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## SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

As we move into the beginning of a new year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our students, parents, and educators for the hard work they have put in thus far to make this school year a success.

Never before have we had the level of collaboration among all stakeholders working in unison to ensure our graduates are prepared to be lifelong learners and successful citizens.

I am thankful for the work that you do everyday and am honored to serve as your voice and advocate in Columbia.

Molly M. Spearman, State Superintendent of Education

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*Better Schools - Brighter Future*

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### *2016 State Report Cards Released*

The SC Department of Education released the 2016 State Report Cards for all SC schools and districts. Our statewide graduation rate climbed over 2 points to an unprecedented 82.6%!

Check out your school's report card [here](#)!

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## *SCDE Hosts ESSA Webinar*

State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman and agency staff hosted a statewide webinar on the SC Department of Education's development of South Carolina's Consolidated State Plan, in connection with the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Action (ESSA). - Check out the plan and webinar [here!](#)

## *SC Outperforms Nation on NAEP*

South Carolina was among 14 states to show significant increases on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science test.

[Check out the full results here!](#)

## *Pendleton High School Agricultural Education Program Featured in SCDE Video*

Pendleton High School's award winning agricultural education program and students are featured in a series of videos highlighting the importance of agriculture in South Carolina.

[Click here to watch!](#)

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