

## **INTERNAL STAFF UPDATE\***

Monday, September 28, 2015

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### **Agency Head Salaries:**

The Agency Head Salary Commission approved a salary of \$192,937 for Marcia Adams as the Director of the Department of Administration.

The Agency Head Salary Commission approved a salary of \$141,396 for George Kennedy as the State Auditor.

### **DOA – Cyber Security Project:**

Director Marcia Adams received a briefing from SC State project manager, Elbert Malone, today on a cyber-security project:

In January 2015, \$25 million was released in funding for cybersecurity education at HBCUs by the Department of Energy, Minority Serving Institutions Partnerships Program housed in its National Nuclear Security Administration in January 2015. Funding supports a cybersecurity consortium consisting of 13 HBCUs, two national labs (Department of Energy), and one K-12 school district – Led by Norfolk State University.

- Participating SC schools include Allen, Benedict, Claflin, Denmark Tech, Morris College, SCSU, Voorhees College, and the Charleston County School District.
- Other schools and labs include Clark Atlanta U (GA), Paine College (GA), Bowie State (MD), North Carolina A&T, University of the Virgin Islands, Lawrence Livermore National Lab (CA), and Sandia National Lab (NM).

The consortium is a system – students can enter through any of the partner schools which are creating career paths and degree options. The consortium is built to change to evolving employer needs and to diversify the pipeline of cybersecurity professionals.

SCSU has received approximately \$2 million to train cybersecurity professionals to stop hacker attacks (focused on prevention, monitoring, detection, forensics – the response to an attack) by:

- Developing a state of the art cybersecurity teaching lab to provide learning opportunities for SCSU faculty and students, young elementary and middle school students who attend Felton Lab, and students from the Charleston County school district to keep a pipeline of trained cybersecurity professionals within the State

SCSU is working on building a training program (maybe through a contract) to build the lab.

### **Emergency Management – Johns Island Tornado:**

Recall that a tornado swept through Johns Island (Charleston County) last Thursday-Friday. No injuries or fatalities were reported.

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*\*This document is a transitory and temporary record created for short-term internal purposes that includes informal materials that do not record decisions.*

With regard to debris clean-up – DOT has had crews working through the weekend to clear debris to certain subdivisions. All debris should be pushed to the shoulders by COB today, loose debris and hangers should be cleared in two days, and all cleanup efforts needed to re-establish shoulders and ditches should be completed in 4-6 weeks.

With regard to residential damage – The preliminary assessments conducted by local officials showed that the damage was nowhere near any thresholds for federal assistance. *Note that at least 100 homes have to be destroyed for federal assistance, and at least 25 homes that are 40% un- or under-insured must be damaged for SBA assistance.*

### **Legislative Notes – House Education Task Force:**

#### **The House Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force:**

- Established by the Speaker in January 2015;
- Chaired by Rep. Allison;
- Composed of 17 committee members;
- Met four times with subcommittees having met 2+ times;
- Divided into five subcommittees:
  1. Transportation and Facilities Infrastructure;
  2. Accountability (Academic and Financial), Continuous Improvement, and Leadership (District, School, and Community);
  3. Educator Recruitment, Retention, Effectiveness and Professional Development;
  4. College and Career Pathways of High Quality Learning Opportunities in Elementary, Middle, and High Schools;
  5. High Quality Early Childhood Education and Family Engagement.

The Task Force expects to have a report to the Speaker with a comprehensive list of recommendations by the end of October or early November.

Attached is a DRAFT of proposed recommendations that have been presented to the Task Force.

**Facebook post by Speaker Lucas** – September 25, 2015 regarding the Supreme Court order:

“The House Education Policy Review and Reform task force has been working diligently since January on a proposal to reform South Carolina's education system. Yesterday's surprise and dilatory court order comes nine months after the House began an open dialogue with education experts, including representatives from the plaintiff's districts in the Abbeville case. We sought - and were denied - additional guidance from the Court by requesting a rehearing to assist with a path forward. Instead of aiding the legislative branch with this tremendous task, the Court is practicing judicial overreach and seeking to insert itself into the law-making process by prospectively approving our state's education policy.”

**The House Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force Accountability, Continuous Improvement, and Leadership Subcommittee** met today to hear testimony from Josh Bell with

Teach for America and Sheila Quinn with the State Department of Education about proposed recommendations for the Abbeville Plaintiff Districts. Points discussed with the subcommittee:

- The average student in South Carolina has \$29,000 in student debt, 10<sup>th</sup> highest in the country.
- The Rise SC Campaign is a homegrown recruitment initiative that is aimed at keeping educators in our state after graduation. In an effort to promote this initiative, Teach for America has partnered with the Original Six Foundation to hold a South Carolina Leaders for Education Summit on October 24 focused on professional development and teacher recruitment for rural counties.
- Rep. Bingham requested that the State Department of Education compile a list of all relevant activities and what has been done by the department and EOC to address the concerns of the Supreme Court and Plaintiff Districts since 2012.

### **Domestic Violence Task Force – Recommendation 42:**

Today, the Victim Services Restructuring Working Group chaired by Laura Hudson met for almost three hours to discuss Recommendation 42 (developing a consensus for restructuring victim services funding streams and services). Representatives from all stakeholder groups were in attendance. Our office will meet with Directors Leroy Smith and Marcia Adams to get feedback on the working proposal, which affects SOVA and CVO (formerly OEPP agencies now at DOA) and also federal victims grants administered through DPS. The first step would be to make a consolidation via the Executive Budget with the second step most likely requiring legislation in the 2017-18 session. The working group will reconvene in a few weeks before finalizing its proposal to present to the Governor later this fall.

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