



SC School Improvement Council

"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tom F. Hudson, Associate Director, SC School Improvement Council
(803) 777-7658 HUDSONTF@mailbox.sc.edu

Seven local SICs named to SC School Improvement Council Honor Roll for 2014

COLUMBIA – The School Improvement Councils (SICs) of seven South Carolina public schools have been named to the SC School Improvement Council's (SC-SIC) 2014 Honor Roll for their significant efforts to foster civic engagement in public education.

These Honor Roll SICs will continue in the running for SC-SIC's annual Dick and Tunky Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence. Named for the former US Secretary of Education and South Carolina Governor and his late wife, the Riley Award was created in 2002 to recognize the vital contributions made by the 14,000-plus local School Improvement Council members who volunteer in every public school in the state.

In alphabetical order, the seven School Improvement Councils named to the SC-SIC Honor Roll for 2014 are:

- Buena Vista Elementary SIC (Greenville County Schools)
- Doby's Mill Elementary SIC (Kershaw County School District)
- Irmo High SIC (District 5 of Lexington and Richland Counties)
- Okatie Elementary SIC (Beaufort County School District)
- Port Royal Elementary SIC (Beaufort County School District)
- Ridge View High SIC (Richland School District 2)
- Summit Drive Elementary SIC (Greenville County Schools)

"In the past school year, these School Improvement Councils demonstrated their hard work and dedication to building active parent and community involvement in the lives of their schools," said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Ellen M. Still. "The contributions made by South Carolina's SICs and their volunteer members are essential to the health and well-being of school and student success. We congratulate this year's Honor Roll SICs and continue to honor and support all of our School Improvement Councils for the immeasurable value they bring to their school communities and the future of our state."

In the past year, local School Improvement Council members across South Carolina committed over 230,000 volunteer hours to their schools at an estimated value of nearly \$4 million – a substantial return on the state's current annual SC-SIC budget allocation of approximately \$200 per school.

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Five finalists from this year's list of Honor Roll SICs will be selected late next month, with one to be named as the winner of the annual Riley Award. This year's Riley Award recipient will be announced at the SC-SIC Annual Meeting, March 22, 2014, in Columbia.

School Improvement Councils were established in state law over 35 years ago. Located within the University of South Carolina's College of Education, the SC School Improvement Council provides 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.

More information on SC-SIC, the Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence and award winners from previous years can be found online at <http://sic.sc.gov>.