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**To:** Teppara, Dino DTeppara@ed.sc.gov  
**Date:** 7/21/2014 4:44:07 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Math Writing Team Convenes for New Standards

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Good afternoon – as a follow-up from my email earlier today, here are the 19 educators named to the math writing team:

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**From:** Burns, Anna  
**Sent:** Monday, July 21, 2014 4:30 PM  
**To:** Burns, Anna  
**Cc:** Teppara, Dino  
**Subject:** Math Writing Team Convenes for New Standards



**MICK ZAIS**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Press Release  
July 21, 2014  
Contact: Anna Burns, [ABurns@ed.sc.gov](mailto:ABurns@ed.sc.gov)  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Math Writing Team Convenes for New Standards

***COLUMBIA, SC – Dr. Mick Zais, State Superintendent of Education, issued the following statement announcing the math team writing new standards held their first meeting today.***

“This team represents the best and brightest in the field of math around our state,” said Zais. “The charge of the General Assembly was tough, but clear: develop new, high-level, college- and career-ready standards that meet the needs of South Carolina students. Given the level of talent and experience these educators have, I am confident they are up to the task,” concluded Zais.

A record 365 English and math nominations were received and 19 educators were selected for the math team. The South Carolina Department of Education developed a rubric to apply fairly across the board to select the team members. The Department chose applicants based on their level of expertise and ensured the team represented the diversity found across our state and in our schools. The rubric, comments from educators on why they wanted to serve, and bar charts showing the breakdown of applicants are posted on the Department’s [website](#).

Here are the math writing team members and their affiliations:

Name	District	Position	Grade Band
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Mary Ruzga			
SCDE Elementary Coordinator, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations			
Christie Reid	York 2	District Level Administrator	K-5
Dale Smith	Newberry	Instructional Coach	K-5
Karen Owens	York 3	Instructional Coach	K-5
Melanie Hollis	Lancaster	Teacher	K-5
Mary Elizabeth Lloyd	College of Charleston	Higher Education	K-5
Janel Johnson			
SCDE Middle School Coordinator, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations			
Susan Wood	Greenville	Teacher	6-8
Cindy Doolittle	Spartanburg 6	District Level Administrator	6-8
Kathryn Pedings-Behling	Darlington	District Level Administrator	6-8
Gabrielle Wriborg	SC School Deaf Blind	Teacher	6-8
Lindsay Boozer			
SCDE High School Coordinator, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations			
Rita Bixler	Retired	Teacher	High School
Janice Ward	Pickens	District Level Administrator	High School
Jennifer Thorsten	Berkeley	District Level Administrator	High School
Matthew Owens	Richland 2	District Level Administrator	High School
Christopher Duncan	Lander	Higher Education	High School
James Solazzo	Coastal Carolina Univ.	Higher Education	High School
J. Roberto Gonzalez			
Beaufort			
English Language Learners			
K-12			
Department Staff Assisting			
Kim Watkins	SCDE	Office of Special Education Services	
Amy McCatskill	SCDE	Office of Career and Technology Education	
Harriet Pritchard	SCDE	Office of Assessment	

Department staff involved with the math writers assist the educators, but are not considered part of the actual writing team. The agenda for today's meeting is online and can be accessed [here](#). All media queries for the math writers must go through the Department's Legislative and Public Affairs Office.

Follow the agency on [Twitter](#) and like our [Facebook page](#) to get the latest news and information. We have a weekly [blog](#), [Instagram](#) account, [Pinterest](#) page, [Google+ page](#), and we're on [LinkedIn](#).

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