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*"Civic Engagement at Work for Public Education"*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Sixteen local School Improvement Councils named to state SC-SIC Honor Roll for 2017**

COLUMBIA – The School Improvement Councils (SICs) of 16 South Carolina public schools have been named to the SC School Improvement Council’s (SC-SIC) 2017 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 more than 1,200 local SICs and their nearly 13,000 SIC members across the state.

The 16 School Improvement Councils named to the SC-SIC Honor Roll for 2017 are (alphabetically):

- Bluffton Middle School SIC (Beaufort County School District)
- Blythewood Middle School SIC (Richland School District 2)
- Chapin Elementary School SIC (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
- Chapin Intermediate School SIC (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
- Chapin Middle School SIC (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
- Clinton Elementary School SIC (Lancaster County School District)
- Hand Middle School SIC (Richland School District 1)
- Harbison West Elementary School SIC (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
- Hilton Head Island High School SIC (Beaufort County School District)
- Laing Middle School for Science and Technology SIC (Charleston County School District)
- Nursery Road Elementary School SIC (Lexington-Richland School District 5)
- Richland Northeast High School SIC (Richland School District 2)
- St. James Elementary School SIC (Horry County Schools)
- St. James High School SIC (Horry County Schools)
- South Florence High School SIC (Florence Public School District 1)
- South Pointe High School SIC (Rock Hill Schools/York School District 3)

“These School Improvement Councils demonstrated their hard work and commitment to supporting the success of their schools in the last year,” said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Amelia McKie. “We congratulate them on their efforts as Honor Roll SICs and we salute all of our School Improvement Councils across South Carolina for the lasting and positive impact they have on their school communities.”

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Five finalists from this year's list of Honor Roll SICs will be selected in February, with one to be announced as the winner of the annual Riley Award for SIC Excellence in March.

School Improvement Councils were established in state law 40 years ago. Part of the Center for Educational Partnerships within the University of South Carolina 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 the state's 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>.

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