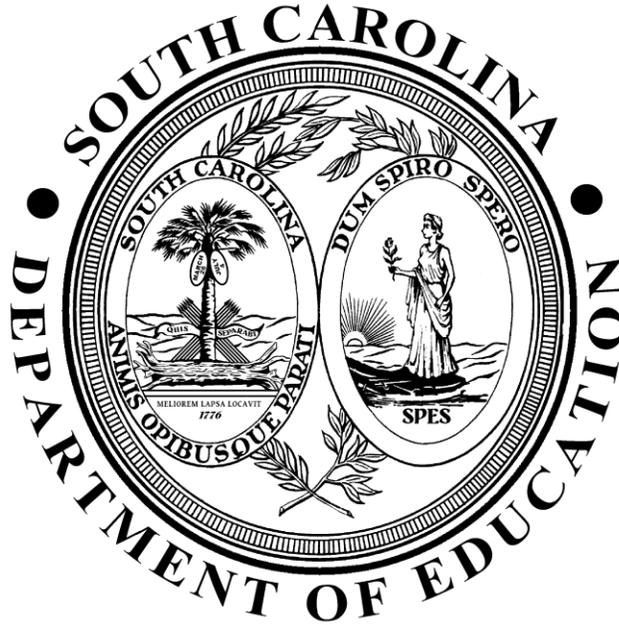


**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MOLLY M. SPEARMAN**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*



**School Safety – Facility and Infrastructure Safety Upgrades**

Report to the Governor, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and Chairman  
of the House Ways and Means Committee

Pursuant to Proviso 1.98(B)  
October 3, 2019

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## **Introduction**

The South Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$15 million of lottery funds to support school facility safety projects during FY 2018–19. Proviso 1.98(B) of the FY 2018–19 General Appropriation Act outlined requirements for awarding these funds to districts.

1.98 (B) Of the lottery funds appropriated to the Department of Education for School Safety - Facility and Infrastructure Safety Upgrades, the department shall allocate the funds to school districts for the purpose of funding life safety infrastructure for school facilities projects. Eligible school facility projects shall include, but not necessarily be limited to items such as: (a) door locks, (b) security cameras, (c) metal detectors, (d) lifesaving medical equipment and (e) equipment related to school resource officers, excluding vehicles. For purposes of this provision, school facilities shall not include unimproved real property, centralized district administration facilities, or other facilities, including those normally identified with interscholastic sports activities.

The department shall develop and maintain an application process for school districts to request funding for qualified school projects and establish policies, procedures, and priorities for the making of grants pursuant to this provision. In establishing these procedures, the department shall utilize the school facilities report among other sources. At least twice a year and upon receipt of applications pursuant to the application process adopted by the department, the department shall prioritize the eligible projects with the greatest need and shall submit a list of recommended grant awards to the State Board of Education. Grants shall be awarded upon an affirmative vote of the State Board.

The financial assistance provided to school districts pursuant to this provision must be used for the eligible school facility project. The department is responsible for establishing policies and procedures to ensure that funds are expended in a manner consistent with this provision.

Following the close of the fiscal year, the department shall submit an annual report of its activities for the preceding year to the Governor, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

The proviso specified that all school districts were eligible to apply for facility funds for projects, including but not limited to, door locks, security cameras, metal detectors, lifesaving medical equipment, and School Resource Officer (SRO) equipment, excluding vehicles. Projects such as unimproved real property, centralized district administration facilities, and facilities associated with interscholastic sports activities were not eligible for funding.

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) developed and maintained an application process for districts to request funds, established procedures and criteria for prioritizing projects with the greatest need, and submitted a list of projects to the State Board of Education (SBE) for approval. Funds were awarded upon affirmative vote of the SBE.

This is an interim report detailing prior fiscal year activities related to the application process and award of school facility safety funds. Many districts have spent some of these funds but given construction and renovation-related requirements and delays, unspent funds remained at the close of FY19. Subsequent reports will detail districts’ efforts to spend remaining funds during the current and future fiscal years.

**Application Submission Process**

The School Safety Infrastructure Fund application was sent to school district superintendents on September 7, 2018. Districts had the option to submit completed applications by one of three dates: September 21, October 26, or November 21. Districts decided which date to submit their applications but all applications had to be electronically submitted (via Google Drive) to the SCDE by November 21, 2018. Only one application per district was allowed and paper application submissions were discouraged.

The SCDE required districts to identify their top three projects, including but not limited to the project types indicated in the proviso. The SCDE solicited feedback from Chief Mark Keel of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to help inform which project types could have the most impact and result in the most effective use of these funds. As a result of this feedback, the SCDE informed districts, as part of the application process that priority consideration would be given to projects that made it more difficult for intruders to gain entry into facilities or areas where students gather. Examples of projects that harden school facilities include keyless entry systems, external doors, external door locks, interior doors, and interior door locks that are compliant with classroom security/intruder function. Additionally, in assessing projects, the SCDE gave priority consideration to projects that provide first responders and law enforcement emergency responder radio coverage in accordance with local emergency and responder requirements. Finally, consideration was given to safety projects that aligned with needs identified in districts’ 2017 facilities assessment reports.

*Summary of Project Requests*

All districts submitted applications by the November 21, 2018, deadline. A total of \$57.8 million of funding requests were submitted for the \$15 million of available lottery funds. The following table details the project types and amounts of funds requested.

<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Communication/Alert Systems	\$6,827,551
Doors and Locks	\$27,289,981
Medical Equipment	\$2,252,220
Metal Detectors	\$244,000
Other Projects	\$3,240,860
Security Cameras	\$17,585,479
SRO Equipment	\$411,741
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$57,851,832</b>

## **SCDE Procedures and Prioritization of Projects**

The SCDE's intent was to make funds available to districts as soon as possible. Lottery funds, however, were dispersed quarterly and on a pro rata basis. As of October 8, 2018, the SCDE had received only \$5 million of the \$15 million of lottery funds and did not anticipate receiving the remaining \$10 million until sometime before June 30, 2019, the close of the fiscal year.

Given the urgency of safety infrastructure needs evidenced by the districts requests and uncertainty as to when the remaining lottery funds would be deposited, the SCDE recommended, and the SBE approved, a base allocation of \$60,000 to every district that was made available once each district's application was received. In this way, districts could begin to address their number one safety priority need while the SCDE continued to receive applications and assess all districts' needs. In effect, \$4.98 million of the \$5 million already on deposit was set aside to be allocated equally to all districts and made available as soon as districts submitted their applications. The SBE determined that if a district failed to submit an application by the November 21, 2018, deadline, the base allocation on reserve for the district would revert back to the general pool of funds and made available for other prioritized projects of greatest need.

The SBE assessed numerous considerations when determining greatest need for the remaining \$10 million. The SCDE recommended, and the SBE approved, that of the remaining \$10 million, as near as practicable, no district would receive an award exceeding \$500,000. To allocate the funds for the greatest impact and to address the greatest need, the SBE prioritized projects based on the following considerations:

- Doors and locks as recommended by SLED;
- Communication/Alert Systems as recommended by SLED;
- Proviso-defined project categories, aligned with districts' identified number one priorities;
- Proviso-defined project categories, aligned with all three districts' identified priorities and the total amount of all three priorities;
- Type of schools impacted, with priority given to elementary schools; and
- Abbeville versus Non-Abbeville districts.

Using these priority considerations, the SBE ensured that all districts received funds to address, in part, their greatest needs. Twenty-six districts had all three of their priority requests funded while twenty-four districts had all of their priority number one requests funded and thirty-three districts had some portion of their priority one requests funded, with emphasis on elementary schools. The extent to which all priorities or portions of priorities were funded depended on the total amount requested per district.

*Summary of Projects Funded*

The below chart details the type projects and amounts funded by the number of districts.

<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Funds Awarded</b>	<b>Number Districts</b>
Communication/Alert Systems	\$1,417,055	8
Doors and Locks	\$7,677,478	41
Medical Equipment	\$520,400	4
Metal Detectors	\$244,000	2
Other Projects	\$439,699	5
Security Cameras	\$428,9627	20
SRO Equipment	\$411,741	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$15,000,000</b>	<b>83</b>

For additional information or questions concerning this report, contact:

Jasmeen Shaw  
Director, Office of Facilities  
[jmshaw@ed.sc.gov](mailto:jmshaw@ed.sc.gov)

Laura Showe  
Finance Director, Office of Finance  
[lshowe@ed.sc.gov](mailto:lshowe@ed.sc.gov)

## Appendix A – SBE Prioritized List of Projects

The below chart lists, in priority order, districts and award amounts. Total amounts include the initial \$60,000 allocation that all districts received. As lottery funds became available, each district received its remaining balance in the order indicated. No district received its remaining balance until districts with higher priority received their total award amount.

Priority Rank	District	District Award
1	Abbeville	\$108,800
2	Allendale	\$204,962
3	Anderson 3	\$469,780
4	Barnwell 19	\$139,908
5	Berkeley	\$60,000
6	Calhoun	\$67,580
7	Chester	\$360,000
8	Chesterfield	\$102,000
9	Clarendon 2	\$367,316
10	Dillon 3	\$326,000
11	Florence 1	\$168,500
12	Florence 2	\$251,250
13	Hampton 1	\$207,100
14	Hampton 2	\$300,800
15	Jasper	\$102,949
16	Laurens 55	\$228,000
17	Laurens 56	\$250,000
18	Lexington 2	\$121,130
19	Lexington 3	\$260,768
20	Lexington 4	\$245,000
21	Orangeburg 4	\$70,000
22	Saluda	\$302,497
23	Sumter	\$195,000
24	Williamsburg	\$235,000
25	Aiken	\$160,000
26	Anderson 2	\$60,000
27	Anderson 4	\$253,705
28	Anderson 5	\$84,750
29	Georgetown	\$60,000
30	Horry	\$290,904
31	Kershaw	\$250,000
32	Newberry	\$134,440
33	Oconee	\$60,000
34	Pickens	\$161,460
35	Richland 2	\$127,400
36	SC Public Charter School District	\$356,431
37	Spartanburg 2	\$77,270
38	Spartanburg 4	\$182,390

Priority Rank	District	District Award
39	Spartanburg 5	\$60,000
40	Spartanburg 6	\$128,000
41	York 4	\$86,388
42	Barnwell 45	\$76,155
43	Cherokee	\$466,100
44	Clarendon 1	\$147,800
45	Beaufort	\$220,000
46	Dorchester 4	\$60,000
47	Lexington 1	\$175,000
48	York 2	\$200,000
49	York 3	\$72,000
50	Bamberg 2	\$60,000
51	Clarendon 3	\$92,303
52	Darlington	\$460,000
53	Dillon 4	\$350,031
54	Fairfield	\$103,500
55	Greenwood 51	\$96,814
56	Lee	\$233,760
57	Marlboro	\$250,000
58	McCormick	\$104,500
59	Orangeburg 5	\$312,470
60	Richland 1	\$238,866
61	Union	\$95,000
62	Edgefield	\$204,524
63	Erskine Charter Institute	\$240,500
64	Greenville	\$516,106
65	Greenwood 52	\$145,000
66	Spartanburg 1	\$231,753
67	Spartanburg 3	\$145,000
68	Spartanburg 7	\$217,500
69	York 1	\$192,000
70	Marion	\$142,000
71	Charleston	\$102,000
72	Dorchester 2	\$100,000
73	Greenwood 50	\$60,000
74	Lancaster	\$79,000
75	Lexington Richland 5	\$281,400
76	Barnwell 29	\$143,000
77	Florence 4	\$152,997
78	Florence 5	\$115,744
79	Bamberg 1	\$60,000
80	Colleton	\$60,000
81	Florence 3	\$66,850
82	Orangeburg 3	\$146,649
83	Anderson 1	\$106,200

**Appendix B – Fiscal Year 2018–19 Funds Spent by Category**

The chart below reports the expenditures by district and category for FY19

**South Carolina Department of Education  
School Safety Infrastructure Funds  
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019  
FY 19 Funds Spent by Category**

<u>District</u>	Doors & Locks	Security cameras	Metal Detectors	Lifesaving Medical Equipment	School Resource Equipment (No vehicles)	Communication Systems	Other qualifying expenditures	<b>Total FY19</b>
Abbeville	59,662.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,662.13
Allendale	51,435.00	25,466.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,584.00	78,485.35
Anderson 1	5,673.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,673.14
Anderson 2	1,401.26	33,350.43	0.00	0.00	6,768.98	0.00	0.00	41,520.67
Anderson 4	128,664.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	128,664.40
Anderson 5	29,990.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,990.00
Bamberg 1	4,749.01	11,369.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38,706.95	54,825.00
Bamberg 2	0.00	25,846.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,846.10
Barnwell 19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,566.38	0.00	0.00	3,566.38
Barnwell 29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00
Barnwell 45	0.00	40,120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,880.00	0.00	60,000.00
Beaufort	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	217,596.72	0.00	217,596.72
Berkeley	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,498.34	0.00	37,498.34
Calhoun	61,812.46	5,750.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	67,562.82
Charleston	59,363.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,363.00
Cherokee	4,008.96	23,232.75	90,470.93	0.00	0.00	48,169.47	0.00	165,882.11
Chesterfield	9,629.06	55,947.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65,576.44

<u>District</u>	Doors & Locks	Security cameras	Metal Detectors	Lifesaving Medical Equipment	School Resource Equipment (No vehicles)	Communication Systems	Other qualifying expenditures	<b>Total FY19</b>
Clarendon 1	9,704.40	0.00	12,130.00	0.00	0.00	47,930.26	35,645.00	105,409.66
Clarendon 3	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
Colleton	0.00	1,005.36	0.00	0.00	31,358.00	10,623.10	0.00	42,986.46
Darlington	0.00	460,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	460,000.00
Dorchester 2	71,299.00	28,701.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
Dorchester 4	0.00	23,798.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,798.10
Edgefield	0.00	204,524.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	204,524.00
Erskine Charter	74,228.61	103,434.74	2,147.00	40,586.08	0.00	15,236.61	0.00	235,633.04
Fairfield	0.00	89,709.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	89,709.23
Florence 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,691.00	9,691.00
Florence 2	1,726.92	4,153.78		0.00	13,371.31	0.00	0.00	19,252.01
Florence 3	0.00	13,581.91	0.00	0.00	53,268.09	0.00	0.00	66,850.00
Florence 4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,220.12	0.00	0.00	13,220.12
Florence 5	18,294.19	27,683.33	0.00	0.00	14,546.33	0.00	0.00	60,523.85
Georgetown	24,046.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,036.15	26,917.16	0.00	60,000.00
Greenville	0.00	516,106.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	516,106.00
Greenwood 50	30,268.16	0.00	0.00	28,890.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,158.16
Greenwood 51	96,814.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	96,814.00
Hampton 1	4,697.61	1,195.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,569.37	897.82	21,359.98
Hampton 2	0.00	30,461.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,461.48
Jasper	96,249.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	96,249.75
Kershaw	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,295.83	1,956.61	4,252.44
Lancaster	0.00	0.00	7,958.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,958.34
Laurens 55	0.00	3,114.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	992.05	0.00	4,106.45
Laurens 56	33,564.66	1,605.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	875.68	0.00	36,045.34

<u>District</u>	Doors & Locks	Security cameras	Metal Detectors	Lifesaving Medical Equipment	School Resource Equipment (No vehicles)	Communication Systems	Other qualifying expenditures	<b>Total FY19</b>
Lee	0.00	233,760.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	233,760.00
Lexington 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	60,000.00
Lexington 2	32,799.95	0.00	0.00	1,721.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,521.67
Lexington 3	49,373.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,373.99
Lexington 4	71,463.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,856.95	82,320.47
Marlboro	0.00	99,932.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	99,932.13
McCormick	65,357.00	28,896.12	8,722.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,524.00	104,500.00
Newberry	72,987.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72,987.09
Oconee	59,556.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,556.00
Orangeburg 3	0.00	32,710.14	0.00	27,168.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,878.88
Orangeburg 4	45,819.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,726.81	0.00	60,546.75
Orangeburg 5	0.00	235,872.78	76,597.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	312,470.00
Pickens	90,865.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90,865.50
Richland 1	0.00	50,879.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,879.89
Richland 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,375.00	18,375.00
SCPCSD	356,431.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	356,431.00
Spartanburg 1	0.00	30,398.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,539.41	0.00	57,938.32
Spartanburg 2	20,270.00	38,620.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58,890.95
Spartanburg 3	0.00	145,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	145,000.00
Spartanburg 4	91,288.03	12,288.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,818.00	0.00	125,395.00
Spartanburg 5	54,385.99	5,614.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
Spartanburg 6	23,133.39	39,818.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	62,951.82
Union	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
Williamsburg	1,344.00	4,778.00	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	16,707.00	0.00	57,829.00
York 1	0.00	115,487.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	115,487.09

<u>District</u>	Doors & Locks	Security cameras	Metal Detectors	Lifesaving Medical Equipment	School Resource Equipment (No vehicles)	Communication Systems	Other qualifying expenditures	<b>Total FY19</b>
York 2	0.00	137,479.00	16,170.00	46,351.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00
York 3	13,274.88	55,997.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	69,272.32
York 4	42,820.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,597.60	62,417.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,968,452.85</b>	<b>3,117,689.78</b>	<b>249,196.37</b>	<b>144,717.54</b>	<b>153,135.36</b>	<b>583,375.81</b>	<b>138,834.93</b>	<b>\$6,355,402.64</b>