

**AGENDA**

**SC Education Oversight Full Committee Retreat**

Beaufort Memorial Hospital Education Center  
990 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC 29902, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Monday, August 12, 2024**

9:00 A.M.

*Breakfast provided at Beaufort Sea Island Best Western Inn*

Discussion & Action Item:

- I. Discussion about Requests for Education Improvement Act (EIA) Funding .....  
Dr. Bob Couch
- II. Motion for Consideration.....Dr. Bob Couch

Presentations & Information Items:

- III. Presentation/Tour of Simulation Labs .....Russell Baxley,  
CEO,  
Beaufort Memorial Hospital &  
Joy Solomon,  
Education Director,  
Beaufort Memorial Hospital/  
Director, People Achieving Their Highest (PATH) Program
- IV. Presentations from Data Trailblazer Award Schools
  - Spring Hill High School ..... Dr. Michael Lofton,  
Principal
  - Joanna-Woodson Elementary School.....Ameice Renwick  
Principal
  - Lakeside Middle School.....Casey Calhoun,  
Executive Director  
High Schools & Postsecondary Pathways
- V. EIA Budget Updates ..... Dr. Rainey Knight
- VI. EOC Chair Updates .....April Allen

April Allen  
CHAIR

Brian Newsome  
VICE CHAIR

Terry Alexander

Melanie Barton

Russell Baxley

Neal Collins

Bob Couch

Bill Hager

Barbara B. Hairfield

Kevin L. Johnson

Sidney Locke

Dwight Loftis

Jeri McCumbee

Melissa Pender

Patty J. Tate

C. Ross Turner, III

Ellen Weaver

Lunch will follow at 12 noon. Box lunches will be provided by Beaufort Memorial Hospital

## EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Date: August 12, 2024

### **ACTION ITEM:**

**Process for Requests for New EIA Funding**

### **PURPOSE/AUTHORITY**

**Section 59-6-10(A)1 of the SC Code of Laws,**

“in order to assist in, recommend, and supervise implementation of programs and expenditure of funds for the Education Accountability Act and the Education Improvement Act of 1984, the Education Oversight Committee is to serve as the oversight committee for these acts. The Education Oversight Committee shall:

- (a) review and monitor the implementation and evaluation of the Education Accountability Act and Education Improvement Act programs and funding;
- (b) make programmatic and funding recommendations to the General Assembly;
- (c) report annually to the General Assembly, State Board of Education, and the public on the progress of the programs;
- (d) recommend Education Accountability Act and EIA program changes to state agencies and other entities as it considers necessary.

(2) Each state agency and entity responsible for implementing the Education Accountability Act and the Education Improvement Act funded programs shall submit to the Education Oversight Committee programs and expenditure reports and budget requests as needed and in a manner prescribed by the Education Oversight Committee.”

Furthermore, pursuant to Section 59-6-110, the EOC’s Accountability Division “must examine the public education system to ensure that the system and its components and the EIA programs are functioning for the enhancement of student learning. The division will recommend the repeal or modification of statutes, policies, and rules that deter school improvement. The division must provide annually its findings and recommendations in a report to the Education Oversight Committee no later than February first. The division is to conduct in-depth studies on implementation, efficiency, and the effectiveness of academic improvement efforts and:

- (1) monitor and evaluate the implementation of the state standards and assessment;
- (2) oversee the development, establishment, implementation, and maintenance of the accountability system;
- (3) monitor and evaluate the functioning of the public education system and its components, programs, policies, and practices and report annually its findings and recommendations in a report to the commission no later than February first of each year; and
- (4) perform other studies and reviews as required by law”

### **CRITICAL FACTS**

The EOC seeks a process to handle requests for new EIA funding

### **TIMELINE/REVIEW PROCESS**

The EOC will begin to review EIA-funded programs in September 2024. Programs have received program reports, and they are in process.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR EOC**

No economic impact currently.

**ACTION REQUEST**

For approval

For information

**ACTION TAKEN**

Approved  
 Not Approved

Amended  
 Action deferred (explain)

### **Motion for Consideration:**

“Pursuant to Section 59-6-10(A), the Education Oversight Committee in recommending EIA program changes to state agencies and other entities for Fiscal Year 2025-26 will only review proposals from agencies and entities currently receiving EIA funds in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 General Appropriation Act.”

**To handle new requests for EIA funding beginning in FY 25-26, the EOC requests the following revision to Proviso 1.56 in the 2024-25 Appropriation Act be considered:**

1A.56. (SDE-EIA: Grants Committee) (A) Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Education for Innovation Grants, the grants committee shall accept applications per the established process for new grantees not to exceed the amount appropriated by the General Assembly.

(B) The process shall include the application and selection process. The grants committee must be comprised of seven members, three members selected from the education community and four members selected from the business community. The suggested criteria for awarding the grants to schools or school districts or directly purchasing services must include, but are not limited to:

(1) identification of key measurable benchmarks to raise student achievement and ensure all students are prepared to graduate college, career and civic ready;

(2) innovative strategies to close student achievement gaps in reading and mathematics, with a focus on schools with an academic achievement rating of below average and unsatisfactory;

(3) a demonstrated ability to implement the initiative or model as outlined in the application; and

(4) a demonstrated ability to be both replicable and scalable with priority given to projects grounded in evidence-based practices that have significantly impacted student achievement outcomes.

(C) Notice of grant opportunities and applications shall be posted on the departments website by May 30th. Applications for funding must be submitted to the department by June 30th. Notification of grant awards and final grant amounts shall be sent to applicants by July 31st.

(D) Applicants who commit to a match will be given priority in the selection process. The match may be met by funds or by in-kind donations, such as technology, to be further defined by the grants committee. Public school districts and schools that have high poverty and low achievement will receive priority for grants when their applications are judged to meet the criteria established for the grant program. De-identified student level data shall be submitted, including a definition of program fidelity. The committee shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the Chairman of House Ways and Means and the Chairman of Senate Finance by June 30th.

(E) Grantees will be required to participate in an external evaluation by selecting an evaluator from a Department approved list as prescribed by the committee in the application. Funding for the evaluation shall be based on a percentage of the grantees final award.

(F) The grants committee must award at least one grant to an applicant providing an assessment tool that will provide each district with a local inventory dashboard of education software programs used by their students and teachers, and that includes an aggregate dashboard of program usage from across the state, for the department. Additionally, the system must provide a compilation of usage data by educator and student, be able to conduct rapid cycle evaluations to measure the effectiveness of education software programs based on student outcomes, and support evidence-based analysis of education software programs aligned to the required levels of evidence in the Every Student Succeeds Act. Any system procured must meet the state and agency minimum IT security standards as prescribed by the department. The department is authorized to carry forward and expend any balance for funds authorized in the prior fiscal year for Innovation Grants that provide an assessment tool as described herein in the current fiscal year.

Projects may receive funding for up to three consecutive grant cycles, beginning in Fiscal Year 2025-26. After three consecutive grant cycles, funding through the innovative grants fund will be discontinued. When funding is discontinued, the department may provide a recommendation to the Education Oversight Committee regarding future scalability through EIA funds based on evidence of measurable increases in student outcomes.

# EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025

## Tentative Meeting Schedule

<b>Subcommittees</b>	<b>Full Committee</b>
	<b>August 11-12, 2024</b>
<b>September 16, 2024</b>	
	<b>October 14, 2024</b>
<b>November 4, 2024*</b>	
<b>November 18, 2024</b>	
<b>December 2, 2024*</b>	
	<b>December 9, 2024</b>
<b>January 20, 2025</b>	
	<b>February 10, 2025</b>
<b>March 17, 2025</b>	
	<b>April 14, 2025</b>
<b>May 19, 2025</b>	
	<b>June 9, 2025</b>

\* The EIA and Improvement Mechanisms Subcommittee will tentatively meet in November and December, if needed, for EIA budget hearings and reviews.