



S.C. School Improvement Council

“Civic Engagement in Public Education”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sixteen schools named to S.C. School Improvement Council Honor Roll for 2009

COLUMBIA – Sixteen South Carolina public schools have been named to the S.C. School Improvement Council’s (SC-SIC) 2009 Honor Roll for their significant efforts to foster civic engagement in public education.

These Honor Roll schools will continue in the running for the SC-SIC’s annual Dick and Tunky Riley School Improvement Award. Named for the former U.S. Secretary of Education and South Carolina Governor and his late wife, the Riley School Improvement Award was created in 2002 to recognize the vital contributions made by the 15,000-plus local School Improvement Council members who volunteer in every public school in the state.

In alphabetical order, the SC-SIC Honor Roll schools for 2009 are:

Berkeley Elementary School – Moncks Corner (Berkeley County School District)
The Children’s School at Sylvia Circle – Rock Hill (Rock Hill Schools)
Doby’s Mill Elementary School – Lugoff (Kershaw County School District)
Greenville High School – Greenville (Greenville County Schools)
Hunt Meadows Elementary School – Easley (Anderson School District One)
Mauldin High School – Mauldin (Greenville County Schools)
Marlboro County High School – Bennettsville (Marlboro County Schools)
Morningside Middle School – North Charleston (Charleston County School District)
North Augusta Elementary School – North Augusta (Aiken County School District)
Pleasant Hill Middle School – Lexington (Lexington School District 1)
Pineview Elementary School – West Columbia (Lexington School District 2)
Pocalla Springs Elementary School – Sumter (Sumter School District 2)
Round Top Elementary School – Blythewood (Richland School District 2)
Satchel Ford Elementary School – Columbia (Richland School District 1)
Stone Academy of Communication Arts – Greenville (Greenville County Schools)
Sullivan’s Island Elementary School – Sullivan’s Island (Charleston County School District)

“It’s important that we honor these schools and SICs for their work in building parent and community commitment to their local schools,” said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chairman Jeff Nicholson. “With public education dollars dwindling daily, the continued contributions of our state’s School Improvement Councils must be recognized for the real value they bring to our schools, our students and the future of our state.”

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Last year alone, South Carolina's 15,000-plus SIC members turned in well over 220,000 volunteer hours in their local schools at an estimated value of \$3.46 million – a significant return on the state's current SC-SIC budget allocation of about \$225 per school per year.

Five finalists from this year's list of Honor Roll schools will be selected late next month, with one to be named as the winner of the annual Riley School Improvement Award. The award will be announced at a special luncheon in Columbia this spring.

Located in the University of South Carolina's College of Education, the S.C. School Improvement Council was established in state law more than three decades ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and other operational resources necessary for the continued success of the community-based SICs in each of South Carolina's 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.