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Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
Telephone: (803) 212-6810 • Fax: (803) 212-6811
Room 228 Blatt Building

*Charles L. Appleby, IV
Legal Counsel*

*Kendra H. Wilkerson
Fiscal/Research Analyst*

October 24, 2019

The Honorable Molly Spearman
Superintendent of Education
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Via Email

RE: Follow-up questions from the Subcommittee meeting with the agency on October 9, 2019

Dear Superintendent Spearman:

The Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee appreciates the Department of Education's continued partnership in the oversight process. As a follow-up to the meeting on October 9, 2019, please respond to the following questions by Friday, November 8, 2019.

Department of Education

1. Please compare and contrast the agency's current vision statement with its prior one.
2. What rankings, if any, do you consider instructive as the leader of the Department of Education?
3. Please explain why you consider these rankings useful.
4. Please compare the salary for South Carolina's Superintendent of Education with your counterparts in North Carolina and Georgia.
5. Please provide copies of African American calendars published in prior years by the Department of Education.

School Districts

6. What types of federal funding, if any, could school districts that opt to consolidate potentially lose?
7. Please list how much each school district supplements the salary of school bus drivers.
8. Please list which school districts are unable to fill a school resource officer position due to a shortage of law enforcement officers.
9. Please describe the ways in which the Department of Education is seeking to improve communication with local school district superintendents, principals, and teachers.

Parents

10. Please provide a copy of the letter sent to parents during the 2018-2019 school year about students taking the SAT.
11. What are some of the common requests for assistance from parents made to the agency's ombudsmen?
12. What changes, if any, have been implemented by the agency based upon parent requests for assistance made to the agency's ombudsmen?

State Board of Education

13. What training, if any, do State Board of Education members receive?
14. How long has the State Board of Education used a consent agenda format?
15. Are you aware of any complaints by State Board of Education members about the use of a consent agenda format?

In responding to these questions, please remember the Committee's expectations, which are provided in Committee [Standard Practice 9](#). The Subcommittee looks forward to working collaboratively with the Department of Education. Thank you and your team for your service to the people of South Carolina.

Sincerely,



Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.

cc: Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee