

## **BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**May 13, 2025**

### **SUBJECT:**

Submission of the S.C. Department of Education Stronger Connections Subgrant Additional Funds Application – Department of Student Services - FY26

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Last year the Aiken County Public School District's Board approved the application and receipt of funds for a Stronger Connections Grant in the amount of \$203,580.00 for the 2024-2025 school year. The purpose of the Stronger Connections subgrant program is to provide students with safer and healthier learning environments. Subgrant funds must be used to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive programs within high need LEAs, and support only activities allowable under section 4108 of the ESEA.

The S.C. Department of Education is accepting applications from current grantee recipients for additional funding for the 2025-2026 school year for activities that were previously approved in the initial grant application. The Department of Student Services is seeking additional grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 to continue the employment of the part-time graduation coaches through the 2025-2026 school year.

### **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 of the S.C. Department of Education Stronger Connections Subgrant and receipt of funds, if awarded.

### **PREPARED BY:**

Dr. Tim Yarborough  
Mr. Carl White