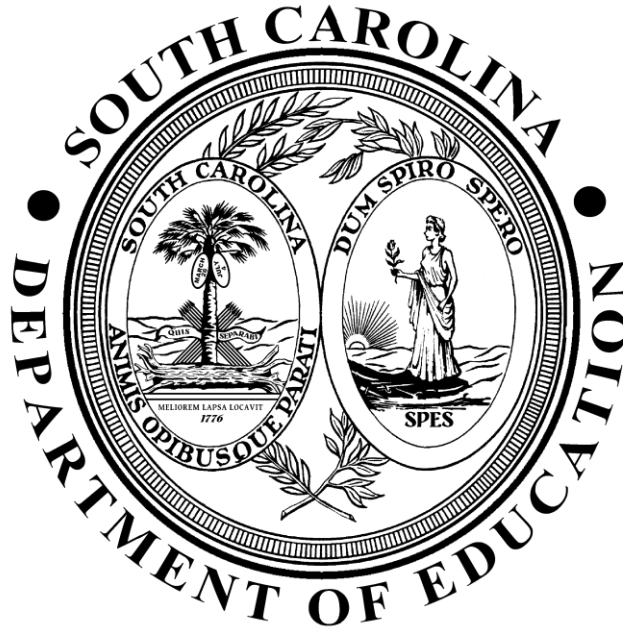


STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION



Grants Committee Report

Pursuant to Proviso 1A.67

July 30, 2022

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Proviso 1A. 67 (SDE-EIA: Grants Committee)

1A. 67: (SDE-EIA: Grants Committee) Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Education for Innovation Grants, the grants committee shall accept applications per the established process for new grantees not to exceed the amount appropriated by the General Assembly.

The process shall include the application procedure, selection process, and matching grant formula if applicable. The grants committee must be comprised of seven members, three members selected from the education community and four members selected from the business community. The suggested criteria for awarding the grants to schools or school districts or directly purchasing services must include, but are not limited to:

- (1) a demonstrated ability to meet the match throughout the granting period;
- (2) a demonstrated ability to implement the initiative or model as set forth in the application;
- (3) identification of key measurable benchmarks in the education continuum that must be improved to raise student achievement and ensure all students graduate college, career and civic ready;
- (4) a demonstrated ability to be both replicable and scalable with priority given to those projects that focus on applied learning opportunities and experiences, especially in the STEM or STEAM fields;
- (5) blended and personalized learning focused on content mastery and experiential learning; and
- (6) innovative strategies to close student achievement gaps, with a focus on below average and unsatisfactory schools.

The required match may be met by funds or by in-kind donations, such as technology, to be further defined by the grants committee. Public school districts and schools that have high poverty and low achievement will receive priority for grants when their applications are judged to meet the criteria established for the grant program. The committee shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the Chairman of House Ways and Means and the Chairman of Senate Finance by June 30.

Committee Members

Education	
Dr. Sheila Quinn	York School District Two
Dr. Traci Young Cooper	Richland School District One
Dr. Debbie Hamm	Sumter School District
Business	
Tom Ewart	First Reliance Bank
Thomas Rhodes	Rhodes Graduation Services
Cynthia Bennett	South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
Vacant	

Timeline

Application Open: July 1, 2021

Application Closed: July 30, 2021

Applications Reviewed and Recommendations made: August 5, 2021, through August 15, 2021

Recipients Notified: August 16, 2021

Awards

The following entities received funding from the Grants Committee for the 2021-2022 grant cycle:

- Walkabouts by ActiveEd;
- BetaBox;
- Communities in Schools;
- D.R.E.A.M (Florence 3);
- RIZE Prevention;
- Learning.com;
- Lower Florence County Workforce Ready Project;
- Plasma Games;
- Star Academy (Barnwell 45); and
- Van Robotics.