

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

September 10, 2024

SUBJECT:

Submission of the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) School Safety Priority Funds Grant Application – Aiken County Public School District - FY25

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

South Carolina Proviso 1.78 of the FY 2024-2025 Appropriations Act authorizes the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) to distribute up to \$20,000,000 to public school districts and charter school districts to make upgrades aligned with school safety priorities.

School safety and security continues to be a top priority for the Aiken County Public School District. The Division of Operations and Student Services is requesting approval to submit a grant application for the SCDE School Safety Priority Funds for \$250,000.00. These funds will be used to build/install security vestibules to East Aiken School of the Arts (\$130,000.000) and Oakwood-Windsor Elementary School (\$120,000.00) that will enhance the safety and security of the students and staff. Each school has unique safety and security challenges due to building structure or school location, making these projects critical for ensuring a secure and safe learning environment.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The Division of Operations and Student Services has evaluated the goals and objectives and finds them to be consistent with district goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the submission S.C. Department of Education School Safety Priority Funds Grant and receipt of funds, if awarded.

PREPARED BY:

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