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*"Civic Engagement at Work for Public Education"*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **10 local School Improvement Councils named to state SC-SIC Honor Roll for 2020**

COLUMBIA – The School Improvement Councils (SICs) of 10 South Carolina public schools have been named to the SC School Improvement Council’s (SC-SIC) 2020 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. Now in its 19<sup>th</sup> year, the award is named for the former US Secretary of Education and South Carolina Governor and his late wife, and recognizes the vital contributions made by more than 1,100 local SICs and their nearly 13,000 SIC members across the state.

The 10 School Improvement Councils named to the SC-SIC Honor Roll for 2020 are (alphabetically):

- Academic Magnet High SIC (Charleston County School District)
- Bluffton Middle SIC (Beaufort County School District)
- Bookman Road Elementary SIC (Richland School District Two)
- Chapin Middle SIC (District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties)
- Flowertown Elementary SIC (Dorchester School District Two)
- Millwood Elementary SIC (Sumter School District)
- Pine Grove Elementary SIC (Richland One)
- Pontiac Elementary SIC (Richland School District Two)
- Round Top Elementary SIC (Richland School District Two)
- St. James High SIC (Horry County Schools)

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“These School Improvement Councils have demonstrated their dedication and excellence in supporting the success of their schools,” said SC-SIC Board of Trustees Chair Dora Leonard. “We applaud their noteworthy efforts and thank them – and all SICs across our state – for the positive and lasting difference they make each day for their schools, parents, and students.”

“The value of our state’s SICs cannot be stressed strongly enough,” said Tom F. Hudson, SC-SIC Executive Director. “When parents, community members, educators, students, and others work together on shared goals for the benefit of all, the positive impact is tremendous. I am very proud of the work and accomplishments of our Honor Roll SICs this year.”

Five finalists from this year’s list of Honor Roll SICs will be selected in March, with one to be announced as the winner of the annual Riley Award for SIC Excellence at the 2020 SC-SIC Annual Meeting, April 4, in Columbia.

SICs were established in state law over 40 years ago. A founding partner 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 South Carolina’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 [www.sic.sc.gov](http://www.sic.sc.gov).

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