



S.C. School Improvement Council

"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eleven schools named to S.C. School Improvement Council Honor Roll for 2010

COLUMBIA – Eleven South Carolina public schools have been named to the S.C. School Improvement Council's (SC-SIC) 2010 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 2010 are:

A.J. Lewis Greenview Elementary School, Columbia (Richland School District 1)
Brookland-Cayce Grammar School No. 1, West Columbia (Lexington School District 2)
Camden Elementary School of the Creative Arts, Camden (Kershaw County Schools)
Chestnut Oaks Middle School, Sumter (Sumter School District 17)
The Children's School at Sylvia Circle, Rock Hill (Rock Hill-York School District 3)
Indian Land Middle School, Indian Land (Lancaster County School District)
Manning Early Childhood Center, Manning (Clarendon School District 2)
Nursery Road Elementary School, Columbia (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
Round Top Elementary School, Blythewood (Richland School District 2)
Stone Academy of Communication Arts, Greenville (Greenville County Schools)
Strom Thurmond High School, Johnston (Edgefield County School District)

"We are very pleased to honor these School Improvement Councils for their important work in building parent and community commitment to their local schools," said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chairman Carlos Primus. "In light of the increasing funding limitations for public education, the vital contributions of our state's School Improvement Councils are even more essential today and must be recognized and supported for the significant value they bring to our local schools, our children and the future of South Carolina"

In the past year, South Carolina's 15,000-plus SIC members turned in well over 240,000 volunteer hours in their local schools at an estimated value of \$3.75 million – a substantial return on the state's current SC-SIC budget allocation of about \$220 per school per year.

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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 the SC-SIC Annual Conference, March 13, 2010, in Columbia.

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.