ANNUAL 21-22 REPORT





TRANSFORMING A GENERATION

A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



At the Charter Institute at Erskine, we believe families and children should always be first in education. We believe children are not categories but are precious, unique individuals. That's why we are committed to providing robust, educational options to every South Carolina family so that each child can have the opportunity to achieve their individual God-given potential. As the founding Superintendent and CEO of the Charter Institute at Erskine, I am excited about the unparalleled expansion of school choice we have accomplished thus far and am equally excited about our continuing efforts to meet the needs of families across South Carolina.

CONNECT WITH SUPERINTENDENT RUNYAN



@cameronrunyan



Cameron Runyan

CONNECT WITH THE INSTITUTE



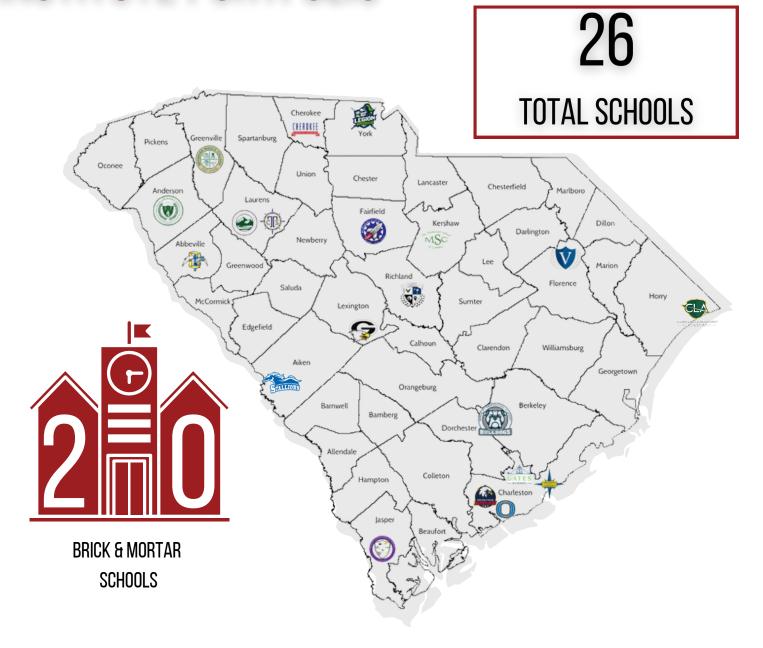


@ErskineCharters

Charter Institute at Erskine

www.erskinecharters.org

INSTITUTE PORTFOLIO













FREE ONLINE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL





STATEWIDE VIRTUAL SCHOOLS

WHO WE ARE



Historic Erskine College established the Charter Institute at Erskine in 2017 to improve public education across the state of South Carolina.





The mission of the Charter Institute at Erskine is to authorize high-quality charter schools that elevate educational opportunities through innovation and creativity.

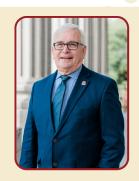
LEADERSHIP



CAMERON RUNYAN SUPERINTENDENT



VAMSHI RUDRAPATI DIRECTOR



RICHARD MELZER EXECUTIVE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF INNOVATION & ACCOUNTABILITY



DR. MISSY BRAKEFIELD DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF FISCAL & STUDENT SERVICES



CHRISTY
JUNKINS
DEPUTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF
ACCOUNTABILITY



MIKE SINCLAIR DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL SUPPORT

AUTHORIZATION & OPERATIONS

AUTHORIZATION



DR. BILL ROACH CHIEF OF SPECIAL PROJECTS



JANIE NEELEY

DIRECTOR OF
AUTHORIZATION



KUSUMA BUDDHIRAJU DIRECTOR OF DATA & RESEARCH



NAOMI MORGAN DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE



KATRIEL REA LEGAL AND POLICY ASSISTANT

PERATIONS



TIFFANY SHEARER
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



MADISON MURRAY

COORDINATOR OF

OPERATIONS

ACCOUNTABILITY



HEATHER HOLLIDAY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL SERVICES



JASON JONES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF POWERSCHOOL & IT



KRISTIN OLCOTT

COORDINATOR OF
ACCOUNTABILITY

FISCAL & STUDENT SERVICES

FEDERAL PROGRAMS



JEANIE GLOVER CHIEF OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

LACY LUCAS

COORDINATOR OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS



SARAH SHEALY COORDINATOR OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS (FINANCE)



KAREN COOK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
FEDERAL PROGRAMS

FINANCE



JOHN LI
CHIEF OF FINANCEGENERAL AND OPERATIONS



ANGELICA RODRIGUEZ
FISCAL COORDINATOR

FINANCE (FEDERAL PROGRAMS)



DANIEL KARPINSKI

CHIEF OF FINANCEFEDERAL PROGRAMS

STUDENT SERVICES



LAURA MERRICK

CHIEF OF STUDENT
SERVICES



SAKAH LUVE

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL

EDUCATION



DR. SALLY FICKLING

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT

SERVICES



BRALYN WOOD

COORDINATOR OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION

SCHOOL SUPPORT

COMMUNICATIONS



ASHLEY EPPERSON

DIRECTOR OF

COMMUNICATIONS



JACOB CARTER
MEDIA PRODUCTION
COORDINATOR



KATIE GRAYBILL

COMMUNICATIONS

SPECIALIST

PEBA & BENEFITS



ROBBIE ANDERSON COORDINATOR OF BENEFITS



MEET THE STAFF

YEARS OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE EDUCATION FIELD

YEARS OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE IN SPECIFICALLY CHARTER SCHOOLS

YEARS OF DIRECT EXPERIENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

YEARS OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

AMONG THE INSTITUTE STAFF, THERE ARE...

2	4	5	2
Milken	Former	Former	STAFF
AWARDEES	Superintendents	School	Members
	OR DEPUTY	Leaders	THAT
	Superintendents		FORMERLY LED
			3 NATIONAL
			BLUE RIBBON
			Schools

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Charter Institute at Erskine Board of Directors is comprised of individuals who put the interests of students, schools, and communities first. The Institute Board is responsible for setting the Institute's direction through clear vision and goals, evaluating the Superintendent, approving the annual budget, and serving as leaders in their respective communities for the Institute and its students, schools, and communities.



Dr. Steven Adamson **CHAIR**



TREASURER



Dr. Tony Foster MFMBFR



HON. STU RODMAN MFMBFR



HELEN TAYLOR MEMBER



Dr. Gordon Query



Dr. Noel Brownlee



HON. TODD CARNES

AUTHORIZATION DECISIONS

SCHOOLS OPENING FALL 2023

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Grades K-12 (Projected Enrollment of 1,925)



Learn. Lead. Change the world!

GREENWOOD CHARTER ACADEMY



K-5 First Year (Projected Enrollment of 525) K-8 Full Matriculation (Projected Enrollment of 900)



Developing the Next Generation of American Citizens

HERON VIRTUAL



Grades 9-12 Virtual AEC for At-Risk Students (First Year Projected Enrollment of 600, Full Projected Enrollment of 900)



LIBERTAS ACADEMY



K-5 First Year (Projected Enrollment of 525) K-8 Full Matriculation (Projected Enrollment of 900)





AUTHORIZATION DECISIONS

SCHOOLS IN THE PIPELINE

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



2 Additional Locations K-12

Learn. Lead. Change the world!

SUMMERVILLE ACADEMY



5 Locations K-5 First Year K-8 Full Matriculation

Developing the Next Generation of American Citizens

LIBERTAS ACADEMY



4 Additional Locations

K-5 First Year

K-8 Full Matriculation

Developing the Next Generation of American Citizens

WILLIE JEFFRIES SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE



Orangeburg, SC K-6 First Year K-8 Full Matriculation

BY THE NUMBERS

2021-2022 DEMOGRAPHICS

*based on the 45th day count for 2021-2021

TOTAL STUDENTS

24,409

AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION

27.2%

SPECIAL EDUCATION POPULATION

12%

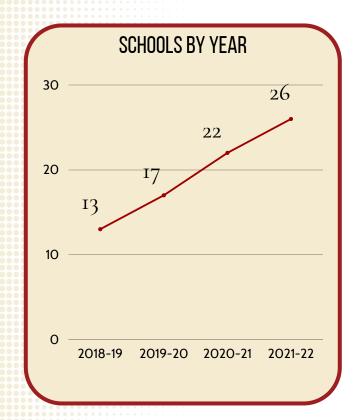
TITLE I SCHOOLS 16 OUT OF 24

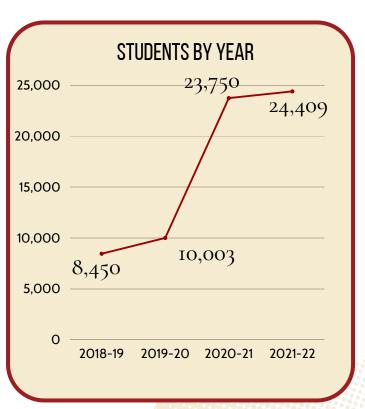
HISPANIC POPULATION

8.3%

MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS

3.8%





*based on the 45th day counts

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

ENROLLMENT

THE INSTITUTE'S 24,409
STUDENTS REPRESENT A
189% INCREASE IN
ENROLLMENT SINCE THE
INSTITUTE'S FIRST YEAR.

ACADEMICS

38% OF INSTITUTE SCHOOLS SCORED IN TOP 25% OF STATE IN ONE OR MORE TEST CATEGORIES.

ACADEMICS

71% OF INSTITUTE SCHOOLS SCORED IN TOP 50% OF STATE IN ONE OR MORE TEST CATEGORIES.

ACADEMICS

25% OF INSTITUTE SCHOOLS SCORED IN TOP 25% OF STATE IN ELA AND MATH.*

*ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE: ELA & MATH High School: English II and Algebra I

SCHOOLS

THE INSTITUTE OPENED THE CURRENT HIGHEST ACADEMICALLY RATED RURAL SCHOOL OF POVERTY IN THE STATE.

LOCAL DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

Which Institute schools are outperforming their local districts in all subject areas?

ELEMENTARY

Belton Preparatory Academy
Berkeley Preparatory Academy
Cherokee Charter Academy
Lowcountry Leadership Charter School
Royal Live Oaks Academy
Summit Classical School
Thornwell Charter School

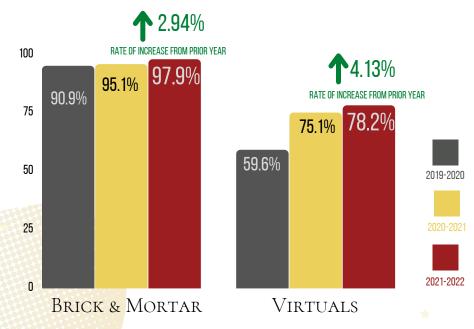
MIDDLE

Cherokee Charter Academy Gray Collegiate Academy Midlands STEM Institute Royal Live Oaks Academy Thornwell Charter School

High

Brashier Middle College Charter High School Gray Collegiate Academy Oceanside Collegiate Academy Royal Live Oaks Academy South Carolina Virtual Charter School

YEAR-OVER-YEAR GRAD RATE IMPROVEMENT



VIRTUAL SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE OF INCREASE SINCE 2019



Numbers gathered from <u>SC Report Card Data.</u>

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Brashier Middle College Charter High School named 2022 National Blue Ribbon School by US Department of Education

Brashier Middle College Charter High School, located in Simpsonville, South Carolina, was named an Exemplary High Performing Blue Ribbon School, meaning that it is among South Carolina's highest-performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.

Brashier was one of five South Carolina schools to receive the award in 2022. Of those five schools, Brashier is the only South Carolina charter school as well as the only high school recipient in 2022.



LOCAL DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

Which Institute schools are outperforming their local districts in all subject areas?

ELEMENTARY

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Cherokee Charter Academy
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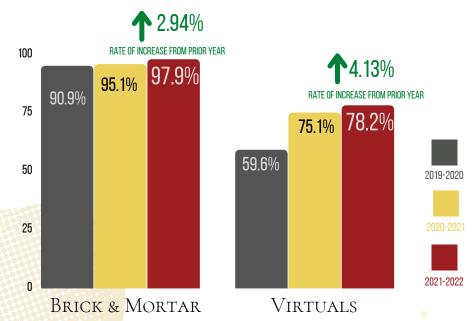
MIDDLE

Cherokee Charter Academy Gray Collegiate Academy Midlands STEM Institute Royal Live Oaks Academy Thornwell Charter School

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Brashier Middle College Charter High School Gray Collegiate Academy Oceanside Collegiate Academy Royal Live Oaks Academy South Carolina Virtual Charter School

YEAR-OVER-YEAR GRAD RATE IMPROVEMENT



VIRTUAL SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE OF INCREASE SINCE 2019



PERMANENT FUNDING



Watch our short video,
"The Impact of Permanent Funding."

In June of 2022, the South Carolina Legislature passed a new funding formula that affects the way public schools are funded in South Carolina. Thanks to the joint efforts of the Charter Institute at Erskine and the South Carolina Public Charter School District's leadership, charter school students are now sustainably funded in the same manner as traditional public school students.



FROMOTE CHARTER SCHOOL OPTIONS INSTEAD OF TRYING TO PROMOTE THEMSELVES, AND I AM VERY APPRECIATIVE OF THAT.

South Carolina Speaker of the House G. Murrell Smith Jr.



South Carolina Speaker of the House, G. Murrell Smith Jr., was recognized as the 2022 Kids First "Hall of Fame" Charter Champion for his outstanding advocacy for charter schools in South Carolina and his efforts in securing permanent funding for the charter school sector. We thank Speaker Smith, Governor McMaster, and the South Carolina Legislature for enacting this change.

CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING IN SC



Traditional public schools and charter schools were funded under different formulas. Traditional school funding allowed for sustainable student growth, while the formula for charters did not.



Charter schools had to request money from the State Legislature each year based on projected enrollment.



Charter school growth was limited, and schools were unable to fully meet the demand of their communities.





Traditional public schools and charter schools use the same sustainable funding method to fund all students across the state.



New and existing charter schools now have a sustainable, scalable funding source, meaning more public charter schools can open in the future.



More students will have access to a school choice option that meets their educational needs.

THANK YOU TO SOUTH CAROLINA'S LEADERS FOR PUTTING KIDS FIRST!

2021 FUNDING OVERVIEW

EDUCATION FINANCE ACT FUNDING (EFA)

The Education Finance Act is established to guarantee each student in SC the availability of at least minimum educational programs and services. The Act outlines the funding methodology for these State funds. Funding is allocated on a per-pupil allocation (Base Student Cost). Allocation is calculated by multiplying the BSC by the Weighted Pupil Units determined by the individual student characteristics.

\$2,516.00 BASE STUDENT FUNDING \$80,516,579.12 TOTAL EFA FUNDING

EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT FUNDING (EIA)

The EIA represents South Carolina's effort to improve the quality of its public education system. The Act is a comprehensive education reform plan containing specific programs and strategies for improving public education in the state, as well as mechanisms for distributing funds for the Act's implementation. Schools are eligible for different EIA categorical funds depending on the qualifications of each school.



CHARTER SCHOOL ACT FUNDING (PROVISO FUNDING)

The Proviso Funding is established by the Charter School Act to <u>supplement the state funding to charter schools</u> since the Institute, as a statewide authorizer, does not have the taxing authority on local dollars. Funding is allocated on a per-pupil allocation in align with the EFA formula.

\$3,600.00

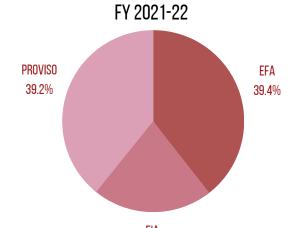
BRICK & MORTAR PER PUPIL FUNDING
\$1,900.00

VIRTUAL PER-PUPIL FUNDING
\$80,102,088.38

TOTAL PROVISO FUNDING

\$204,236,755.11 TOTAL FY21-22 FUNDING

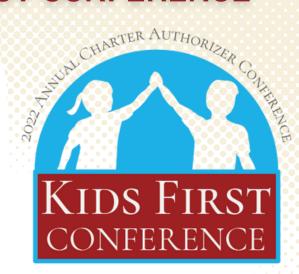
\$3,957,576.07
INSTITUTE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE (2%)



EIA 21.4%

SECOND ANNUAL KIDS FIRST CONFERENCE

Collectively, the Charter Institute at Erskine and the South Carolina Public Charter School District serve 50,000 students across South Carolina in traditional brick-and-mortar and virtual formats. In an effort to bolster support for these students, the authorizers formed a historic partnership, titled "Kids First." This effort is committed to collectively prioritizing positive outcomes for students and families throughout South Carolina. The second annual Kids First Conference was hosted by both authorizers in 2022 and provided a professional development conference for the boards and leadership of both districts' combined 65 schools. The Kids First Conference has proven to be an impactful event, and the authorizers are looking forward to expanding the conference to become the largest gathering of charter school leaders in the Southeast in the coming years.



September 27 and 28, 2022















\$100,000 RAISED
IN SPONSORSHIPS FROM
EXTERNAL
PARTNERS



PRESENTATION FROM KEYNOTE SPEAKER, DR. RICK RIGSBY



500 SCHOOL LEADERS, TEACHERS, STAFF, AND BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE



GUESTS OF HONOR INCLUDED WILLIE JEFFRIES, SUPT. MOLLY SPEARMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE SC LEGISLATURE



20 BREAKOUT SESSIONS FROM A LINEUP OF RENOWNED SPEAKERS

2023 KIDS FIRST CONFERENCE SEPT. 26 - 27, 2023

2021-2022 CHARTER SCHOOL AMBASSADORS



Ainsley Crowe

Cyber Academy of South Carolina



JT Sowell
Gray Collegiate Academy



Christian DeWalk
Odyssey Online Learning



Jaron Levi Gray Collegiate Academy



Trinidy Higgins
Gray Collegiate Academy

Charter School Ambassadors serve as student representatives for the Institute and advocate on behalf of charter schools in South Carolina.





As part of the Ambassadors program, students have the opportunity to improve skills like public speaking, professionalism, networking, and more.

AMBASSADOR ALUMNI



Brooke Tranum Gray Collegiate Academy College of Charleston



Elizabeth Sligh
Gray Collegiate Academy
University of South Carolina



Hunter Austin
Midlands STEM



Teeb Al-Rubaiawi Odyssey Online Learning Midlands Technical College

THANK YOU TO OUR STUDENTS FOR APPEARING IN THE 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT!

Elizabeth Sligh - Gray Collegiate Academy Alumna Ella Olliges - Clear Dot Charter School

Emory Jones - Gray Collegiate Academy Matthew Oliver - Clear Dot Charter School



