



**State of South Carolina**  
**Office of the State Inspector General**

December 10, 2024

The Honorable Thomas C. Alexander  
President of the Senate  
South Carolina Senate  
213 Gressette Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr.  
Speaker of the House  
South Carolina House of Representatives  
506 Blatt Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Annual Report of Public School and Interscholastic Sports Investigations by the  
Office of the State Inspector General for Calendar Year 2024

Dear President Alexander and Speaker Smith:

I am pleased to provide to each of you and the members of the South Carolina General Assembly the annual report of public school and interscholastic sports investigations conducted by the Office of the State Inspector General (SIG), which is a statutory requirement pursuant to South Carolina Code of Laws, §1-6-35 (D).

Act No. 223 of 2022 provided for the circumstances by which the SIG may investigate certain public schools and interscholastic sports associations. SC Code of Laws, §1-6-35 (A) provides that, the SIG may only initiate an investigation of a "... public school district... upon the request of: (1) the Governor, (2) the State Superintendent of Education, or (3) the weighted majority of the membership of the legislative delegation of the county in which the subject of the investigation is located."

The SIG received one written request from the weighted majority of a legislative delegation and two requests from the State Superintendent of Education for the investigation of South Carolina public school districts in calendar year 2024. The following table sets forth the number of requests made to the SIG along with status of these investigations and/or requests.

CALENDAR YEAR 2024				
<u>Requests Received</u>	<u>Date of Request</u>	<u>Investigation Initiated</u>	<u>Public School District</u>	<u>Status of Investigation</u>
Legislative Delegation	12/14/2024	12/14/2024	Laurens County School District 55	Investigation completed. Report issued 5/17/2024.
State Superintendent of Education	1/22/2024	1/22/2024	Richland County School District One	Investigation completed. Report issued 7/25/2024.
State Superintendent of Education (*)	8/2/2024	8/5/2024	Public School District (*)	Investigation pending.

\*Confidential per SC Code of Laws, §1-6-35 (E)

The investigation of Laurens County School District 55 fiscal practices resulted in the issuance of seventeen (17) findings and seventeen (17) recommendations in the areas of fiscal affairs and human capital. The report may be reviewed at the following link: [Review of Laurens County School District 55 Fiscal Practices for 2021 - 2024](#).

The investigation of the Richland County School District One's Funding, Procurement, and Construction of the Vince Ford Early Learning Center resulted in the issuance of eleven (11) findings and eight (8) recommendations in the areas of funding, procurement, and construction. The report may be reviewed at the following link: [Review of Richland County School District One's Funding, Procurement, and Construction of the Vince Ford Early Learning Center](#).

I am available to answer your questions or provide a more detailed briefing on these matters at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to call me (803/896-1287).

Sincerely,



Brian D. Lamkin  
State Inspector General

CC: The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor of South Carolina  
The Honorable Ellen Weaver, State Superintendent of Education