



HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR

September 16, 2019

Mr. Frank Rainwater
Executive Director
South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
1000 Assembly Street, Suite 421
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. Rainwater,

On January 16, 2019 we requested that the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) Office conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of state appropriations and local school district expenditures for public education in order to improve efficiency, transparency, accountability, and affordability.

On May 9th, the RFA issued its first status report that documented the sources and amounts of these expenditures. The RFA will be delivering its final report in October, which will likely illustrate stark and significant differences between school districts in the manner and method of classroom funding.

It is our hope that this data will lay the groundwork for a new and transformative funding model for public education. One that will create a simple and uniform funding allocation that is the same for all forty-six counties.

This new funding model will provide compensation that is competitive both regionally and nationally to retain and recruit the best teachers for our classrooms. It will allow us to maintain our investment in our rural schools. A child's instructional needs, not their residence, will be the new standard.

The actions before us must be bold. We will do things we have not done before. This letter is to once again express our support, confidence, hope and expectation that your maximum efforts and insights will be fully engaged to produce this critical report. Working together we can reform how we fund education to ensure prosperity for many generations of South Carolinians.

Yours very truly,

Handwritten signature of Henry McMaster in blue ink.

Henry McMaster

Handwritten signature of Jay Lucas in blue ink.

Jay Lucas

Handwritten signature of Harvey Peeler Jr. in blue ink.

Harvey Peeler