

**SC-SIC Board of Trustees
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 25, 2017
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company
1200 Colonial Drive, Columbia, SC 29210**

Board Members present: Amelia McKie (Chair); Donna Hooks (Vice Chair); Michael Guarino (Immediate Past Chair); Gary Alexander; Andy Beeson; Rev. James Blassingame; Dr. Sallie Cooks; Jason Fulmer; Bob Grant; Dr. Luanne Kokolis; Dora Leonard; Dr. Myriam Torres.

Staff Members present: Tom F. Hudson, SC-SIC Executive Director; Karen Utter, SC-SIC Coordinator of Council Services; Claudia Parnell, SC-SIC Digital and Web Director.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. McKie at 10:32 a.m. A quorum was present.

Ms. McKie and Mr. Hudson welcomed newly-elected Board members of the Class of 2020, Mr. Beeson and Mr. Grant. Mr. Trevor Ivey, also elected to the Class of 2020, was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Hudson recognized outgoing members of the Board: Mr. Alexander, LTC(R) Justin Blum, and Sherri Horton. As Mr. Alexander was present, Mr. Hudson and Ms. McKie presented him with a plaque recognizing his longtime service to the Board. Plaques for LTC(R) Blum and Ms. Horton will be sent to them.

The Board's minutes from its previous meeting of May 26 were approved by motion of Ms. Hooks, seconded by Mr. Guarino.

Ms. McKie welcomed Dr. Jon E. Pedersen, Dean of the College of Education at the University of South Carolina, for a conversation with the Board. Dr. Pedersen, Dean of the College since mid-2016, discussed recent initiatives of the College, the value of the Center for Educational Partnerships (of which the SC School Improvement Council is a part), and the particular impact and value he places on SC-SIC, and Mr. Hudson, within the College and to the public schools in the state. Dr. Pedersen also extended an invitation to the Board to hold an upcoming Board meeting at the College of Education, and entertained various questions from Board members.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m., to reconvene at 12:45 p.m.

SC-SIC Staff Reports

Upon the Board's reconvening, Mr. Hudson, Ms. Utter, and Ms. Parnell presented highlights from their written reports and took questions from Board members. Full written reports of SC-SIC staff are included at the end of these minutes.

New Business

Mr. Hudson informed Board members to review the various committee descriptions provided in their meeting packets and to advise him via email – by Friday, September 1 – which one or two committees on which they would like to serve for 2017-18.

The Board's input was sought to determine Board meeting dates for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year. It was the unanimous determination of the Board to hold its next regular meeting on Friday, November 17, at the USC College of Education. The Board discussed holding its winter meeting by conference call on either Friday, February 16, or Friday, February 23, with its spring meeting on Friday, May 4. Determination on these will be made at the Board's next regular meeting on November 17.

Old Business

No old business was brought forward or discussed by the Board.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Hooks and seconded by Mr. Guarino. The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By
By Karen M. Utter, SC-SIC Coordinator of Council Services
For Shari Sebuck, Secretary, SC-SIC Board of Trustees

Tom F. Hudson, SC-SIC Executive Director

Training

- Completed in 2016-17:** 25 sessions statewide, reaching over 800 participants.
- Additional:** Workshop, “Making an Impact With Male Role Models,” scheduled for 06/12/17, for the National Summit of Schools, Communities & Law Enforcement in Columbia (Hudson)
- “Family Engagement for Teachers,” Heyward Gibbes MS, Richland 1, 08/10/17 (Utter)
- Scheduled (TD) for 2017-18:** “SIC Goal Setting,” India Hook ES, Rock Hill 3, 09/07/17 (Utter); Annual SIC District Contact Meeting, 09/08/17 (SC-SIC Staff); “SIC Basics,” Charleston, 09/19/17 (Hudson); “SIC Basics,” Sumter, 10/17/17 (Hudson); “SIC Basics,” Charleston, 11/07/17 (Hudson).

Funding & Budget

- FY17-18 funding remains at sustained level (since FY09-10) of \$127,303 in EIA funds, and \$100,000 through USC proviso.
- For FY16-17 (ending 06/30/17), SC-SIC accounts stood as follows: EIA fund account - \$0.00; USC proviso account - \$47.94; SC-EPFP account - \$43.48; SC-SIC reserve account (which can be carried over) - \$7507.62.
- Of note, in FY16-17 going forward, SC-SIC was granted permission from the USC College of Education to provide staff (minus the Executive Director) with a permanent increase in salary.
- For FY18-19, SC-SIC will be requesting an additional \$50,000 in EIA funds through the USC Center for Educational Partnerships (CEP). This level of funding will offset cuts SC-SIC has realized since FY09-10).

Selected Activities

- Participated in several conference calls relative to SC-EPFP with staff from Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) and national EPFP.
- Ongoing work in co-coordinating SC-EPFP. The first session of the program’s 2017-18 cohort is scheduled for 09/15/17 in Columbia.
- Addressed SCPTA Region 2 meeting, held at Fort Dorchester HS (Dorchester 2), 06/10/17.
- Facilitated “debrief” session for National Summit of Schools, Communities & Law Enforcement, 06/12/17, Columbia.
- Guest lecturer, Dr. Joe Flora’s USC College of Education online class for administrative leaders, 06/21/17.
- Attended National School Public Relations Association annual seminar, 07/08/17 to 07/13/17, San Antonio, TX.
- Attended national EPFP coordinators meeting, 08/03/17 to 08/05/17, in Washington, DC.
- Met with new USC College of Education Associate Dean for Diversity, 08/09/17.

Selected Activities (continued)

- Attended USC College of Education All-College Meeting, 08/22/17.
- Met with representative of USC University Technology Systems regarding developing web-based seminars, 08/24/17.

Upcoming Activities

- Invited participant, SC Department of Education Accreditation Task Force, 08/29/17.
- SIC District Contact Meeting, Columbia, 09/08/17.
- EIA Program Report due through USC Center for Educational Partnerships (CEP), 09/29/17.
- SC-EPPF 2017-18 sessions, 09/15/17 (Columbia), Leadership Retreat (10/12-10/13/17).
- Invited participant, Early Childhood and Family Support Roundtable, House Education Committee Chair Rita Allison, 09/19/17.

Karen Utter, SC-SIC Coordinator of Council Services

Technical Assistance

Engagement for Outcomes

Six schools have been accepted into a new session for the upcoming school year: Lake Marion High School and Technology Center (Orangeburg 3 School District); Edisto High School (Orangeburg 4 School District); Sugar Creek Elementary School (Fort Mill Schools, York District 4); Kelly Edwards Elementary School (Barnwell 29 School District); Heyward Gibbes Middle School (Richland One School District); and Eau Claire High School (Richland One School District)

- Have completed initial visits to gather baseline data with all but one of the six schools
- Have met twice with Lake Marion SIC prior to start of the school year
- Scheduled to attend first SIC meetings of year with all schools
- Schools are diverse in terms of where they are starting from in levels of functioning

Technical Assistance to Individual Schools

- Hand Middle School -- Reviewed and commented on bylaws; advised on election procedures

Local SIC Tools

- Ongoing work in developing new local SIC tools
- SIC Compliance Checklist

Family Engagement Text Distribution Program

- In the process of identifying a new book offering for the coming school year

Other Activities

Dick and Tunky Riley Award for SIC Excellence

- Full-page ad honoring 2017 Riley winner and finalists to appear in fall issue of SCASA's *Palmetto Administrator* magazine
- 2018 Riley Award application is scheduled to be posted on or before Labor Day weekend
- Riley Award Activity Guides have been updated to reflect activities undertaken by this year's participants

Collaboration with SC Department of Education on Parent Liaison Training

- Co-developed initial format and content for regional trainings for Parent Liaisons this fall
- Scheduled to co-present four day-long sessions for Parent Liaisons with FACE Director Yolande' Anderson (Florence, 09/07; Cope, 09/12; Greenville, 09/19; Columbia, 09/26)

SC-SIC Fall Webinar: Student Health and Safety

- Have recruited Children's Trust and SC Alliance for a Healthier Generation to participate in inaugural webinar for SICs; planning will continue with late fall target date

Outreach to District Contacts

- Annual SIC District Contact meeting scheduled for 09/08 at EdVenture Children's Museum
- Created and distributed "New SIC District Contact" welcome packets for new DC's; sent individual e-mails with sample of new SIC tools to returning DC's

Professional Development

- Completed training to facilitate for USC Welcome Table program
- Completed online summer graduate course through USC College of Education on effective teaching strategies for African-American students; developed plan for disseminating information on what SICs can do to promote culturally responsive pedagogy/help close the achievement gap
- To attend National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) Fall Leadership Institute, 10/19 and 10/20, at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Claudia Parnell, SC-SIC Digital and Web Director**SC-SIC Website**

The SC-SIC website, redesigned in 2016, may be viewed at <http://sic.sc.gov>.

SC-SIC Member Network

The total number of SICs falling under laws governing School Improvement Councils as of 08/25/17 is **1,127**. This figure includes a several schools that have been permitted by SC-SIC to convene “joint” SICs.

As of 05/18/17, **13,403** SIC members were registered with the *Member Network*. The database was reset on 07/01/17 to allow for current SIC membership reporting; the statutory deadline for that reporting for the 2017-18 school year is 11/15/17.

SIC Report to the Parents Uploads

A total of **764** *Reports to the Parents* for school year 2016-17 were uploaded to the *Member Network* as of 08/22/17, up from **535** as of 05/18/17. SC-SIC requests that schools upload their *Reports* by June 1 each year, but they may upload *Reports* at any time. The trend has been for schools to continue to upload *Reports* after this deadline, so we anticipate an increase in this figure. There is no state mandate to upload *Reports* to the *Member Network*; April 30 is the state-mandated deadline annually for schools to distribute *Reports* to the greater school community.

As of 08/22/17, **739** *Reports to the Parents* for school year 2015-16 were uploaded to the *Member Network*; **729** were uploaded for the 2014-15 school year. SICs have demonstrated a willingness to share their *Reports* via the *Member Network* and are strongly encouraged to do so by a majority of school districts. Again, because schools can upload *Reports* at any time, for any year, this number may increase.

Reports are available for public viewing via the View the SIC Members (Read-Only) link on the SC-SIC *Member Network*.

The *SIC Report to the Parents* offers publicly accessible information about what Councils across South Carolina are planning and accomplishing.

Social Media

The SC-SIC Twitter account now has **2,569** followers (up from **2,475** as of 0/18/17). Use of Twitter by SC-SIC provides a communications conduit to education groups and professionals across the country as well as accelerated access to education and civic engagement news, blogs and journal articles on a wide variety of topics, and immediate contact with the community. Media personnel, political figures, and key education players in South Carolina and beyond follow @SCSIC and often “retweet” or mention @SCSIC (our Twitter “handle”) in their tweets, continuing to raise our public profile and advancing a key strategic planning goal. Among @SCSIC followers are several educators, political figures, organizations, and social media and media professionals from South Carolina and other states and countries. Also of great use is the accessibility of breaking news obtainable through Twitter lists of media, education outlets, and those involved in the South Carolina political landscape.

The SC-SIC Facebook Page has **785** "Likes," up from **775** as of 05/18/17. Many links to information and articles that are shared on Twitter are also posted here, though less in number due to the real-time posting and faster pace of Twitter. "Likes" will increase as Councils begin operations for the 2017-18 school year.

Facebook, like Twitter, serves to increase our search engine rankings, or SEO, (Search Engine Optimization), again advancing SC-SIC's public profile. Social media has proven to be an essential tool in maintaining the SC-SIC public presence and in facilitating information flow.

In the Loop (periodic updates for SIC members and friends; delivered via email)

In the Loop is the email blast offering from SC-SIC. It serves to keep SIC members and friends informed of events, dates, news, and other happenings. *In the Loop* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us; current and archived issues can be found on the SC-SIC website at <http://sic.sc.gov/Pages/InTheLooparchives.aspx>.

Council News (SC-SIC Newsletter; delivered via email)

The Council News electronic newsletter is emailed to all SIC members and friends sharing their email address with SC-SIC. Current and archived editions of *Council News* are posted to the SC-SIC website at <http://sic.sc.gov/Pages/CouncilNewsarchives.aspx>.

DC Digest (quarterly newsletter for SIC District Contacts; delivered via email)

DC Digest is designed to provide SIC District Contacts with timely information about new materials, upcoming events, suggested strategies for working with SICs, as well as reminders of upcoming SIC deadlines. Current and archived editions of *DC Digest* are posted to the SC-SIC website at <http://sic.sc.gov/Pages/SICDistrictContactDigest.aspx>.

SC-SIC Listserv

At this time the primary SC-SIC listserv of members and friends consists of approximately 19,367 email addresses. Addresses are deleted by individual request; subscribers are also able to independently leave the list.

Other Listservs

SC-SIC also maintains listservs for district school superintendents, SIC District Contacts, school principals, local SIC Chairs, and SC-EPFP graduates and friends.