



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

October 14, 2019

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Edward R. Tallon, Sr.
Subcommittee Chair
Department of Corrections Ad Hoc Subcommittee
P.O. Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Representative Tallon:

RE: Paperwork Reduction and Streamlining Report

Thank you for your letter regarding the participation of the Palmetto Unified School District (Palmetto Unified) in the Department of Education's Paperwork Reduction and Streamlining Report. As stated in the report, three separate surveys were created to receive feedback (one for teachers, one for school level administrators (SLAs), and one for district level administrators (DLAs)).

Although the Department of Education did not receive any responses from Palmetto Unified SLAs or teachers, three responses were received from Palmetto Unified DLAs. Your inquiry has brought to my attention that the wording used within the report is misleading and suggests that no responses from any level were received from Palmetto Unified, when in fact three DLAs did submit responses. Thus, the report should have stated no teacher level responses from Palmetto Unified were received. For your reference, I have attached the three Palmetto Unified DLA responses the Department of Education received.

Additionally, I believe Table 1 is misrepresentative as well. Table 1 represents only the number of teacher respondents by school district. It is evident that the labeling of this table is also misleading and suggests that the numbers within represent all level of respondents.

October 14, 2019

If it is the will of the subcommittee, the Department of Education is willing to re-issue the report correcting these errors. Please let me know how you would like the Department of Education to proceed.

Sincerely,



Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

MMS/kn

Enclosure: Palmetto Unified Responses

cc: The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton
Department of Corrections Ad Hoc Subcommittee
Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

1. What is the name of your school district?	Palmetto Unified School District	Palmetto Unified School District	Palmetto Unified School District
2. What is the name of your school?	Sara A. Babb High School Lee High School MacDougall High School Manning High School Ridgeland High School Trenton High School Turbeville High School Tyger River High School Wateree High School	Palmetto Unified	Palmetto Unified School District (SCDC)
3. Teachers are provided with adequate planning time.] Please indicate how strongly you agree with this statement:	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree
4. How many hours of planning time during the week do you believe is adequate?	5-6 hours	5-6 hours	3-4 hours
[5. Teachers have adequate instructional time in the classroom with their students that is uninterrupted by other duties or events, to include testing.] Please indicate how strongly you agree with this statement:	Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
[Elementary] 6. How many hours of instruction time during the week is adequate?		20	
[Middle and High School] 6. How many hours of instruction time during the week is adequate?	30	25	350 hours
[Benchmark Assessments] [Name of assessments] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?		EOC prep,	Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)
[Benchmark Assessments] [Grade Levels assessed] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?		9-12	3 - 9
[Diagnostic Screeners] [Name of assessments] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?		TABE	Criterion Based Measures (CBM)
[Diagnostic Screeners] [Grade Levels assessed] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?		9-12	3 -9
[Formative Assessments] [Name of assessments] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?			
[Formative Assessments] [Grade Levels assessed] 7. How many of the following assessments do you give during the year and to which grades?			
[Rank 1] 8. Which administrative body requires you to complete the most paperwork?	The State Department of Education	The State Department of Education	The State Department of Education
[Rank 2] 8. Which administrative body requires you to complete the most paperwork?		Your School District	The US Department of Education
[Rank 3] 8. Which administrative body requires you to complete the most paperwork?		The US Department of Education	Your School District
[Rank 4] 8. Which administrative body requires you to complete the most paperwork?			Your School
[Rank 5] 8. Which administrative body requires you to complete the most paperwork?			Your Department Chair
[The amount of paperwork I am required to complete prevents me from spending time effectively leading my school.] 9. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:	Disagree	Agree	Agree
[Multiple forms that I am required to complete cover similar or identical information.] 9. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:	Disagree	Agree	Agree
[I understand the purpose of paperwork I am required to complete.] 9. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
[Supervisors or peers use the paperwork I complete to help inform decisions regarding managing the school.] 9. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
[Task 1] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:	No	Yes	Yes
[Comment] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:		Data reporting	IEP Data entry
[Task 2] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:	No	Yes	Yes
[Comment] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:		ADEPT	Test data scoring and entry
[Task 3] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:	No	Yes	Yes

[Comment] 10. Please list, in order, the three most time-consuming administrative paperwork tasks you are required to complete:		Local and strategic plans	Data table submissions
If you would like to receive a copy of this final report, please enter your email address below:			