EDUCATION

Strategies to strengthen educational opportunities, support student success, and improve workforce development in SC.

INDICATORS

- KINDERGARTEN READINESS
- HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION
- TEACHER RETENTION
- POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

PARTNER STRATEGIES

Early Learning Access, Family Engagement & Foundational Skill-Building: Strategies combine district K3/K4 programs, HeadStart partnerships, employer- and community-based early childhood development centers, play-based learning, early literacy skill-building with caregivers, parenting education, and connections to basic needs.

Health, Oral Health & Safe Participation in Early Learning: Strategies include school nurse support for chronic condition management, teacher-led movement breaks, school-based dental screenings, oral health kits, and museum-based oral health education.

Special Education Navigation & Family Support for Children with Unique Needs: Strategies include peer support, caregiver training, attending education meetings with families, and specialized assistance for navigating special education processes.

Student Health Supports, Attendance Stability & Least Restrictive Interventions: Explores student health supports, including school nurse management of acute, chronic, and disability-related health needs; efforts to reduce student absences; support for disease management; and participation in reviewing Medical Homebound Instruction requests to help keep students in the least restrictive environment.

Mentoring & Counseling Supports: Center on community-based mentoring programs paired with school counselor services that provide mental-health support, academic guidance, and crisis intervention.

In-School Engagement & Connectedness Opportunities: Covers extracurricular clubs offered during the school day, creating accessible opportunities for students to participate in activities without needing after-school availability.

Special Education Navigation & Family Support for Children with Unique Needs: Involve peer support for families, caregiver training, attending education meetings with parents and youth, and hosting community meetings to identify graduation barriers and develop shared solutions.

Health & Mental Health Support Staffing: Ensuring adequate health and mental-health staffing so teachers are not required to take on additional care responsibilities beyond their instructional role.

Wellness, Preventive Care & Stress-Relief Supports: Wellness-focused benefits and activities that support teachers' personal well-being, including an annual medical/dental check-up day, stress-relief tools, wellness activities, and free salads on select days.

Professional Growth & Educational Advancement Supports: Offering opportunities for professional development and career advancement, including partial tuition reimbursement for teachers pursuing master's or terminal degrees.

Community Engagement & Peer Support Networks: Building teacher connection and support through structured mentoring groups and optional community-volunteer days, creating opportunities for teachers to build relationships, share expertise, and engage with the broader community.

Clinical Training, Experiential Learning & School–College Partnerships: Districts collaborate with colleges and universities to create hands-on learning opportunities for health-related majors, including clinical rotations in school clinics and using college students to support mass screenings.

College Health Education & Campus Wellness Supports: Colleges offer workshops on mental health, wellness, and preventive care, and work to secure funding and resources that strengthen and maintain campus health clinics.

Disability, Behavioral Health & Transition Supports for Families and Youth: Organizations provide peer support, education, and training to families of youth with disabilities, chronic health conditions, or behavioral health concerns, including attending education meetings and offering specialized training on transitioning to post-secondary education.

OUR DESIRED RESULT: All people in South Carolina receive fair and supportive education and training through pathways that support their highest potential.

LIVE HEALTHY SOUTH CAROLINA