



2009-2010

Awards and Honors

School/District Awards

Palmetto's Finest Award	Killian Elementary School
Palmetto Gold Awards	Bethel-Hanberry Elementary School
	Bookman Road Elementary School
	Center for Knowledge
	Lake Carolina Elementary School (2 gold awards)
	Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School
	Round Top Elementary School
Palmetto Silver Awards	Bethel-Hanberry Elementary School
	Bookman Road Elementary School (2 silver awards)
	Bridge Creek Elementary School
	Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School
	North Springs Elementary School
	Polo Road Elementary School (2 silver awards)
	Round Top Elementary School
	Sandlapper Elementary School (2 silver awards)
Blythewood Middle School	
National School of Character	Lake Carolina Elementary School
Exemplary Writing Program Award	Round Top Elementary School
Red Carpet Schools	Conder Elementary School
	Round Top Elementary School
	Sandlapper Elementary School

National Awards

National teacher/employee awards

National Council for Social Studies' 2009 Outstanding Secondary Teacher of Year: **Scott Auspelmyer (Blythewood High School)**

Magnet Schools of America's Region XI Principal of the Year: **Dr. Shirley Watson (Conder Elementary School)**

National Career Development Association's 2010 S.C. State Career Specialist of the Year: **Joyce Simmons (Dent Middle School)**

National Society of High School Scholars' Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction: **Daniel Cammisa (Richland Northeast High School)**

National Society of the Daughters of Colonial Wars' 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year: **Perry McLeod (Richland Northeast High School)**

National Science Teachers Association's 2009 New Science Teacher Academy Fellow: **Linda Hellstein (Ridge View High School)**

National Association of Student Councils' 2010 High School Student Council Advisor of the Year: **Lisa Ellis (Ridge View High School)**

Magnet Schools of America Regional Magnet Programs' Teacher of the Year: **Michelle Spigner (Spring Valley High School)**

2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching: **Michelle Spigner (Spring Valley High School)**

American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese's 2010 Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Secondary Level: **Alicia Lewis (Blythewood High School)**

National school awards

Magnet Schools of America Magnet School of Distinction: **Forest Lake Elementary School**

1st place in American Scholastic Press Association's Scholastic Review and Contest: **Forest Lake Elementary School Eagle Expressions Literary Magazine**

National student awards

1st place at 2010 National Air Force Eastern Drill Championship: **Spring Valley High School Viking Air Force JROTC**

1st place on National Spanish Exam: **Richard Weeks (Blythewood High School)**

1st place in the National School Improvement Alliance's state and Southeast Regional MathFest competition: **Vinita Cheepurupalli** - 3rd grade level & **Jenning Chen** -5th grade level (**Lake Carolina Elementary**)

Philadelphia Inquirer National Sudoku Champ: **Davis Borucki** (**Richland Northeast High School**)

DECA National Marketing Education Honor Award: **Jasmine Austin & Shantavius Hall** (*2009 graduates of Ridge View High School*)

Winner of Live Poet's Society of N.J.'s 12th annual Fall-Winter 2009 National High School Poetry Contest: **Kaneisha Payton** (**Spring Valley High School**)

Selected for 2010 National Honor Band of Bands of America: **Jonathan Sanchez, JJ Milakovich & Akari Ogawa** (**Spring Valley High School**)

Winner of National High School Model United Nations Award of Distinction: **Richland Northeast High School**

1st place at Armed Individual Drill in National High School Drill Team Championship: Navy JROTC Cadet **Roderick Weston** (**Richland Northeast High School**)

National Merit Scholar winner: **Anurag Deeconda** (**Spring Valley High School**)

National Achievement Scholar winners: **Deandre A. Harris** (**Blythewood High School**) & **Christopher E. Davis** (**Ridge View High School**)

Perfect 2400 on Scholastic Aptitude Test: **Soorya Avali, Anurag Deeconda & Afia Kahn** (**Spring Valley High School**)

Perfect 800 in Critical Reading on Scholastic Aptitude Test: **Drew Patterson** (**Blythewood High School**), **Ellen Dowdell** (**Ridge View High School**) & **Sally Rausch & Harmony White** (**Spring Valley High School**)

Perfect 800 in Math on Scholastic Aptitude Test: **Richard Chen** (**Dent Middle School**) & **Abhinav Gainey, Wilton Hobbs, Rohan Sunthakar, Nancy Zhong** (**Spring Valley High School**)

State-Level Awards

State teacher/employee awards

S.C. Council for Exceptional Children's Rookie Special Education Teacher of the Year Award: **Lauren Smalls** (**Bridge Creek Elementary**)

Gilder Lehrman Institute of America's 2009 S.C. Elementary History Teacher of the Year: **Joann Wood** (**Bethel-Hanberry Elementary School**)

Winner of the Alpha Delta Kappa Excellence in Leadership Award for South Carolina: **Dr. James Ann Lynch** (**Lake Carolina Elementary School**)

S.C. State Council of the International Reading Association's Administrator of the Year: **Michael Guliano** (**Bookman Road Elementary School**)

- S.C. Association of School Administrators' S.C. Middle School Principal of the Year: **Dr. Randall Gary (Dent Middle School)**
- S.C. Association for Marriage & Family Therapy's Distinguished Professional Award: **Dr. Karen Cooper-Haber (District Office)**
- S.C. Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Association's Advocacy Award: **Dr. Steve Hefner (District Office)**
- S.C. Athletic Coaches Association's Middle School Coach of the Year: **Jamie Brindel (E.L. Wright Middle School)**
- S.C. Association of School Administrators' Elementary School Principal of the Year: **Dr. Kappy Cannon (Forest Lake Elementary School)**
- S.C. Council for Social Studies' Palmetto Award for Excellence: **Brenda Hafner (Blythewood Middle School), Vann Holden (Kelly Mill Middle School) & Dawn Smith (Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School)**
- S.C. Council for Social Studies' Lifetime Achievement Award (post humously): **Tom Buckland (Richland Northeast High School)**
- S.C. Association of Cosmetology Teachers in Vocational Education's Cosmetology Teacher of the Year: **Nancy Riley (Richland Northeast High School)**
- S.C. Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development's Program Recognition Award: **Brenda Hafner (Blythewood Middle School)**
- S.C. Association of Student Councils' 2009 – 2010 Administrator of the Year: **Ralph Schmidt (Richland Northeast High School)**
- S.C. Bar Association's Law Related Education Citizen of the Year Award: **Sara Wheeler (Richland Northeast High School)**
- S.C. School Counselor Association 2009 School Guidance Counselor of the Year: **Will Moody (Round Top Elementary School)**
- S.C. Art Education Association's 2009 S.C. Art Educator of the Year: **Josh Drews (Spring Valley High School)**
- S.C. Health Educators' Association's 2010 S.C. Health Science Educator Outstanding New Career & Technical Teacher of the Year: **Lorie McDuffie (Spring Valley High School)**
- S.C. Pupil Transportation Association's Support Person of the Year: **Andrena Bolar (Transportation Department)**
- State student awards*
- SC Council for Exceptional Children's Yes I Can Award in Academics: **Brad Cook (Bookman Road Elementary School)**
- Top three places in the Palmetto Dramatics Association's Original Playwriting Awards: **Rachel Lourie (1st), Jasmin Wilson (2nd) & Katie Burke (3rd) (Richland Northeast High Palmetto Center for the Arts)**

1st inductee into South Carolina Association of Student Councils' Terry McCoy Leadership Hall of Fame: **Hughston Armstrong (Ridge View High School)**

1st place at 39th annual Junior Science and Humanities Symposium: **Anurag Deeconda (Spring Valley High School)**

Grand/President's Award at 54th annual Region II Science & Engineering Fair: **Afia Khan (Spring Valley High School)**

1st place team at Engineer's Week Future City competition: **Val Miller, Steven Heath and Patrick Reid (Blythewood Middle School)**

1st place in culinary arts division (The Culinary Cup) at S.C. Hospitality Association & International Culinary Schools' 8th annual Carolina ProStart Student Invitational: **Blythewood High School Culinary Team**

1st place at 32nd annual S.C. National Health Occupation Students of America's State Leadership Competition: **Blythewood High School** (2 winners), **Ridge View High School** (1 team & 3 individual winners) & **Spring Valley High School** (1 team & 2 individual winners)

1st place at the National Health Occupation Students of America's June conference: **Destinee Allen (Ridge View High School)**

2010 recipients of the *South Carolina Dance Education Organization's Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement* award: **Sheimaliz Glover, Macy Gordon, Nikesha Nelson, Grace Salter, and Re'vin Slack (Ridge View High School)**

S.C. State 4A High School Girls Lacrosse champions: **Blythewood High School**

S.C. State 4A High School Boys Golf champions: **Blythewood High School**

S.C. State 4A High School Boys Tennis champions: **Spring Valley High School**

1st place (Champion Award) in state & 3rd place Sharing Award in nation at FIRST LEGO League competition: **Infowaves Lego Team (Center for Inquiry)**

1st place in the National School Improvement Alliance's state MathFest competition: **Nicole Delmolino – 4th grade level (Lake Carolina Elementary)**

1st place team at S.C. Society of Professional Engineers' Mathcounts competition: **Dent Middle School**

1st place in state in S.C. Academic Hallmarks Knowledge Masters Open: **North Springs Elementary Academic Team**

1st place team at Project Lead the Way's state level Introduction to Engineering Design competition: **Derek Knapp, Justin Lozano & Tyler Pixley (Spring Valley High School)**

State school awards

S.C. Department of Education's Palmetto's Finest School: **Killian Elementary School**

S.C. Bar Association's 2010 Law Related Education School of the Year: **Blythewood High School**

S.C. Office of Adult Education's Career Readiness Award: **W.R. Rogers Center**

S.C. State Board of Education's Outstanding School Volunteerism Award: **Round Top Elementary School Improvement Council**

S.C. Department of Education's Exemplar Level Positive Behavior School: **Sandlapper Elementary School**

Rewards for Excellence from S.C. chapter of the National School Public Relations Society: **Public Information Department** (4 awards), **Kelly Mill Middle School** (3 awards), **Spring Valley High School** (2 awards, 1 for Golden Achievement)

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Schools of Excellence in Arts Education award: **Ridge View High School**

S.C. Department of Education's Exemplary Writing Award: **Round Top Elementary School**

S.C. Department of Education's Red Carpet Award: **Bookman Road Elementary, Bridge Creek Elementary, Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary, Dent Middle School, Clemson Road and Spears Creek child development centers**

S.C. Department of Education's Palmetto Gold Awards: **Center for Knowledge, Bethel-Hanberry Elementary, Bookman Road Elementary, Lake Carolina Elementary** - 2 gold, **Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary & Round Top Elementary schools**

S.C. Department of Education's Palmetto Silver Awards: **Bethel-Hanberry Elementary, Bookman Road Elementary, Bridge Creek Elementary** – 2 silver, **Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary, North Springs Elementary, Polo Road Elementary** - 2 silver, **Round Top Elementary, Sandlapper Elementary** - 2 silver & **Blythewood Middle schools**

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Awards: **Conder and Keels elementary schools**

Other Significant Achievements

Richland Two **Youth Action Council** presented at the National Youth Leadership Council Service-Learning Conference

Spring Valley High School ladies basketball coach **Anne Long** celebrated her 700th victory

Superintendent **Dr. Steve Hefner** earned the United Way of the Midlands Community Champion Award

Students at **Richland Northeast High School** raised \$22,500 In Cash for the Stache campaign to benefit Camp Kemo

54 new **National Board certified Teachers**: 553 total (ranks in top 20 nationally)

District maintains a **AA credit rating** with Standard and Poor's, Moody's and Fitch ratings services

Competitive grants received totaling **\$3,147,420**

Students received more than **\$67.2 million** in scholarships

Dedication of **old Killian School** and **Bridge Creek Elementary** special education playground

Immunized the students of Richland Two from **H1N1 virus**

Successfully switched to **updated financial and payroll systems**

Successfully completed a **nationwide superintendent search**