



The School District
of Greenville County
Board of Trustees

October 25, 2011

The Honorable Dr. Mick Zais
South Carolina Superintendent of Education
1429 Senate Street
1006 Rutledge Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Dr. Zais:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees for Greenville County Schools, please accept our sincere appreciation for your efforts to secure a waiver for our State regarding portions of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. While we strongly support accountability and believe that every child should be challenged to reach his or her full potential, it is clear that portions of NCLB are unreasonable and unfairly penalize schools. Your leadership on this issue is very important to our state and we stand ready to assist you in whatever way possible.

We understand that to attain these waivers the United States Department of Education requires states to meet certain criteria for eligibility. One of these criteria mandates that student achievement growth information be used as a factor in all teacher evaluations.

Please know that in Greenville County Schools, our teachers and principals are already evaluated using student achievement growth as a factor. In fact, our hardworking professional teachers and principals helped design our evaluation system in 2003 and determined that it was important to include student achievement growth as an evaluation measure.

Again, thank you for your work on this most important issue. We look forward to a quick and successful conclusion.

Sincerely,

Roger D. Meek
Chairman

CC: Greenville County Legislative Delegation
The Honorable James W. DeMint
The Honorable Lindsay O. Graham
The Honorable Harold W. Gowdy, III
The Honorable Jeff D. Duncan