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SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

HOUSE WAYS & MEANS

PUBLIC EDUCATION & SPECIAL SCHOOLS SUBCOMMITTEE BUDGET HEARING

JANUARY 31, 2023

SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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KEY OFFICIALS

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

EIA BUDGET PROVISO RECOMMENDATIONS

EOC BUDGET REQUEST

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT SUMMARY

FTE BREAKDOWN INCLUDED WITH #2-ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

CARRY FORWARD FROM SCEIS

EOC STRATEGIC PLAN, 2021-2025

KEY OFFICIALS

List of Key Officials Attending Hearing

Dana K. Yow
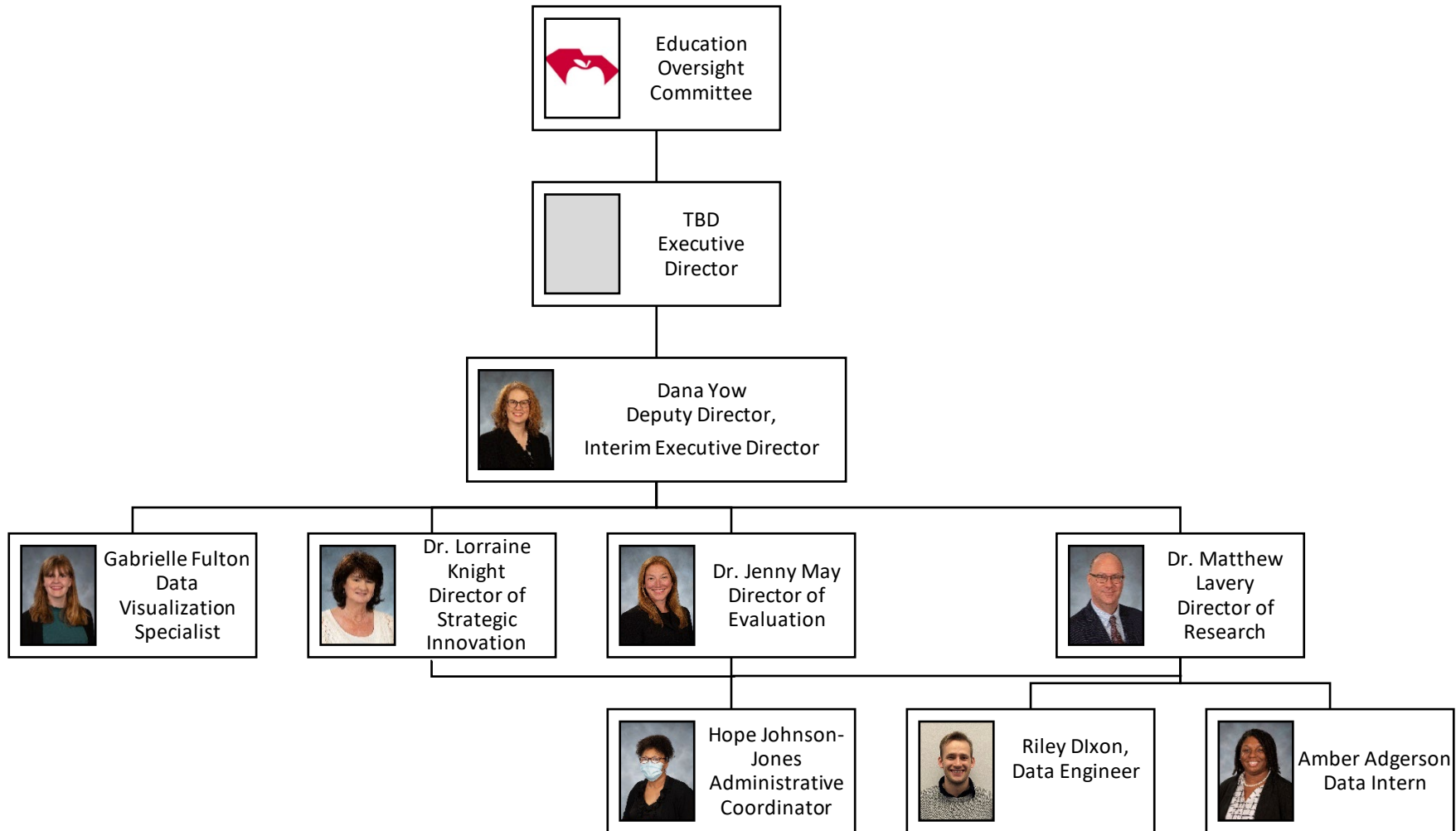*EOC Interim Executive Director*
803-734-6148
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EOC Director of Strategic Innovation
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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART & FTE BREAKDOWN

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The following organizational chart reflects **all** employees of the EOC (seven FTEs) as of January 12, 2023. The committee is undergoing a search for a new Executive Director.

The EOC also contracts out work with higher education institutions, other state agencies, and K-12 consultants:

EIA BUDGET PROVISO RECOMMENDATIONS

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2022-23 EIA Recommendations Summary
Adopted by the SC Education Oversight Committee (EOC) December 2022

Unfinished Learning from Pandemic

- Concurring with the SC Department of Education's request, using the $30.0 million in current year surplus to update instructional materials for students, with priority placed on subject areas with new standards.
- Allocation of resources totaling $4.8 million to identify gaps in student learning in specific math content/skills and corresponding teacher strategies to support teaching and learning.
- Increase in funding of $20 million to support ten additional contract days for teachers in 227 Literacy Project Schools. The additional days would be used for professional learning in either reading or math instruction.
- Funding of $15 million for LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling), a proven professional learning program designed to give teachers the content and principles of literacy and effective language.
- Additional funding of $300,000 for the SC Department of Education to pilot the feasibility of requiring a passing score on a rigorous test of scientifically research-based reading instruction and intervention and data-based decision-making principles, as determined by the State Board of Education, for initial early childhood and elementary education licensure.

College- and Career-Readiness

- Pilot and implement an Artificial Intelligence (AI) high school curriculum, to include a pathway for students interested in automotive AI, using a recommended increase of $3 million.
- Increase funding for Career and Technology Centers (CTEs) by $5 million to purchase necessary equipment for pathway programs that are tied to industry certifications.
- A recommendation to include an additional $100,000 in the SC Department of Education's Adult Education office to focus on career services in Allendale, Hampton, and Jasper counties.
- An allocation of $1.5 million for a partnership between the SC Department of Education and the College Board to improve college- and career-readiness of secondary and middle school students, expanding the access to Pre-Advanced Placement courses across the state.

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- The EOC recommends additional money be allocated from within EIA to support increasing the teacher supply stipend of $300.
- An increase of $1 million to the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA) to expand the Teaching Fellows program.

Revisions to Current Provisos

1A.45. (SDE-EIA: Teach for America SC) ~~Because Teach For America SC receives EIA funds in the current fiscal year, school districts that partner with Teach For America SC are required to provide to Teach For America SC by September first annually, information on the prior year's academic achievement of students who were directly taught by Teach For America corps members. The information must be in a format that protects the identity of individual students and must include state assessment data as appropriate.~~ The Department of Education is directed to provide de-identified student-level summative assessment data to the Education Oversight Committee that can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of all EIA-funded programs or initiatives that provide direct services to schools or school districts. The data-sharing agreement entered into by the two agencies must define how the summative assessment data will be analyzed to determine the impact of the EIA-funded program or initiative and how the analysis will be shared with the Department of Education and with the General Assembly pursuant to Sections 59-6-10 and 59-6-110.

1A.21. (SDE-EIA: Accountability Program Implementation) To support implementation of the accountability program, the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward unexpended Education Accountability Act funds authorized specifically for the administration of the Education Oversight Committee. For the current fiscal year the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward prior year EIA Education Data Dashboard funds. ~~South Carolina Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program funds not awarded by the grant committee. These funds must be used for an independent common evaluation of each awarded grant to ensure high quality programs that maximize a return on the states investment.~~

New Recommended Provisos

To maximize the effectiveness and to minimize cost, the Commission on Higher Education is required to collaborate with the Education Oversight Committee and the SC Department of Education to develop and build out the online educator report card by expending up to $350,000 in funds carried forward from the 2022-23 fiscal year into the 2023-24 fiscal year by the Education Oversight Committee for implementation of the Education Data Dashboard.

1A. Of the funds appropriated for assessment, the Department of Education will expend $300,000 to pilot the feasibility of requiring a passing score on a rigorous test of scientifically research-based reading instruction and intervention and data-based decision-making principles, as determined by the State Board of Education, for initial early childhood and elementary education licensure.

EOC BUDGET REQUEST

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Fiscal Year FY 2023-2024

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS

(FORM B1)

For FY 2023-2024, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
X	Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS

(FORM B2)

For FY 2023-2024, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
X	Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS

(FORM C)

For FY 2023-2024, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
X	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS

(FORM D)

For FY 2023-2024, my agency is (mark "X"):	
X	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	Name	*Phone*	*Email*
PRIMARY CONTACT:	C. Matthew Ferguson, Esq.	(803) 734-6148	mferguson@eoc.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Dana Yow		danay@eoc.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2023-2024 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	Agency Director	*Board of Commission Chair*
SIGN/DATE:	*C. Matthew Ferguson*	*ULC Robinson, CHAIR*
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	C. Matthew Ferguson, Esq.	NEIL C. ROBINSON, Jr

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee
Agency Code:	A850
Section:	4

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
TOTALS			0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1A.21

Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	SDE-EIA: Accountability Program Implementation

Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	EIA

Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No

Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2023-2024? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend

Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None

Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	The existing proviso allows the EOC carry forward authority for the Community Block Grants, a program which is no longer in operation within the agency. With the assistance of Procurement staff at the SC Dept of Administration, the EOC has initiated a Request for Information (RFI) for the Education Data Dashboard, trying to identify partners and vendors for the project. Recognizing that the procurement will take time this fiscal year, the EOC requests that this funding be permitted to carry forward into the next fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT

Amending the current proviso would allow the agency to carry forward the Education Data Dashboard funds, recognizing that the procurement time period will not allow the expenditure of the bulk of the funds this fiscal year.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

1A.21. (SDE-EIA: Accountability Program Implementation) To support implementation of the accountability program, the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward unexpended Education Accountability Act funds authorized specifically for the administration of the Education Oversight Committee. For the current fiscal year the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward prior year EIA ~~South Carolina Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program funds not awarded by the grant committee. These funds must be used for an independent common evaluation of each awarded grant to ensure high quality programs that maximize a return on the states investment~~ Education Data Dashboard funds.

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE

Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan

AMOUNT

$0

What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS

None

How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT

The agency receives no General funds, so there would be no impact. Any reduction would occur in the agency's administrative budget.

What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY

The EOC receives a base appropriation amount of $1,293,242 of EIA revenues.

Of this amount, Proviso 1.106 in the 2022-23 Appropriations Act directs the EOC to pilot an Education Dashboard; the agency received $3,500,000 in EIA funds for that purpose. Funding of $1,000,000 also is received in the agency budget, and is to be distributed to Save the Children by proviso.

$500,000, by proviso 1A.46, is allocated to the SC Autism Society.

The EIA base recurring balance, $1,293,242 would absorb any three percent reduction. The EOC would use its contingency fund to offset any shortfall in EIA revenues. Annually, the EOC sets aside 10 percent of the funds appropriated in a contingency fund to absorb any mid-year reduction in EIA revenues or to offset unexpected expenses. There would be no impact on service delivery.

The increase of $3,500,000 to the EOC budget is for the agency to pilot an Education Data Dashboard, increasing the opportunity for education data to become actionable among various stakeholder groups. We have initiated a Request for Information with SC State Procurement at present. This project will necessitate the addition of two new FTEs to the agency, which will require additional funds to be moved into the Personal Service budget lines.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

With the addition of the Education Data Dashboard pilot, the EOC's operating budget is approximately $4,793,242. The agency already operates very efficiently and plans to continue this practice as the duties of the agency expand. The EOC plans to bring in two FTEs for the dashboard, but the intention is to use agency resources. We are planning to turn all available space in our office into office space and utilize an empty office in the Brown Building for storage.

Currently, the agency is reducing costs by procuring several evaluations using other state entities (currently contracted with Clemson University on Kindergarten Readiness Assessment review) or utilizing the services of retired district superintendents.

To further reduce costs, the agency contracted with the Department of Administration to perform financial and reporting functions in Fiscal Year 2020-21. In early 2021, the EOC added Human Resources and Benefits services to its shared service agreement with Department of Administration. This shared service arrangement continues to reduce expenses by allowing staff to dedicate resources elsewhere.

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Shared Services: Finance, Accounting, Procurement, Human Resources, and Benefits Services

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	$31,100

What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	**Mark "X" for all that apply:**

	Repeal or revision of regulations.
	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
X	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	The Department of Administration began providing finance and accounting services, procurement services, budgetary services to the EOC at an annual cost of $30,600 in FY 2019-20. When the agency's parttime business manager resigned, the EOC did not believe that it could hire another parttime employee to perform these functions, and instead would have had to hire a fulltime employee, an Accountant/Fiscal Analyst I, at an estimated annual cost of $61,700, which includes salary, fringe benefits and operating expenses. Therefore, the savings to the state are estimated at $31,100. In October 2020, DOA agreed to add Human Resources and Benefits services to the EOC's shared service agreement at no additional cost to the agency. This Shared Service arrangement has been beneficial to the agency, allowing staff time to be devoted to other agency activities.

Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	The agency does not impose any fees or collect any revenues.

Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	The agency has never promulgated regulations.

Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

> The projected savings can be redirected by the EOC to fulfill its statutory mission.
>
> Additionally, the agency has been in early talks with leadership at the SC Commission on Higher Education, around collaborating on the SC Educator Preparation Report Card, required by Section 59-26-35. The Education Data Dashboard, which the EOC is required to produce under proviso, is currently in the procurement phase. There is no current agreement in place or savings to report; however, the ongoing talks are in the spirit of making wise use of State funds to support all State-led initiatives.

SUMMARY

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT SUMMARY

AGENCY'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The last three years have presented us with an unprecedented set of challenges in public education. Yet, we see progress and cause for hope as we navigate the changes to the education landscape. The most recent release of test scores results from the 2021-22 school year shows that South Carolina students are on the road to recovery, having rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in English Language Arts. While pre-pandemic levels of achievement are far from the destination of proficiency for all students, the recovery in a critical area is noteworthy.

Achievement and growth scores in math are concerning. Over 40 percent of eighth graders scored *Does Not Meet* on the mathematics portion of SC READY, indicating that they are two grade levels behind their peers meeting standard. Students of color and students who live in homes that lack financial resources fare even worse. We acknowledge that many students and families are struggling; equipping schools to make informed decisions will assist in continuous improvement and lead to better student outcomes. The children are our inspiration to do the work we do – we believe in their potential, and we want every child to have the opportunity to succeed. Our goal is to provide an environment where there are no barriers to any child's success and opportunities exist for every student to achieve college and career success.

SC READY English Language Arts (ELA) Results
students in Grades 3-8

Grade Level	% Meets or Exceeds			% Approaches			% Does Not Meet		
	18-19	20-21	21-22	18-19	20-21	21-22	18-19	20-21	21-22
3	49.7	43.3	48.0	24.7	24.9	23.0	25.5	31.8	29.0
4	51.2	46.1	50.4	21.0	21.4	21.6	27.8	32.5	28.0
5	41.0	38.9	48.3	30.9	33.2	29.7	28.2	27.9	22.1
6	41.0	41.8	45.1	32.8	32.7	31.9	26.1	25.5	23.1
7	44.0	42.5	43.2	29.0	29.1	29.8	27.0	28.4	26.9
8	44.6	41.9	45.9	28.2	28.0	26.9	27.2	30.1	27.2

2021-22 SC READY English Language Arts (ELA) Results, Grade 3, % of Students Meets or Exceeds Expectations by Demographic Group

Demographic Group	Number Tested	% Students Meets or Exceeds Expectations
All Students	55,905	48.0%
Hispanic or Latino	6,756	37.4%
Black or African American	17,453	29.5%
White	27,0004	61.7%
Pupils in Poverty	35,313	36.5%
Non- Pupils in Poverty	20,512	67.9%

SC READY Mathematics Results
students in Grades 3-8

Grade Level	% Meets or Exceeds			% Approaches			% Does Not Meet		
	18-19	20-21	21-22	18-19	20-21	21-22	18-19	20-21	21-22
3	57.7	46.9	51.0	21.0	22.1	22.2	21.3	31.0	26.8
4	50.5	42.0	43.4	25.2	25.6	27.9	24.3	32.5	28.7
5	45.4	38.1	43.3	30.2	28.5	27.2	24.5	33.4	29.5
6	43.9	33.9	35.7	28.7	30.6	30.5	27.5	35.5	33.8
7	35.3	30.4	30.9	32.0	33.1	33.3	32.7	36.5	35.8
8	36.6	30.7	30.2	31.3	29.1	29.0	32.1	40.2	40.8

2021-22 SC READY Mathematics Results, Grade 8, % of Students Meets or Exceeds Expectations by Demographic Group

Demographic Group	Number Tested	% Students Meets or Exceeds Expectations
All Students	60,987	30.2%
Hispanic or Latino	7,478	23.5%
Black or African American	20,225	13.1%
White	29,056	42.6%
Pupils in Poverty	37,043	18.4%
Non- Pupils in Poverty	23,930	48.4%

During Fiscal Year 2022, the agency had several significant projects and successes to highlight. The following are organized under the EOC's Strategic Plan, which was adopted in August 2021. Efforts during 2021-22 are denoted along with plans for 2022-23.

Strategy I: Report Facts
To support all stakeholders in making informed decisions for the continuous improvement of schools and student outcomes, the EOC will advocate for, access, and use a comprehensive, quality, statewide data system.

2021-22 Efforts	2022-23 Plans
• Created proof of concept for data visualization via Child Early Reading and Development Education Program (CERDEP) 4K Report • Recommended Education Data Dashboard Project be initiated with EIA funding. • Engaged in discussions with SCDE for EOC staff to independently access deidentified data systems.	• Request for Proposal for Data Visualization Project and add EOC Data Staff to support project • Formalize EOC access to SCDE Data Systems • Expand Data Visualization Projects with purpose of equipping stakeholders to act for continuous improvement of schools and student outcomes

Strategy II: Measure Change

To more accurately and efficiently measure change, the EOC will refocus accountability to emphasize school improvement and the success of students.

2021-22 Efforts	2022-23 Plans

• Providing Post Secondary Success (National Student Clearinghouse) Data Workshops to high schools
• Reporting New Accountability Measures
   • On-Track to Graduate Measure
   • Five-Year Student Success Measure
   • Criterion-Reference Value-Added Model
	• Determine Scoring for New Accountability Measures
	• ELA Standards Approval
	• Math Standards Approval
	• Start conversations around Career Center Report Cards
	• Start conversations around K-2 School Report Cards
	• School Recognitions for Added-Value Growth

Strategy III: Promote Progress

To more effectively promote progress throughout South Carolina schools, the EOC will strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders and promote collaborative, coordinated action for the continuous improvement of schools and student success.

2021-22 Efforts	2022-23 Plans
• Monthly meetings with SCDE offices: Standards & Assessment, Data & Accountability, and CERDEP • Monthly Meetings with SC FirstSteps • Participated in SC Commission on Higher Education workgroup on Dual Enrollment/Credit • Participated in Data Governance Workgroup of the SC Early Learning Extension • Presentations to SC Association of School Administrators (SCASA)	• Focus Groups on Report Cards, Climate Surveys in Virtual Schools • Provide dashboards of climate survey data to districts and school leaders • Update ExpectmoreSC Website • Host TEDxSCEducation-like Event

Roundtables: TAR, Instructional Leaders, and Superintendents • Presentations to School Districts • Engaged with Formative and Summative Assessment Vendor(s) to support Growth Model • Partnership with Spartanburg Academic Movement (SAM) to share Post Secondary Success Data	

FTE BREAKDOWN INCLUDED WITH

#2-ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

CARRY FORWARD

INFORMATION FROM SCEIS

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EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE		
SUMMARY OF CARRY FORWARD AND CURRENT CASH BALANCES		
FISCAL YEAR 2023		
		Balance
Description	**Fund**	**6/30/2022**
Operating Revenue	30350000	230
Education Improvement Act	49730000	470,114
Cares Act-Elementary & Secondary Sch Em	51C10003	74,857
Grand Total		**545,200**

EOC STRATEGIC PLAN,

2021-2025

Strategy I: Report Facts

To support all stakeholders in making informed decisions for the continuous improvement of schools and student outcomes, the EOC will advocate for, access, and use a comprehensive, quality, statewide data system

Objective A: Enhance the EOC's direct access to comprehensive, quality, statewide data for reporting information
- Advocate for EOC staff to have secure, administrative-user access to Student Information System data
- Institute processes for EOC staff to have co-equal access to files that contain student-level data used for accountability
- Establish quality control processes to ensure accurate accountability reporting

Objective B: Advocate for the synthesis of existing data sources into a comprehensive, quality statewide data system that is secure, transparent and relevant to decision making for schools and student outcomes
- Partner with existing stakeholder groups to establish policies and processes to connect existing data systems
- Advocate for the establishment of policies and processes to ensure the security, privacy, and appropriate use of all stakeholder data

Objective C: Transform data into information that equips multiple stakeholder groups to act for the continuous improvement of schools and student outcomes
- Create information, to include data visualizations, that empowers multiple stakeholders to take more action-oriented approaches to continuous improvement of schools and student success
- Increase the use of state and school report cards and other sources of data for decision making and continuous school and student improvement
- Streamline the accessibility and transparency of information

Strategy II: Measure Change

To more accurately and efficiently measure change, the EOC will refocus accountability to emphasize school improvement and the success of students

Objective D: Align system-wide (PK-12) accountability measures with characteristics of college and career readiness (CCR)
- Study the ability of current accountability measures to predict college and career success
- Select accurate and appropriate measures of CCR progress throughout the PK-12 system
- Establish a framework to include international and national benchmarks of student success
- Monitor student CCR success and the continuous improvement of schools

Objective E: Design and implement an educational accountability system that enables stakeholders to take action and focus on continuous improvement
- Research the needs of multiple stakeholder groups to determine appropriate measures
- Develop measures to meet identified needs

Objective F: Identify and reward school accountability success
- Recognize schools that demonstrate success
- Include select awards on school report cards

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Strategy III: Promote Progress

To more effectively promote progress throughout South Carolina schools, the EOC will strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders and promote collaborative, coordinated action for the continuous improvement of schools and student success

Objective G: Clarify the role of the Education Oversight Committee as the authority in PK-12 school accountability
- Solidify the EOC's role as responsible for the development of federal and state accountability
- Become a co-equal partner in the procurement of measures used for school accountability (e.g. assessments, surveys)

Objective H: Realign EOC resources to become a more effective advisor and honest broker to multiple stakeholder groups
- Research the needs of multiple stakeholder groups
- Serve as a bridge to connect research to policy and practice for the following stakeholder groups: policy makers, educators, families / students, and business / community leaders

Objective I: Collaborate with other agencies, schools, and organizations to jointly explore topics relevant to school and student success
- Convene stakeholders to collaboratively update the accountability standards for a Vision 2030 document
- Convene forums / speakers on relevant education topics