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Subject: WTAS: K-12 Education Reform Initiative Will Provide "Long-Term Positive Results" And Is "Spot On!"

## K-12 Education Reform Initiative

Governor Nikki R. Haley

### What They Are Saying ...

#### *K-12 Education Reform Initiative Will Provide "Long-Term Positive Results" And Is "Spot On!"*

**CEO Of Foundation For Excellence In Education Patricia Levesque:** "The Foundation for Excellence in Education is excited about Governor Haley's proposal to improve the quality of education for South Carolina's students. The K-12 Education Reform Initiative's emphasis on literacy and technology has potential for long-term positive results for schools and children.

" (Statement, 1/8/14)

- "We applaud the governor's action to build a foundation of infrastructure and resources for growth in these crucial areas for education."

**South Carolina Public School Teacher Dr. Joni Jordan:** "Teachers need professional development on how to incorporate technology in instruction and how to incorporate reading across subject areas. Governor Haley's leadership and multi-year commitment in these areas of education is spot on!" (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Former S.C. House Majority Leader And Chairman Of The S.C. House Ethics Committee Kenny Bingham:** "Based on input we have heard from teachers, increasing resources focused on reading and technology are critically necessary to teach children and help them be successful in today's world." (Statement, 1/8/14)

- "The governor's commitment to a multi-year investment in early literacy programs, K-12 technology, and related teacher training is not only unprecedented, but will have one of the greatest impacts on educating South Carolina's students and future workforce."

**Education Oversight Commission:** "The EOC funding model is based on the following premise: the basic foundation program for funding public schools should reflect the individual educational needs of students and provide additional resources as needed based on the individual needs of students. The EOC is thrilled and gratified that its work on the model is endorsed by Governor Haley. We believe that state resources should be allocated based on the needs of individual students with districts and schools held accountable for the academic achievement of those students." (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Director Of The South Carolina Association Of School Administrators Molly Spearman:** "I am very encouraged. She (Gov. Haley) listened. It's exciting to finally have a focus on public education after a long hiatus." (Seanna Adcox, [Haley's Reform Plan Would Spend More On Poor Kids, Associated](#)

- “We always want to look at the details and where the money is going to come from. But, as far as the focus, she is right on target as to what could improve education and bring us all together in South Carolina. Educators just want good ideas and support. They’re not really concerned whether it comes from a Republican, a Democrat or an independent.” (Jamie Self, [SC Gov. Haley Proposes \\$160 Million In New School Spending](#), *The State*, 1/8/14)

**South Carolina Public School Teacher Jan Hammond:** “Proficient reading skills are critical to a student’s long term success, and Governor Haley’s vision to significantly increase funding for reading coaches and summer reading camps will have a tremendous positive impact on South Carolina’s students.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**South Carolina Public School Teacher Derek A. Wells:** “Like any other profession, teachers need tools in order to refine and better their craft. Resources for reading and technology enable teachers to utilize the best tools for creatively engaging students in the classroom. They also allow us create a holistic learning environment that builds bridges for student achievement in the future. I commend Governor Haley for her leadership in expanding resources for reading and technology.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Superintendent Of Saluda County Schools David Mathis:** “Reading coaches are the lifeline to a successful reading program and are the school-level experts on reading and literacy. Coaches provide classroom teachers with unwavering support for helping struggling readers and enriching advanced readers. Together, the reading coach and teacher trump the barriers to literacy which include poverty, language acquisition, and learning disabilities.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Superintendent Of The South Carolina Public Charter School District Dr. Wayne Brazell:** “I am pleased that Governor Haley took great interest in meeting with educators and community leaders from across the state to hear about the successes and challenges that educators face today.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

- “Her support for expanding educational options for students and her encouragement of parents and community members to become more involved in growing the number of educational choices is deeply appreciated and supported in the charter school community.”

**Former South Carolina State Superintendent Of Education Dr. Barbara S. Nielsen:** “Governor Haley’s educational platform provides the people of South Carolina with a unique opportunity to focus on thoughtful and creative ways to finance public education. I am really pleased to see her emphasis on success for ALL students by strongly supporting excellence in classroom teaching and learning.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

- “It is vital that the resources of dollars and personnel are targeted to the most important aspect of the system – the classroom - in ways that show a clear understanding that children learn in different ways. Governor Haley’s educational platform contains a much needed step in a journey of progress that will create a culture of high performance within the educational system in order to deliver on the promise that every student in South Carolina will be successful.”
- “I appreciate the Governor’s continued support for education as it reinforces the seriousness of our educational quest for educators, school board members, policy makers, business leaders and the public all working together to benefit our State.”

**Chairman Of The S.C. House Education And Public Works Committee Representative Phil Owens:** “Charter schools are a valuable part of our State’s public education system, and a hugely important tool to help students fulfil their potential, but, unfortunately, their growth has continued to be hindered by the lack of funds and facilities. The Governor’s commitment to fund the charter school loan program is hugely important step to helping our charter schools – and in turn, our children - prosper.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Executive Director Of The Public Charter School Alliance Of South Carolina Mary Carmichael:** “We applaud Governor Haley for including public Charter schools as part of her education initiative and believe her leadership in placing charter school students on a more level financial playing field will have a tremendous impact on expanding high-quality choices in education for SC families.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**South Carolina Public School Teacher Rachel Toole:** “Well designed technology can play a critical role in meaningful, independent practice that optimizes the development of a confident, skillful, and motivated reader. However, without current professional development in technology and reading, the goal of creating these competent and progressive future leaders seems beyond reach.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Associate Superintendent For Instruction Of The Aiken County School District King Laurence:** “The governor has started to talk about more about an interest in reform, providing what school districts need. Four years ago, she was all about the privatization of education. Now she sees that public education is a state responsibility, and I'm happy she's doing that.” (Rob Novit, [Gov. Haley's Education Plans Could Be 'A Pleasant surprise](#), *Aiken Standard*, 1/10/14)

**Clearwater Elementary School Principal Trey Laube:** “The addition of a new coach would be very valuable. If we could add that position into the mix, I would think we could shift our reading instructor to more of a math coach.” (Rob Novit, [Gov. Haley's Education Plans Could Be 'A Pleasant Surprise](#), *Aiken Standard*, 1/10/14)

**Aiken County School District's Title 1 Coordinator Jeannie Glover:** “We wouldn't be able to serve all the students who would need a summer reading camp without more resources. This could have some real possibilities. I just hope it won't be another unfunded mandate.” (Rob Novit, [Gov. Haley's Education Plans Could Be 'A Pleasant Surprise](#), *Aiken Standard*, 1/10/14)

**CEO Of Total Comfort Solutions Jim Reynolds:** “It has been proven that children who are not reading on grade level by the end of their third grade year are four times less likely to graduate from high school on time than students who are reading on grade level in the third grade. Governor Haley's Reading Coach program to provide a coach in every public elementary school in South Carolina addresses this critical element of a successful education.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Senior Executive Vice President & COO Of NBSC Sarah Fisher:** “Developing a well-educated and highly-skilled workforce is integral to increased job opportunities and security with dynamic South Carolina companies. Preparing for a successful career starts early in a child's life, and the business community supports initiatives that will transform our current education system. Governor Haley's plan addresses the most critical elements of success like reading proficiency and technology in the classroom.” (Statement, 1/8/14)

**Plant Manager Of PPG Industries Ali Reid:** “South Carolina's manufacturing sector continues to expand, creating more and more great jobs for our citizens. With the expansion of our port, the state is preparing for continued economic growth. With that comes the need to develop a pipeline of well-prepared employees. Governor Haley's education plan is another step forward in recognizing the integral link between economic development and workforce development.” (Statement, 1/8/14)