



S.C. School Improvement Council

"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Civic leader Darby, educator Lash elected to SC-SIC Board of Trustees

COLUMBIA – Charleston civic leader Rev. Joseph A. Darby, Jr., and Greenville County educator Georgia A. Lash have recently been elected to the S.C. School Improvement Council Board of Trustees, Board Chairman Carlos Primus has announced.

Both were elected to three year terms on the Board, which is composed of 21 members from across the state and acts in an advisory capacity to the S.C. School Improvement Council, which provides services to more than 15,000 members of local School Improvement Councils in the state's 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.

"Rev. Darby and Ms. Lash have a demonstrated passion for public education and the well being of our state's future," said Primus. "We are indeed fortunate to have their expertise and energy on our Board, and I look forward to working with them as the S.C. School Improvement Council provides much needed services to our schools, our children and our communities."

A fourth generation minister with 32 years of pastoral experience, Rev. Darby is pastor of Morris Brown A.M.E. Church in Charleston, and serves in a variety of leadership capacities with African Methodist Episcopal church bodies. He is currently the President of the S.C. Christian Action Council and First Vice President of the Charleston Branch of the NAACP.

Rev. Darby previously served as a board member of the United Way of the Midlands, the Center for Religion in the South, the Columbia Branch of the NAACP, and was a member of the State Superintendent of Education's African-American Achievement Committee and the Racial/Cultural Advisory Council of the S.C. School Boards Association.

He is also a 2002 inductee into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and a member of the Inaugural 2004 class of the Richland County School District One Hall of Fame.

Ms. Lash is a 23-year educator currently serving as Department Chair of Family and Consumer Sciences at Hillcrest High School in Simpsonville, where she has taught since 1999. She previously served as an educator in Ohio developing early childhood curriculum, planning and facilitating parent education workshops, and teaching career technology classes. Her professional career also includes over a decade of work in pharmaceutical sales and management.

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She currently serves as Teacher Liaison for the Hillcrest High School PTSA and as Student Council Advisor at the school. A past board member of the Mauldin High School PTSA, she has also served as past chairperson and member of the Hillcrest Middle School SIC and is a past member of the Greenville Technical College Advisory Council.

Ms. Lash holds the Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics Education from the University of Dayton and has pursued graduate studies at Cleveland State University, Kent State University and Furman University.

Located at the University of South Carolina's College of Education, the S.C. School Improvement Council was established in state law over three decades ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and operational resources vital to the continued success of the community-based School Improvement Councils in each of the state's K-12 public schools.