Consequently, two-thirds of the voting members of the EOC responded to the survey.

To quantify the results, the following numerical values were assigned to the following response rates and a mean ranking for each EIA-funded program calculated.

High = 5

Medium = 3

Low = 1

The results of the survey are reflected in Table 1 attached. The data document the EIA program, the current year's funding level and the mean ranking. Several programs are funded through provisos. Provisos redirect the expenditure of programs for other initiatives. Table 2 uses the mean rankings and then allocates the current year's funding of these programs assuming no provisos but instead direct EIA appropriations. Transfers such as the \$250,000 transfer from the EOC administrative budget to teacher supplies are also included. To date, \$800,000 has been transferred from the Palmetto Gold and Silver Program to Teacher Supplies and in funds transfers from the suspension of the Palmetto Gold and Silver program have not been finalized.

The survey also gave members the option of recommending increased or reduced funding for each program. Only two of the ten survey respondents recommended specific changes in funding for some EIA programs.

Table 1

EIA-Funded Initiative	2010-11	Mean Ranking
	Appropriation	
<i>Teacher Salary Supplement</i>	\$77,061,350	4.8
<i>Teacher Salary Supplement - Fringe</i>	\$15,766,752	4.8
Other State Agencies/Programs Teacher Pay	\$11,069,037	4.8
<i>Reading</i>	\$6,542,052	4.6
<i>Handicapped Student Services</i>	\$3,045,778	4.4
<i>P.L. 99-457 Preschool Children w/ Disabilities</i>	\$2,878,146	4.4
Technology	\$10,171,826	4.2
Instructional Materials	\$10,761,587	4.1
Education Oversight Committee (A85)	\$1,016,289	4.1
Data Collection	\$1,217,947	4.0
<i>Students at Risk of School Failure</i>	\$136,163,204	3.9
Assessment / Testing	\$17,652,624	3.8
Student Identifier	\$987,203	3.8
Teacher Supplies	\$12,999,520	3.8
<i>High Achieving Students</i>	\$26,628,246	3.8
<i>Adult Education</i>	\$13,573,736	3.7
Teacher Loan Program-State Treasurer (E16)	\$4,000,722	3.6
<i>Modernize Vocational Equipment</i>	\$2,946,296	3.6
South Carolina Autism Society (\$350,000 by Proviso)		3.6
<i>Tech Prep/Work-Based Learning</i>	\$3,021,348	3.6
<i>Half-Day Four-Year-Old Program</i>	\$15,813,846	3.6
Report Cards	\$722,385	3.6
OFS - CDEPP	\$2,187,950	3.4
SCDE - CDEPP	\$17,300,000	3.4
SCDE - Principal Leadership Training	\$930,887	3.4
EOC Public Relations	\$168,438	3.2
SC Public Charter School District (Administration)	\$372,712	3.2
EOC Family Involvement	\$33,781	3.0
<i>High Schools That Work</i>	\$743,354	2.8
<i>Professional Development</i>	\$6,515,911	2.8
Office of First Steps to School Readiness (OFS) -- General Operations	\$1,490,847	2.8
SC State Minority Teacher Recruitment	\$350,111	2.8
SC Middle Grades Initiative (\$75,008 by proviso)		2.8
CERRA Teaching Fellows Program	\$3,140,501	2.8

Table 1

EIA-Funded Initiative	2010-11	Mean Ranking
In FY11, \$5.0 million of any lapsed EIA funds authorized for PowerSchool and remainder for school bus transportation. In FY09 and prior, any lapsed EIA funds went to School Buildings.		2.6
Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty (\$350,000 by Proviso)		2.6
Science PLUS (\$175,000 by proviso)		2.4
School Improvement Council Project (H27)	\$149,768	2.4
EAA Technical Assistance	\$57,430,445	2.4
EOC 4 Year Old Evaluation	\$296,678	2.4
CERRA Administration	\$885,782	2.4
CERRA Administration	\$37,271	2.4
SCDE - Other Administration & Support	\$7,837,448	2.4
<i>Arts in Education Grants</i>	\$1,187,571	2.2
Centers of Excellence-CHE (H03)	\$537,526	2.2
Teacher of the Year Award	\$123,473	2.2
Palmetto Gold & Silver Awards	\$2,230,061	2.0
National Board Certification	\$43,212,993	1.8
SC Geographic Alliance-USC (H27)	\$183,375	1.8
Writing Improvement Network-USC (H27)	\$215,013	1.8
SC Educational Policy Center (\$75,008 by proviso)		1.8
Aid to Other Agencies-Jr Scholars	\$106,790	1.8
Teacher Quality Commission (SCDE)	\$404,251	1.6
Aid Other State Agencies	\$121,276	1.6
Total:	\$522,234,107	

Programs in italics are generally allocated directly to school districts.

Table 2

EIA-Funded Initiative	Mean Ranking	2010-11 Appropriation	Proviso Allocations	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Running Total:
<i>Teacher Salary Supplement</i>	4.8	\$77,061,350				\$77,061,350
<i>Teacher Salary Supplement - Fringe</i>	4.8	\$15,766,752			\$0	\$92,828,102
Other State Agencies/Programs Teacher Pay	4.8	\$11,069,037			\$0	\$103,897,139
<i>Reading</i>	4.6	\$6,542,052			\$0	\$110,439,191
<i>Handicapped Student Services</i>	4.4	\$3,045,778			\$0	\$113,484,969
<i>P.L. 99-457 Preschool Children w/ Disabilities</i>	4.4	\$2,878,146			\$0	\$116,363,115
Technology	4.2	\$10,171,826			\$0	\$126,534,941
Instructional Materials	4.1	\$10,761,587			\$0	\$137,296,528
Education Oversight Committee (A85)	4.1	\$1,016,289			(\$250,000)	\$138,062,817
Data Collection	4.0	\$1,217,947			\$0	\$139,280,764
<i>Students at Risk of School Failure</i>	3.9	\$136,163,204			\$0	\$275,443,968
Assessment / Testing	3.8	\$17,652,624			\$0	\$293,096,592
Student Identifier	3.8	\$987,203			\$0	\$294,083,795
Teacher Supplies	3.8	\$12,999,520		\$1,000,000	\$0	\$308,083,315
<i>High Achieving Students</i>	3.8	\$26,628,246			\$0	\$334,711,561
<i>Adult Education</i>	3.7	\$13,573,736			\$0	\$348,285,297
Teacher Loan Program-State Treasurer (E16)	3.6	\$4,000,722			\$0	\$352,286,019
<i>Modernize Vocational Equipment</i>	3.6	\$2,946,296			\$0	\$355,232,315
South Carolina Autism Society (by proviso)	3.6	\$0	\$350,000		\$0	\$355,582,315
<i>Tech Prep/Work-Based Learning</i>	3.6	\$3,021,348			\$0	\$358,603,663
<i>Half-Day Four-Year-Old Program</i>	3.6	\$15,813,846			\$0	\$374,417,509
Report Cards	3.6	\$722,385			\$0	\$375,139,894
OFS - CDEPP	3.4	\$2,187,950		\$296,678	\$0	\$377,624,522
SCDE - CDEPP	3.4	\$17,300,000			\$0	\$394,924,522
SCDE - Principal Leadership Training	3.4	\$930,887			\$0	\$395,855,409
EOC Public Relations	3.2	\$168,438			\$0	\$396,023,847

Table 2

	Mean	2010-11	Proviso	Transfers	Transfers	Running
EIA-Funded Initiative	Ranking	Appropriation	Allocations	In	Out	Total:
SC Public Charter School District (Administration)	3.2	\$372,712			\$0	\$396,396,559
EOC Family Involvement	3.0	\$33,781			\$0	\$396,430,340
High Schools That Work	2.8	\$743,354			\$0	\$397,173,694
Professional Development	2.8	\$6,515,911			\$0	\$403,689,605
Office of First Steps to School Readiness (OFS) - General Operations	2.8	\$1,490,847			\$0	\$405,180,452
SC State Minority Teacher Recruitment	2.8	\$350,111			\$0	\$405,530,563
SC Middle Grades Initiative	2.8	\$0	\$75,008			\$405,605,571
CERRA Teaching Fellows Program	2.8	\$3,140,501			\$0	\$408,746,072
In FY11, \$5.0 million of any lapsed EIA funds authorized for PowerSchool and remainder for school bus transportation. In FY09 and prior, any lapsed EIA funds went to School Buildings.	2.6				\$0	\$408,746,072
Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty (by proviso)	2.6	\$0	\$350,000		\$0	\$409,096,072
Science PLUS (by proviso) *	2.4	\$0		\$50,000	\$0	\$409,146,072
School Improvement Council Project (H27)	2.4	\$149,768			\$0	\$409,295,840
EAA Technical Assistance	2.4	\$57,430,445			\$0	\$466,726,285
EOC 4 Year Old Evaluation	2.4	\$296,678			(\$296,678)	\$466,726,285
CERRA Administration	2.4	\$885,782			\$0	\$467,612,067
CERRA Administration	2.4	\$37,271			\$0	\$467,649,338
SCDE - Other Administration & Support	2.4	\$7,837,448			\$0	\$475,486,786
Arts in Education Grants	2.2	\$1,187,571			\$0	\$476,674,357
Centers of Excellence-CHE (H03)	2.2	\$537,526			\$0	\$477,211,883
Teacher of the Year Award	2.2	\$123,473			\$0	\$477,335,356
Palmetto Gold & Silver Awards *	2.0	\$2,230,061			(\$800,000)	\$478,765,417

Table 2

EIA-Funded Initiative	Mean Ranking	2010-11 Appropriation	Proviso Allocations	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Running Total:
National Board Certification	1.8	\$43,212,993			\$0	<i>\$521,978,410</i>
SC Geographic Alliance-USC (H27)	1.8	\$183,375			\$0	<i>\$522,161,785</i>
Writing Improvement Network-USC (H27)	1.8	\$215,013			\$0	<i>\$522,376,798</i>
SC Educational Policy Center	1.8	\$0	\$75,008		\$0	<i>\$522,451,806</i>
Aid to Other Agencies-Jr Scholars	1.8	\$106,790			\$0	<i>\$522,558,596</i>
Teacher Quality Commission (SCDE)	1.6	\$404,251			\$0	<i>\$522,962,847</i>
Aid Other State Agencies	1.6	\$121,276			\$0	<i>\$523,084,123</i>
Total:		\$522,234,107		\$1,346,678	(\$1,346,678)	

Programs in italics are generally allocated directly to school districts.

* To date, per Proviso 1A.34., the South Carolina Department of Education reports that from the Palmetto Gold and Silver Program, \$50,000 has been transferred to Science PLUS and \$750,000 to Teacher Supplies. The balance in the program is \$1,430,061. Additional funds should be transferred to Science PLUS over the next six months.

Instructions: Please put an "X" in the cell that corresponds to the ranking (High, Medium and Low) that you would assign to each EIA program. In addition to the ranking, the last two columns give you the option of recommending increased or reduced funding for the line item for the next fiscal year, FY2012-13 by indicating under the appropriate heading the amount that you would increase or decrease the funding level. Programs in italics denote funding that is allocated to ALL school districts.

EIA Programs that Provide:	2011-12 Funding Level	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease	Amount to Increase	Amount to Decrease		
	Survey Responder	2		3		4		7	8		9		11		12		13		14		
Professional Development																					
8. Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty at Francis Marion (\$350,000)		Offers excellent professional development that energizes teachers. Needs more outreach. Viewed locally as another training conference. More classes should be offered and eliminate conferences.		FMU! Such Passion!																	
Recruitment & Retention																					
1. National Board Certification	\$68,564,000	Not uniformly effective. Eliminate.						\$68,564,000					\$68,564,000		\$18,000,000					\$68,564,000	
2. Teacher Recruitment Program - CHE (\$4,243,527 which is allocated accordingly by proviso)		Minimal effectiveness locally.																			
a. SC State Minority Teacher Recruitment	\$339,482	We got only one teacher from this program in the last few years in a large school district.						\$1,000,000												\$339,482	
b. Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA)	\$3,935,725	Good resource. Funding adequate.						\$1,000,000	\$100,000											\$3,935,725	
3. Teacher Loan Program-State Treasurer (E16)	\$4,000,722	Good program. Increase funding.						\$1,000,000	\$500,000											Partial Decrease	
4. Teacher of the Year Award	\$155,000	Good publicity.												\$155,000						\$155,000	
5. Teacher Quality Commission (SCDE)	\$372,724	Good program.						\$1,000,000						\$372,724						\$372,724	
Accountability																					
1. Assessment / Testing	\$17,652,624	This program is essential to federal funding. No options.		PASS = This must be automated. The publishing & hand-scoring is a waste.	\$8,000,000			\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000					\$10,000,000	Eliminate all PASS testing in grades 4 and 7. Undetermined Savings.					Amount used for PASS testing. Cut PE assessment funding	\$17,652,624
2. EAA Technical Assistance	\$6,000,000	Not enough money to make a difference.						\$2,000,000	\$500,000						Funding not producing different results. Reduce \$4,000,000.	\$4,000,000.00					\$6,000,000

