



# South Carolina Education Policy Fellowship Program

*coordinated through*

South Carolina School Improvement Council  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## 17 South Carolina professional and civic leaders named to prestigious education policy program

COLUMBIA – Seventeen (17) professional and civic leaders from across South Carolina have been selected to participate in the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program (SC-EPFP) for 2017-18.

SC-EPFP is a 10-month intensive professional development program for established and emerging leaders in education and related fields to help equip them in working toward sound education policy and practice in South Carolina. SC-EPFP Fellows participate in a variety of activities that promote leadership, develop professional networks, demystify education policy, and foster a greater understanding of the roles of government and the community.

Members of the SC-EPFP class for 2017-18 are:

- Kimberly Ashby, Director of Elementary Schools, Spartanburg District 2
- Rebecca Bean, Communications Manager, SC School Boards Association
- Karen Buffalo, Assistant Principal, Alice Drive Elementary, Sumter County Schools
- Terrie Campbell, District Accountability/Testing Coordinator, McCormick County School District
- Kimberly Carraway, PreK-3 Teacher, D.P. Cooper Charter School, Salters
- Toni Chewning, Director of Association Activities, Palmetto State Teachers Association
- Melanie Cohen, Principal, River Springs Elementary, School District Five of Lexington-Richland Counties
- Erin Fox, 2018 SC Teacher of the Year, Gaffney High, Cherokee County School District
- Anita Hunter, Principal, Mayewood Middle, Sumter County Schools
- Cheryl Lawson-Wilson, Assistant Principal, W.J. Keenan High, Richland School District 1
- Jeffery Long, Director of Certified Employment Services, Richland School District 1
- Tara Mack, Principal, St. Helena Elementary, Beaufort County School District
- Mandy Powers Norrell, SC House of Representatives, District 44, Lancaster
- Linda Norton, Principal, Watkins-Nance Elementary, Richland School District 1
- Ashley Roberts, Literacy Coach, Oakland Elementary, Spartanburg District 2
- Erica Taylor, Chief Strategy and Communications Officer, Charleston County School District
- Cedric Wright, Assistant Principal, C.A. Johnson High, Richland School District 1

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“This year’s SC-EPFP class is composed of some of the most talented and dedicated leaders in our state,” said Robert E. Barnett, Chief Operating Officer for the SC Chamber of Commerce and SC-EPFP Advisory Board Chair. “Through the program they will develop added insights, acquire new professional skills, make valuable connections, and work collaboratively to take proactive steps for South Carolina’s future through meaningful education improvement and reform.”

Fellows will meet monthly throughout the academic year for full-day dialogues, exercises and group projects, in addition to an overnight in-state Fall Leadership Forum and a four-day Washington Policy Seminar hosted by the Institute for Educational Leadership in the spring.

SC-EPFP operates under the auspices of the national Education Policy Fellowship Program of the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, DC, which oversees Fellowship programs in 17 states and the District of Columbia. In South Carolina the program is coordinated by the SC School Improvement Council, located in the Center for Educational Partnerships of the University of South Carolina College of Education.

Since its inception in South Carolina, SC-EPFP has produced over 150 program graduates from a variety of professional backgrounds.

SC-EPFP is supported by an advisory board providing cross-disciplinary leadership representing the state’s K-12 education, higher education, and business communities.

For additional information on the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program, visit the SC-EPFP page online at <http://sic.sc.gov/Pages/SCEducationPolicyFellowshipProgram.aspx>.

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