

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

October 13, 2026

SUBJECT:

Submission of META: The Future is For Everyone- Aiken Data Center Grant by The Aiken County Public School District Division of Human Resources– FY27

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Aiken County Public School District Division of Human Resources would like to submit an application to the META: The Future is For Everyone- Aiken Data Center Grant in the amount of \$200,000.00. If awarded, the \$200,000.00 grant would support the proposed META Educator Excellence Scholars Program, a recruitment and retention initiative in partnership with USC Aiken. Funding would allow ACPSD to cover graduate program costs for 30 District educators to complete 36-credit master's degrees through USC Aiken while continuing to work in our schools.

Grant funds would be used to pay approved program costs directly to USC Aiken on behalf of participating educators. Selected participants would be required to remain employed with ACPSD throughout the graduate program and sign a service agreement committing to a minimum of five additional years of employment with the District following receipt of their master's degree.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The Division of Human Resources has evaluated the goals and objectives and finds them to be consistent with district goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve The Aiken County Public School District Division of Human Resources submission of the application for the META: The Future is For Everyone- Aiken Data Center Grant and the receipt of funds, if awarded.

PREPARED BY:

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