

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
K-12 SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE**



**24  
25**

**PROGRESS  
REPORT**

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## ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

The South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative was founded in 1996 as part of the General Assembly's proactive approach to addressing technology infrastructure, connectivity and education in schools throughout the state. The Initiative, steered by a unique public/private partnership, guides the distribution of funds appropriated by the General Assembly and approved by the Governor. These funds collectively help to meet schools' needs for software, hardware, connectivity, digital content, instructional technologies, cybersecurity protection and professional development opportunities.

### Department of Administration

The South Carolina Department of Administration (Admin) serves as the central administrative agency for state government with a mission to lead, collaborate and innovate. In this capacity, Admin utilizes shared services and centralization to help agencies efficiently and securely carry out common government functions, thereby allowing them to focus on their core missions.

### Department of Education

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is tasked with providing leadership and support so that all public education students graduate prepared for success in college, careers and citizenship. Through these efforts, districts will have a system of personalized and digital learning that supports students in a safe learning environment to meet the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

### Education Oversight Committee

The South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC), an independent group of educators, business people and elected officials, is charged with encouraging continuous improvement in South Carolina public schools, approving academic content standards and assessments and establishing the state's educational accountability system.

### Educational Television

South Carolina Educational Television (SCETV) is the state's public educational broadcasting network. SCETV amplifies South Carolina voices, provides educational experiences and strengthens communities, while working to create a stronger, more connected and informed South Carolina. SCETV provides national and local content to classrooms and provides teacher training and re-certification in multiple settings.

### State Library

The South Carolina State Library is the primary administrator of federal and state support for libraries and is responsible for public library development, library service for state institutions, service for the blind and physically handicapped and library services to state agencies. The State Library develops, supports and sustains a thriving statewide community of learners committed to making South Carolina stronger.

### Private Sector Partners

In addition to the five public sector partner agencies, the K-12 School Technology Initiative is also made up of two private sector representatives, AT&T and the South Carolina Telecommunications and Broadband Association. These partners help guide and steer the Initiative as it seeks to support the provisioning of high-quality, information-rich education for all students.

## INITIATIVE PARTNERS

The South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative partners are extremely proud of the progress that has been made in the development and implementation of educational technology as well as the strides made in providing infrastructure initiatives designed to produce more successful students in South Carolina. It is our hope that South Carolina's leaders will continue their history of using the K-12 School Technology Initiative to guide the provisioning of high-quality, information-rich education for all students.



### Department of Administration

1200 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201  
[admin.sc.gov](http://admin.sc.gov)  
 Marcia Adams, Executive Director



### Department of Education

849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172  
[ed.sc.gov](http://ed.sc.gov)  
 Ellen Weaver, State Superintendent of Education



### Education Oversight Committee

1205 Pendleton Street, Room 502, Columbia, SC 29201  
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 Dana Yow, Executive Director



### Educational Television

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[scetv.org](http://scetv.org)  
 Adrienne Fairwell, President and CEO



### State Library

1500 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201  
[statelibrary.sc.gov](http://statelibrary.sc.gov)  
 Leesa Aiken, Director



### AT&T

1441 Main Street, Suite 305, Columbia, SC 29201  
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 Terrance Ford, President, AT&T South Carolina



### SC Telecommunications & Broadband Association

1122 Lady Street, Suite 840, Columbia, SC 29201  
[sctba.org](http://sctba.org)  
 Nola Armstrong, Executive Director

## WHO DOES THE INITIATIVE SERVE?

The South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative provides a wide variety of essential services to public schools and libraries throughout the state. These services include technology infrastructure, connectivity, educational content, information security, professional development and collaborative opportunities. Together, these efforts have a profound and lasting impact on the state's over 790,000 public school students while also helping shape and improve the future of our state and each of its citizens.

77  
SCHOOL DISTRICTS



1,278  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



3  
GOVERNOR'S SCHOOLS



1  
SPECIAL SCHOOL



206  
PUBLIC LIBRARIES



55,158  
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF



790,418  
SCHOOL STUDENTS



5.46 Million  
STATE CITIZENS



1  
SOUTH CAROLINA







## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024-25 Progress Report highlights the continuing efforts of the South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative and its partners to help ensure students, schools and communities throughout the state have proper access to technology and high-quality educational programs and resources. These efforts are designed to help meet the stated goals of the South Carolina Technology Plan in the areas of:

- Infrastructure, connectivity, security and privacy
- Teaching and learning
- State-hosted services, collaboration and shared services

Partner efforts related to infrastructure, connectivity, security and privacy emphasize the need for South Carolina's public schools to have access to secure networks and a reliable technology infrastructure. This section details such initiatives as expanding high-speed broadband infrastructure, internet security protection and data backup services.

Efforts designed to help meet the Technology Plan's goals regarding teaching and learning are highlighted and include providing the necessary tools and resources to access on-demand, personalized learning through such programs as DISCUS, KnowItAll, VirtualSC and others.

The Progress Report also outlines the Initiative's efforts to provide state-level technology systems and services, including state-hosted regional technology support centers and improved data collection. The section also includes details on community forums and technology partnerships supported by the Initiative.

Access to technology and instruction on its use are crucial to students' future achievements both in and beyond the classroom. The mission to provide premium technology access to all students continues to guide the programs and funding efforts for the K-12 School Technology Initiative. The Initiative will continue to collaborate to ensure that all students receive an information rich education.



## INFRASTRUCTURE, CONNECTIVITY, SECURITY AND PRIVACY

### **South Carolina Technology Plan Goal:**

To support the state's learning goals, South Carolina's public schools will have more secure networks, fast and stable technology infrastructure and up-to-date computing devices. Public school students will have improved access to broadband internet at school and at home.

# INFRASTRUCTURE, CONNECTIVITY, SECURITY AND PRIVACY

The South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative partners engage in a wide variety of activities and programs designed to improve infrastructure, connectivity, security and privacy. These activities are detailed throughout this section of the 2024-25 Progress Report.

## EXPANSION OF HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

The South Carolina Department of Administration (Admin) works to expand network connectivity for the state's K-12 public schools and libraries. The focus of this initiative is designed to provide a stronger technology foundation for students, teachers and library patrons as they acquire the skills needed to prepare for emerging job opportunities and technologies. As a result of this effort, fiber-based, high-capacity broadband connectivity continues to be expanded on a statewide basis among schools and libraries.

Internet connectivity for South Carolina's public schools and libraries has experienced tremendous growth in recent years. Nearly all public school districts have a minimum internet bandwidth of 1,000 Mbps.

As of June 2025, school districts accounted for over 515 Gbps of bandwidth capacity, including 30 Gbps to library systems and 44 Gbps to charter schools. While the average library system and charter school had approximately 663 Mbps of internet bandwidth capacity, the average school district had a capacity over 5,600 Mbps.

Looking ahead, the K-12 School Technology Initiative will need to consider the network connectivity needs of schools and libraries over the next decade and set forth new connectivity goals that support the Initiative's vision.

## E-RATE PROGRAM

Since 1998, the Schools and Libraries E-Rate Program has proven to be transformational for education technology in public schools, charter schools and libraries across the state. The support provided by this program is utilized by Admin to acquire broadband services for the state's K-12 school and library network participants.

Admin is also responsible for the administration of the South Carolina E-Rate Consortium (Consortium), which includes:

- ▶ 71 school districts.
- ▶ 78 charter and special schools.
- ▶ 40 library systems.
- ▶ Three state agency districts.

As of FY 2024-25, the Consortium was one of the largest E-Rate consortia in the United States with a total funding request of over \$29 million. The Consortium prepares and files annual applications for network connectivity on behalf of many of the state's public schools and libraries, relieving the administrative burden on those organizations.

Consortium staff also assist districts and libraries with navigating the complex process of filing their E-Rate applications. This assistance is provided through the K-12 School Technology Initiative website as well as through virtual training sessions.

To support the Consortium, Admin manages funding from the Initiative to pay service providers who supply internet access to connect public schools, charter schools and libraries with wide area network (WAN) services.

These high-speed networks are built to meet the ever-expanding needs of students, teachers and



library patrons for enriching content. The funding support offered by the Schools and Libraries E-Rate program is essential to the continued expansion of education technology in districts and libraries throughout the state.

### **Category Two State Matching Funds**

In FY 2024-25, Admin allocated \$2,076,395 million from the K-12 School Technology Initiative for the Category Two (C2) E-Rate State Match Program. The program supports school districts, library systems and charter schools for the non-discounted share of their FY 2024-25 Category Two E-Rate applications. The reimbursed funds are reinvested by the beneficiary to continue to upgrade network infrastructure. The program provided funding to 25 library systems, 14 charter schools and 26 school districts.

### **E-Rate Program Trends**

Schools and libraries have been able to fund improvements to network infrastructure, due in part to the Schools and Libraries E-Rate Program's Category Two funding mechanism.

In FY 2024-25, 36 school districts, 14 library systems and 28 charter schools requested over \$23.6 million in funding for Category Two products and services such as routers, switches

and other internal connections. Of this amount, \$18.2 million has been approved for funding. As of June 2025, these school districts and library systems were disbursed \$13.4 million in reimbursements from the E-Rate program.

When comparing the FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 Category Two E-Rate filing data, two notable program trends were identified:

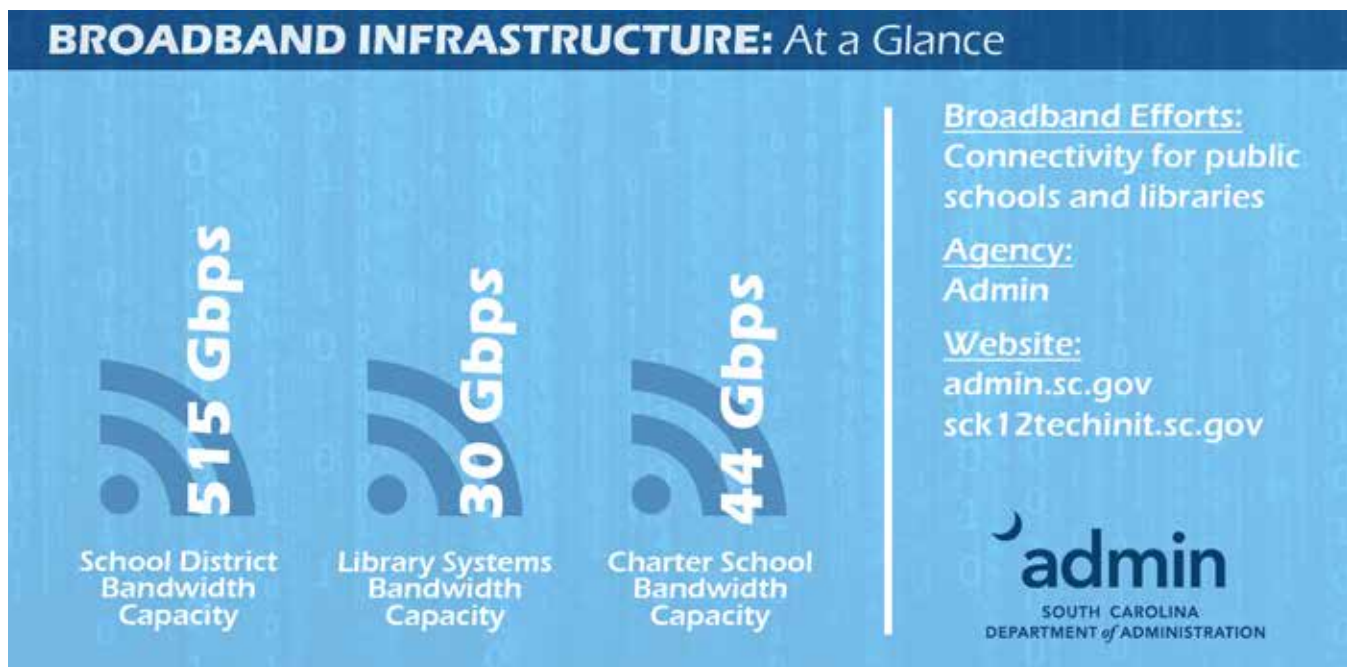
- ▶ Consortium members submitted 404 funding requests, of those four were denied and 19 were cancelled by the applicants. This equates to an efficiency factor of 96%.
- ▶ Schools and Libraries saw an increase in disbursements of 2% over the previous funding year.

With a goal to reach 100% E-Rate Efficiency Factor, the Consortium and the K-12 School Technology Initiative will continue to provide additional opportunities for E-Rate training.

To learn more about the E-Rate program, visit [sck12techinit.sc.gov/e-rate/program-information](http://sck12techinit.sc.gov/e-rate/program-information).

### **STATE MASTER CONTRACTS**

In many states, school districts and library systems do not have a statewide E-Rate consortium that



provides broadband connectivity services, files required documentation and coordinates service ordering on their behalf. In such cases, schools and libraries must devote more personnel to procurement, E-Rate compliance and ultimately pay more for broadband connectivity services.

Fortunately, schools and libraries in South Carolina benefit from the avoided administrative burden of filing for E-Rate discounts on broadband connectivity and very low costs for those services through state term contracts.

### **Reduced Costs, Increased Capacity**

Admin works to ensure connectivity and internet bandwidth costs remain cost effective through competitive bidding and rate reduction negotiations.

In 2019, Admin's Office of Technology and Information Services (OTIS) awarded the Network Services contract resulting in a 29% rate reduction for the Consortium. The estimated savings since implementation of this contract is \$30.1 million.

In 2022, a five-year contract for internet services was awarded to Segra resulting in a 20% rate reduction. The estimated savings provided by this contract since awarded is \$4 million. Currently, OTIS and the E-Rate team are developing the solicitation for a new Network Services contract, as the current contract expires June 30, 2026.

Cost savings from state term contracts fuel internet and WAN bandwidth capacity increases and, in many cases, lowers the cost shares for South Carolina E-Rate Consortium members. The Consortium provides higher circuit bandwidth on best-in-class service at a fraction of the cost of similar services a decade ago.

### **INTERNET SECURITY PROTECTION**

To help the state's schools and libraries combat the increased quantity and complexity of malware, ransomware and other advanced security threats, the K-12 School Technology Initiative provides Cisco Umbrella to districts, library systems and charter schools.

Cisco Umbrella is a leading cloud-based, internet security product that complements schools' and libraries' internet security measures. Cisco Umbrella leverages its constantly updated list of known domain name server threats with internet security policies providing a strong defense while maintaining a user-friendly experience.

### **Cisco Umbrella Usage**

Cisco Umbrella internet security services are available to all South Carolina E-Rate Consortium members through a statewide effort.

- ▶ In total, 179 school districts, library systems and charter schools are currently using Cisco Umbrella provided by the K-12 School Technology Initiative.
- ▶ Over 214.1 billion queries from South Carolina's schools and libraries were handled by Cisco Umbrella.
- ▶ Of those queries, 10.5 million security threats and potentially harmful or inappropriate websites were blocked.
- ▶ K-12 Cisco Umbrella served 159,800 clients.

### **EXPANDED EDUCATOR ACCESS**

South Carolina Educational Television (SCETV) expands internet access to select education facilities within T-Mobile's coverage areas through free Wi-Fi devices and local communities via agency and institutional partners.

### **Broadband Access**

In 2024-25, SCETV powered 510 Wi-Fi devices as gateways to broadband internet for applicable early childhood educators and other educational organizations, including after-school and adult education programs. SCETV bundles Wi-Fi access with its quality professional development and content funded by the K-12 School Technology Initiative.

To learn more about SCETV access initiatives visit [scetv.org/education/access](https://scetv.org/education/access).

## SCDE INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

During FY 2024-25, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) assisted several districts and schools with infrastructure support by continuing to provide backup recovery and business continuity services, as well as a pilot project solution for student safety monitoring.

### Backup Recovery Service Infrastructure

SCDE provides file system data backup and recovery services to participating state districts. The infrastructure for this effort includes Commvault software and Hitachi hardware, which has 70TB of usable storage at the SCDE data center located in Columbia. The backup connection is over-the-WAN; therefore, hardware is not required to be installed at districts and involves minimal effort to implement. Backups are encrypted at rest and in transit. For further protection, backups are replicated at the SCDE disaster recovery data center in North Carolina.

The response to this shared service offering has been greater than expected. Originally, only small districts were targeted; however, as of July 2024, SCDE has provided data backup for 11 districts of various sizes and is actively working to onboard additional districts.

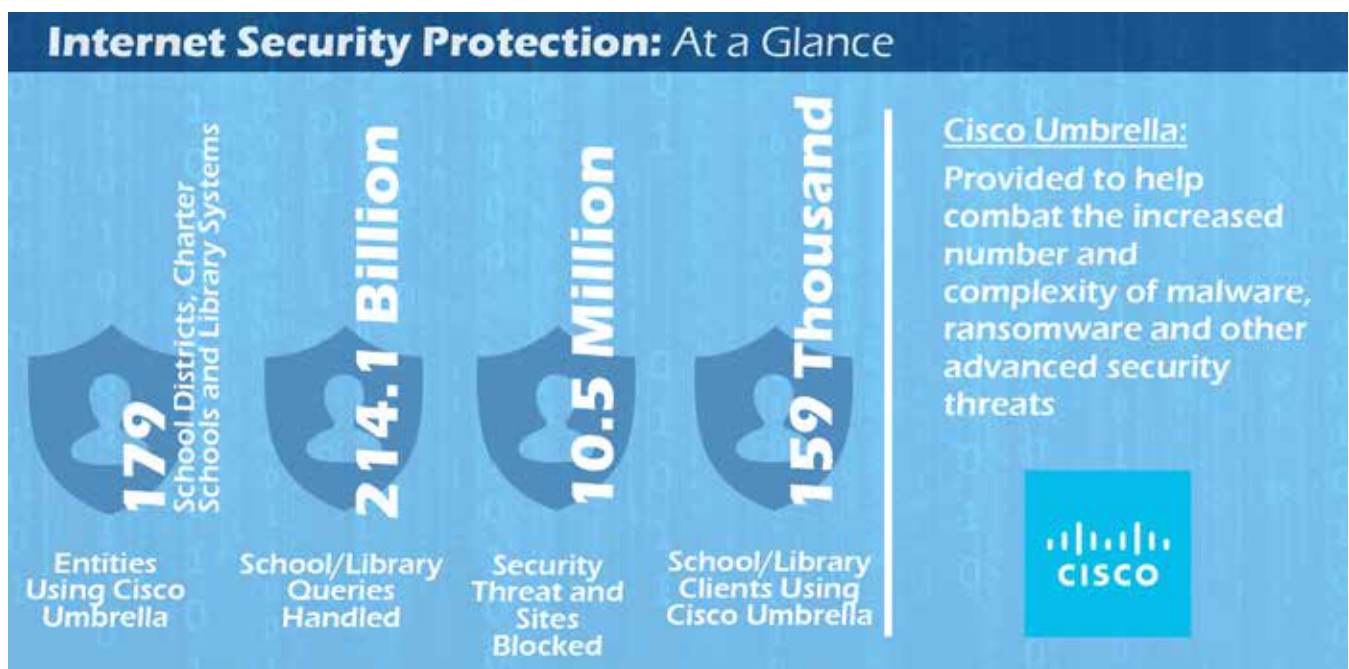
With the 11 school districts implemented, SCDE is backing up 82 servers and 35TB of data. Some school districts back up a portion of their data while others use the service to back up all server file systems. SCDE will continue to review current storage resources as usage continues to grow.

### Student Safety Monitoring Pilot

During FY 2024-25, SCDE continued its Linewize student safety monitoring pilot. This Family Zone Monitoring solution provides 24/7 monitoring of school-issued computers and helps detect seven categories of online risks, including cyberbullying and violence, before they become real-life incidents. Ten school districts participated in the pilot for year two and feedback was very positive. Participants indicated the solution was superior to similar software previously used and captured results with a greater level of detail and accuracy.

## 1EDTECH MEMBERSHIP

In 2021, SCDE purchased a 1EdTech affiliate membership to expand its support of the state's school districts. This membership provides access to development tools not available to the public, guidance on the effective implementation of 1EdTech specifications and information on new innovations in the learning industry.



In 2023, SCDE expanded its support by providing 1EdTech One Roster files to vendors on behalf of school districts. This service lowers the technical debt required of participating districts.

1EdTech membership provides districts the ability to access the TrustedApps utility, which includes access to an application-vetting rubric and a set of applications that meet defined security and privacy requirements. It also provides support for implementing 1EdTech standards for developing a digital learning environment.

## **DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY TRAINING**

SCDE coordinated technical and non-technical training opportunities for the state's districts.

### **Digital Accessibility Training**

SCDE provided a variety of digital accessibility training opportunities in-person and virtually to public school districts throughout the state.

SCDE's Access Academy is a virtual platform aimed at promoting awareness of digital accessibility principles. Educators can sign up for and participate in training sessions on digital accessibility topics relevant to the state's public-school settings. Access Academy also offers a repository of on-demand professional development opportunities for self-paced learning and a collection of digital accessibility resources from local, state and national partners.

The SCDE's Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) Pilot Program offers comprehensive support to districts through several key initiatives:

- ▶ Assessing the district's strengths and weaknesses in digital accessibility.
- ▶ Developing and implementing a remediation action plan.
- ▶ Training personnel to recognize and develop accessible content.
- ▶ Establishing a process for ongoing monitoring of content accessibility.

SCDE's AEM Pilot Program follows the guidelines provided by the National Center on Accessible Educational Materials' [Quality Indicators for the Provision of AEM and Technologies](#).

### **Certification Support**

SCDE offered information technology professional development support to school district educators and IT staff via proctoring services for vendor-sponsored certification exams. During the annual statewide South Carolina Educational Technology Conference's "Certification Central," participants were given the opportunity to take over 100 different tests to become certified in both technical and non-technical areas.





## TEACHING AND LEARNING

### **South Carolina Technology Plan Goal:**

To promote students' meeting the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate and to support Personalized Learning, South Carolina's public schools will have more accessible tools for "anytime, anywhere, any pace" learning.





# TEACHING AND LEARNING

The K-12 School Technology Initiative partners engage in a wide variety of activities and programs designed to improve the areas of teaching and learning. These activities and programs are detailed throughout this section of the 2024-25 Progress Report.

## DISCUS

Digital Information for South Carolina Users, commonly known as [Discus](#), is South Carolina's virtual library. Managed and administered by the South Carolina State Library, the Discus collection of more than 70 scholarly subscription databases is a vital resource for educators and students of all ages.

The high-quality, vetted databases are available 24/7 at no cost for all state residents regardless of location, race or socio-economic status and provide a safe learning environment by eliminating advertising, unrelated search results and other distractions included in internet searches. The databases in Discus are used in public, private and charter schools as well as by homeschool families, public libraries, special libraries and academic institutions.

Funding for Discus is received from the South Carolina State Legislature, the K-12 School Technology Initiative and the Library Services and Technology Act. The continued funding partnership with the Initiative is vital to sustaining the Discus program. During FY 2024-25, the State Library invested \$3.9 million for the Discus databases, including \$693,636 received from the Initiative to continue subscriptions for The Mailbox Plus, Britannica Learning Suite, TumbleBooks and Tutor.com. Due to a prepayment opportunity, the State Library negotiated a multi-year commitment for The

Mailbox Plus, which allowed for the addition of Britannica ImageQuest Jr. to the Discus collection.

The simple navigation and design of Discus provides students a safe place to learn and research using vetted, scholarly databases that have been evaluated by library and education professionals to ensure the most appropriate databases are included. Read aloud technology, closed captioning, font enlargement, varying reading levels and translation tools are incorporated into the databases by the national vendor partners.

During FY 2024-25, the Discus website was accessed more than 3.3 million times by 838,787 active users with a seamless access rate of 98%. Due to the EZproxy authentication technology implemented by the South Carolina State Library, barriers to access are removed, encouraging use from communities served throughout the state.

## Enhanced Discus Resources

The Mailbox Plus is an add-on to Learn360 and contains more than 56,000 printable activities, worksheets and craft ideas for elementary educators, librarians and families. The content through this resource introduces new information to young learners and reinforces skills and knowledge through creativity and repetition.

Since its addition to Discus in 2023, there have been almost 73,000 items downloaded in The Mailbox Plus. Whereas research databases are designed for repeated use by students for school projects, The Mailbox Plus is used when a specific need exists, such as monthly or holiday ideas, classroom videos, STEM lesson plan builder tools and printable supplemental materials for classroom use. All of the items in The Mailbox Plus

can be printed, downloaded and shared through most learning management systems and email, which is ideal for professional collaboration.

The partnership with TumbleBooks continues to strengthen due in part to an intensive marketing campaign conducted by the TumbleBooks team and vendor-led trainings offered specifically for Discus users throughout the year. The eBooks collection of 1,400 curated read-aloud storybooks, chapter books, graphic novels and songs for kindergarten through sixth grade supports early literacy for English, Spanish and French speakers.

TumbleBooks usage increased 197% compared to the previous year, with more than 512,000 views during 2024-25. Highlighting the TumbleBooks Collection in TeachingBooks has also proven to be helpful for educators to cross reference available eBooks and the supporting classroom material to share with students completing novel studies and literacy assignments. Through this collaborative effort, the materials in Discus support both educators and students by providing the novel, book guides, activities and lessons for a complete study package.

The updated Tutor.com Learner Engagements Online platform makes the navigation more intuitive for students and parents, providing an engaging user experience, with the test prep and self-study options easier to locate. The continued partnership with Tutor.com has proven to be successful, with 91% of surveyed respondents answering that they would recommend the service to a friend. The new user interface tracks engagements, which include accounts created, quizzes accessed, test prep visits and video views. When considering these elements, the usage of Tutor has increased 57% compared to the same period the previous year.

The world-class content included in the Britannica Suite of educational resources continues to garner strong usage through Discus with Britannica School and the two Spanish language databases — Escolar and Moderna — accounting for the largest increases compared to the same time last year. The addition of Britannica ImageQuest Jr. provides a safe, worry-free

platform for pre-K through fifth grade students to search from more than 50,000 age-appropriate images, clip art and video clips. The stunning images include animals, art, places, our world, people, space, insects and more. In FY 2025, 103,079 items were accessed in ImageQuest Jr.

## **Discus Usage**

Seamless access to Discus was experienced by 98% of users, with the remaining access occurring using the statewide username and password. EZproxy, a state-of-the-art authentication solution, utilizes geo-location technology to allow equal access to information and learning resources regardless of race or socio-economic status. The mobile friendly Discus website adapts to various devices, particularly smartphones and tablets, providing a smooth and user-friendly experience.

Discus also includes an EBSCO package of 50 research databases, CultureGrams, Bloom's Literature, PebbleGo and PebbleGo Next, World Almanac for Kids and Ferguson's Career Guidance Center. Each of these unique resources fills a specific niche for South Carolina residents studying world cultures, literary works, early childhood programs, general reference topics and career assistance. During FY 2025, 29.4 million items were accessed in Discus. This is an increase of 22% compared to the previous year.

Several Discus databases showed significant increases in usage, including:

- ▶ Britannica School – 11%
- ▶ Capstone eBooks – 31%
- ▶ CultureGrams – 155%
- ▶ EBSCO Collection – 70%
- ▶ PebbleGo Animals – 63%
- ▶ TeachingBooks – 29%

## **Discus Return on Investment**

The State Library thoroughly reviews potential resources to stay up to date on new products, technology and integrated tools and features for students and teachers. The cutting-edge

technology included in the databases is imperative to keep students engaged with vivid images, educational videos, live tutoring, interactive eBooks and current events.

The State Library carefully considers resources that align with state curriculum standards and the Profile of a South Carolina Graduate. Consideration is given to resources that support as many communities as possible while also satisfying the Discus goals and vision. Great care is taken to reduce redundancy or fill potential gaps within the collection so that K-12 schools, academic institutions and public libraries can depend on age-appropriate content included in Discus. Contracts are analyzed and negotiated to get the best rate, and as a result, millions of dollars are saved annually by bundling resource packages. The licensing agreements are evaluated to ensure fair pricing along with ample technical and marketing support.

The State Library conferred with each vendor partner to determine the cost avoidance for each K-12 school district, academic institution and public library if each were required to purchase access separately. This conservative estimate was determined to be in excess of \$32 million. This estimate assumes library systems and districts have the technical infrastructure such

as hardware, software and digital bandwidth to support the technology.

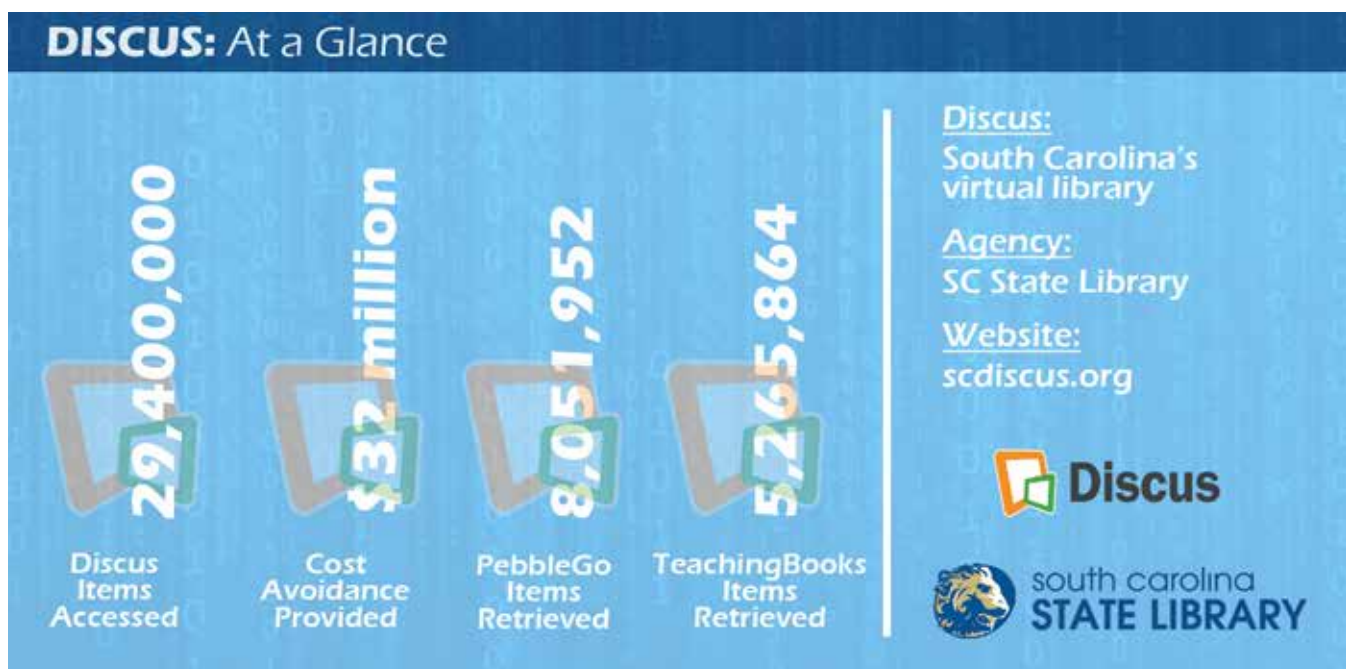
Based on the significant cost savings to libraries, the return on investment for Discus is excellent from both a learning and cost efficiency perspective. Without Discus, many resource-constrained schools could not provide such scholarly material to their students.

- ▶ Discus database licensing for FY 2024-25 was \$3.9 million.
- ▶ If each library purchased the resources separately, the total cost would be over \$32 million.
- ▶ State funding for Discus is applied directly to database acquisition and retention.

To learn more about the State Library's Discus, visit [scdiscus.org](http://scdiscus.org).

## DISCUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The State Library added a third former educator to its training staff to strengthen the relationship with state educators and public librarians. The mixture of elementary and high school educator knowledge has been well received by audiences



and professional development session attendees. Discus trainers understand the needs of educators and incorporate training deliverables in session outcomes.

Virtual and on-site training requests continued to increase, with 133 trainings and webinars completed and 33 exhibit tables monitored at state and regional conferences. A total of 10,320 individuals attended an in-person workshop, watched a live online or recorded training session, or stopped by the Discus conference exhibit tables.

Including teachers on the Discus training team has enhanced presentations by incorporating activities and deliverables in sessions. Participants collaborate on lesson plan ideas, novel study stations, career choice boards and other takeaways to use Discus in classrooms. Having teachers on staff provides mutual trust since they can relate to and understand the needs of educators and media specialists.

Rather than demonstrating database functionality and tools, Discus professional development trainings offer hands-on activities that engage the audience as they share ideas and programs they have used in their schools. Each session is unique and designed for the particular audience, covering a variety of subjects and ages.

The continued outreach and marketing plan have allowed the trainers to develop new partnerships with state agencies, public library systems, literacy programs and homeschool organizations.

A Discus overview for new foreign teachers in Lancaster County Schools provided a unique training opportunity. The sessions for the elementary, middle and high school teachers included a variety of databases to acclimate them to the offerings in Discus.

A few of the organizations that have benefited from Discus trainings include:

- ▶ Coastal Carolina University
- ▶ Cola City Homeschoolers

- ▶ Marion County Adult Education
- ▶ New Hope Treatment Centers
- ▶ S.C. Department of Education

## INCREASED STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

In 2024-25, South Carolina Educational Television (SCETV) prioritized student engagement and workforce development as strategic objectives. Specific activities funded through this work include station field trips, career fair participation and in-studio experiential learning experiences.

In the 2023-24 funding year, SCETV opened MediaScape Studios, a dedicated space for on-site student and professional learning experiences. This education innovation space is designed to enhance on-site visits and support audio visual production and instructional activities.

In the 2024-25, SCETV facilitated media-rich and workforce-focused learning activities to more than 400 students in MediaScape Studios. These students represent 10 schools, five youth engagement organizations or camps and the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department. In many cases, station field trip participants were students enrolled in media magnet programs or members of student journalism classes or clubs.

SCETV sponsored a unique student engagement fieldtrip to Charleston for 30 high school students from Westwood High School in Columbia, and 20 middle school students from Jerry Zucker Middle School in Charleston. The exploratory learning experience — focused on the sesquicentennial celebration of the American Revolution — featured an exclusive tour of historic Marion Square and a student-focused question and answer period with noted documentarian, Ken Burns. During the question-and-answer period, students had the opportunity to inquire about the American Revolution and Burns' experience and process as a documentary filmmaker. Also, via initiatives like Shadow Day, unpaid internships and other special events, over 50



middle school, high school and higher education students gained real-life experience working in a public media production facility. These experiential learning opportunities promote careers in engineering, finance, education, marketing/communications and production. Participation in these activities cultivated interpersonal skills, responsible use of media and awareness of cross-sector career opportunities in the media landscape.

In 2024-25, SCETV also engaged more than 15,700 learners. Beyond on-site field trips, engagement counts reflect nearly 2,000 students participating in technology-integrated learning workshops in their local communities, 10,000 students in career-related activities and more than 3,200 families at community events.

### **SC Skillionaires**

During the 2024-25 funding year, SCETV sponsored the development and promotion of SC Skillionaires — a workforce development experience designed to blend immersive simulation with South Carolina-specific career pathways and training information. SC Skillionaire includes interactive games such as Healing Agent, Maker Mojo, Cyber Watchdog and Rad Lab, which feature health science, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity and life science career and technical education pathways.

Much of the funding year was dedicated to game development and building key partnerships with higher education, local business and industry. Development features enable users to receive in-game informatics that align with demonstrated aptitude and geographically-specific business and industry profiles, employment opportunities and training pathways.

Since its launch, SC Skillionaires has engaged users across 33 South Carolina counties, representing more than 35 schools, districts and out-of-school programs, with a 2,012 unique player count, collectively completing more than 4,593 game levels. A reflection of interest in information related to dual enrollment, employment opportunities and

career pathways, players paused their play to interact with in-game displays more than 430 times. Information interaction directed players to web-based information from South Carolina's dual enrollment hub, 12 of South Carolina's 16 technical colleges and a host of industry partners.

Moreover, players interacted with in-game assessments more than 670 times. Specific game assessment outcomes included:

- ▶ 48% of Healing Agent players showed initial interest in learning more about health care careers — highest among all games. 46% of respondents indicated interest in a career in health care after five levels.
- ▶ 47% of Maker Mojo player respondents did not know what advanced manufacturing is or understand the career terminology used to describe the industry. Showing a shift in interest, 67% of player respondents showed moderate interest in manufacturing careers after playing six levels.
- ▶ 91% of Rad Lab player respondents started play with neutral or positive interest in life science careers.
- ▶ Cyber Watchdog player interest grew from 29% to 67% by the final assessment.

To learn more about SCETV's K-12 education focused engagement initiatives visit [scetv.org/education/engage](https://scetv.org/education/engage).

### **SCETV EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Over the past year, SCETV offered synchronous virtual training and professional development on several instructional technology topics to more than 3,000 educators. In addition to the implementation of SCETV and PBS resources in teaching and learning, educator workshops featured the use of creative tools like Canva and 3D printing applications, use of state-provided labor market data dashboards and repositories, and the South Carolina Instruction Hub. Workshop and training evaluations completed by attendees rated SCETV trainers at 4.7 or



higher on a 5.0 scale in the areas of presenter knowledge (4.8), quality of instructional materials (4.8), resource ease-of-use (4.7) and practical applicability (4.8).

Of the 2024-25 annual educator survey respondents participating in SCETV's monthly professional development webinar, 94% indicated that professional development offerings helped them improve teacher and/or student performance/engagement. Annual educator survey responses also reflected an interest in learning resources and professional development focused on artificial intelligence, student motivation, digital/media/financial literacy and workforce readiness.

Funds were also used to maintain the learning management system (LMS) that hosts asynchronous professional development offerings, of which 534 such courses were completed with certificates issued during the 2024-25 funding year.

## SCETV EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

SCETV Education Services deliver a wide range of high-quality digital learning content for students and educators. SCETV also provides professional development and curriculum support designed to offer personalized, collaborative learning experiences. As part of this effort, SCETV creates, organizes and distributes educational content to support pre-K-12 student needs, while providing a variety of virtual and in-person professional development opportunities.

Over the past two decades, funding from the K-12 School Technology Initiative has been used to help provide resources used extensively by pre-K-12 children throughout the state. This funding has helped support SCETV's on-demand multimedia curriculum resource sites and professional development, including KnowItAll, PBS LearningMedia, PD At Home and now the SC Skillionaires workforce gaming initiative.

### [KnowItAll.org](#)

[KnowItAll.org](#), a long-standing resource powered

by SCETV, is a free online collection of original and engaging educational content designed specifically for classroom use. Most of the KnowItAll.org assets are accessible and standards-based, include cross-curricular lessons and assessments, and are available in Spanish.

The 2024-25 appropriation also supported the maintenance of KnowItAll.org, which features a wide assortment of more than 10,000 media assets and curriculum resources. As a result of this funding, SCETV was able to maintain the IMS Global common cartridge that permits ingestion of these resources into the state's learning object repository, the SC Instruction Hub. Funds provided were used for application programming interface (API) renewal that supports alignment of educational assets to standards. Additional updates included enhancements to site navigation and user interface to facilitate easy access and use. Funding was also used for the development of a data consistency framework that supports data continuity across the platform.

KnowItAll.org engagement analytics reflect more than 356,000 total website visits from over 270,000 unique users. Visitors streamed more than 214,400 videos, and engagement data shows that nearly 56% of these videos were viewed for at least half of their duration. The site also recorded close to 13,800 lesson plan views from over 9,700 unique users.

Initiative funding also enabled the production of several high-impact educational resources. New interactive episodes of KidsECON — a personal and community economics series for use in first grade classrooms — were produced, alongside a variety of standard-aligned learning activities such as Math IRL — a series of lesson plans focused on everyday use of math — and complements to the SCETV digital science series What's Wild and new episodes of Coastal Kingdom.

To align with South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) character development learning priorities, funding was used to assess learning associated with viewership of the KnowItAll-distributed series The Cool and the Strong — a learning series produced in

partnership with and featuring the cast of Joseph Keels Elementary School, Columbia, S.C. Episode cameos included University of South Carolina Head Football Coach Shane Beamer and University of South Carolina Women's Head Basketball Coach Dawn Staley.

1,768 pretest and 1,415 posttest assessments indicate that learners resonated with and found value in the episodes. In fact, pretest assessments reflected learner understanding that confidence or "feeling good about myself" results in better decision-making.

Moreover, posttest assessment data shows 72.5% of respondents selected "the show taught me that believing in myself helps me grow." In selecting strategies for success, 55.5% of respondents chose "working hard on things I struggle with" and 23.1% chose "asking my teachers for help" – demonstrating understanding of a growth mindset and healthy help seeking behaviors.

### Public Broadcasting Service

In addition to Knowitall, SCETV is expanding access to web resources through the continued utilization of [PBS LearningMedia](#).

In 2024-25, South Carolina PBS's LearningMedia library included more than 150,000 multimedia resources for educators, boasting nearly 101,000 new users and 43,400 returning users between November 2024 to June 2025. During the funding year, users amassed over 1.49 million video streams. Peak usage during the past year reflected 174,700 video streams in March 2025.

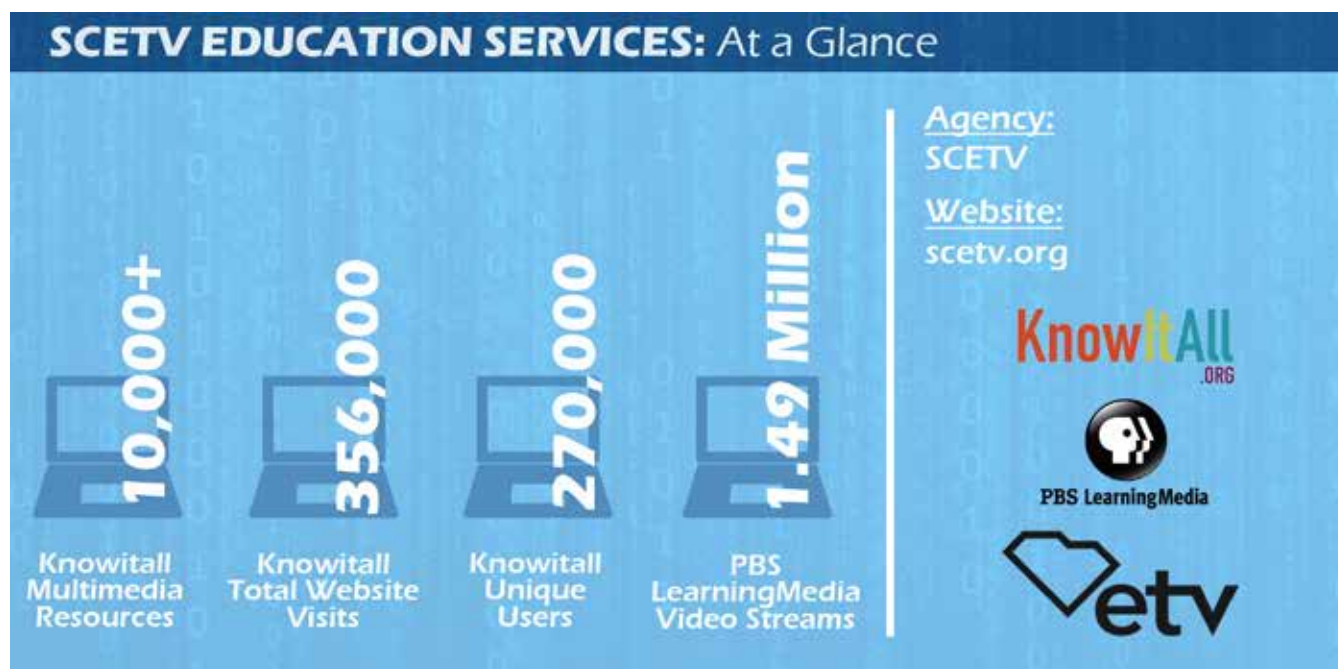
Training on PBS Learning Media is incorporated into customized workshops designed for educators across the state. Moreover, PBS LearningMedia is a platform via which educators in other states access South Carolina-produced educational content.

To learn more about SCETV's online resources visit [scetv.org/education/learningresources](https://scetv.org/education/learningresources).

### **STUDYSC**

StudySC was originally designed and created by the South Carolina State Library in 2010 as a comprehensive portal for K-12 students and teachers studying South Carolina history.

Visitors to the [StudySC](#) website safely explore and research South Carolina's culture and rich history utilizing age appropriate images, articles and maps found in Discus. The curated web resources



provide supplemental support for homework and project assistance for classroom teachers and learners of all ages as well as visitors interested in learning more about the state. The user-friendly website is easy to navigate and the content meets state-specific curriculum standards supported with Discus maps, images and articles.

The usage of StudySC remains strong with 46,406 users viewing 135,794 pages during 2024-25. The addition of county information has been extremely popular with city, towns, festivals and famous people listed with the county, making this information helpful for both new and longtime residents. New State Library cardholders receive StudySC information in their welcome package to introduce them to this helpful website.

Since its initial launch, StudySC has grown to include South Carolina facts, a glossary, South Carolina Book Awards and digitized copies of Sandlapper and South Carolina Wildlife. These additions compliment the Subjects and People sections, which are categorized to make searching state history fun and engaging.

To learn more about the State Library's StudySC, visit [studysc.org](http://studysc.org).

## VIRTUALSC

In 2007, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) developed [VirtualSC](#) — the state's virtual school program — with funding from the K-12 School Technology Initiative. Since that time, VirtualSC has become an invaluable resource by offering online courses for credit, free of charge to all South Carolina students.

### Rise in Popularity

Since its inception, VirtualSC has grown to become the fifth largest state virtual school program in the nation based on student enrollments, according to the latest Keeping Pace with K-12 Online Learning Report. VirtualSC courses are available to all public, private, home-schooled and adult education students in the state and are provided through the Moodle online learning management system.

Registration for these courses takes place in the program's student information system, Genius. Teachers remain in contact with their students through a variety of methods, including telephone, email, web conferencing and instant messaging. Live lessons are also conducted for some courses, such as world language offerings, utilizing class.com.

SCDE's Office of Virtual Education developed a team of instruction designers, media specialists and curriculum coordinators to help ensure courses meet quality, design and academic standards. This team is responsible for the design, development, review and revision of courses and related learning objects.

VirtualSC continues to align all courses to the Quality Matters framework to ensure accessibility standards are met and external review guidelines are followed. VirtualSC has begun submitting courses to be formally certified through the rigorous Quality Matters certification process and 22 of the courses are now officially certified.

All program courses are taught by state-certified teachers who have demonstrated expertise and are certified in their respective subjects and program areas. In addition, all teachers — both full-time and part-time — must undergo in-service online professional development training to teach through the program.

VirtualSC consisted of 48 full-time teachers for the academic year, in addition to 152 part-time instructors and language coaches. The number of full-time and part-time teachers has consistently grown over the past several years due to increased student demand for courses.

### VirtualSC Enrollments

During the 2024-25 school year, the VirtualSC program served 32,345 unique students with 56,602 student enrollments, which included students from:

- ▶ 430 schools
- ▶ 70 public school districts

- ▶ 26 home school associations
- ▶ 80 private schools
- ▶ 17 adult education centers

The VirtualSC program had a success rate of 86% for 2024-25.

In addition to the 55,856 enrollments for high school-level courses, the program also served 746 middle school enrollments and 104,174 elementary school students through its blended elementary typing course. This typing course was offered in 59 public schools, charter schools and home schools across the state.

The elementary typing program has been completely integrated into the Instruction Hub statewide learning object repository, so content can be easily accessed by schools across the state.

### VirtualSC Course Offerings

VirtualSC offered courses in the following areas:

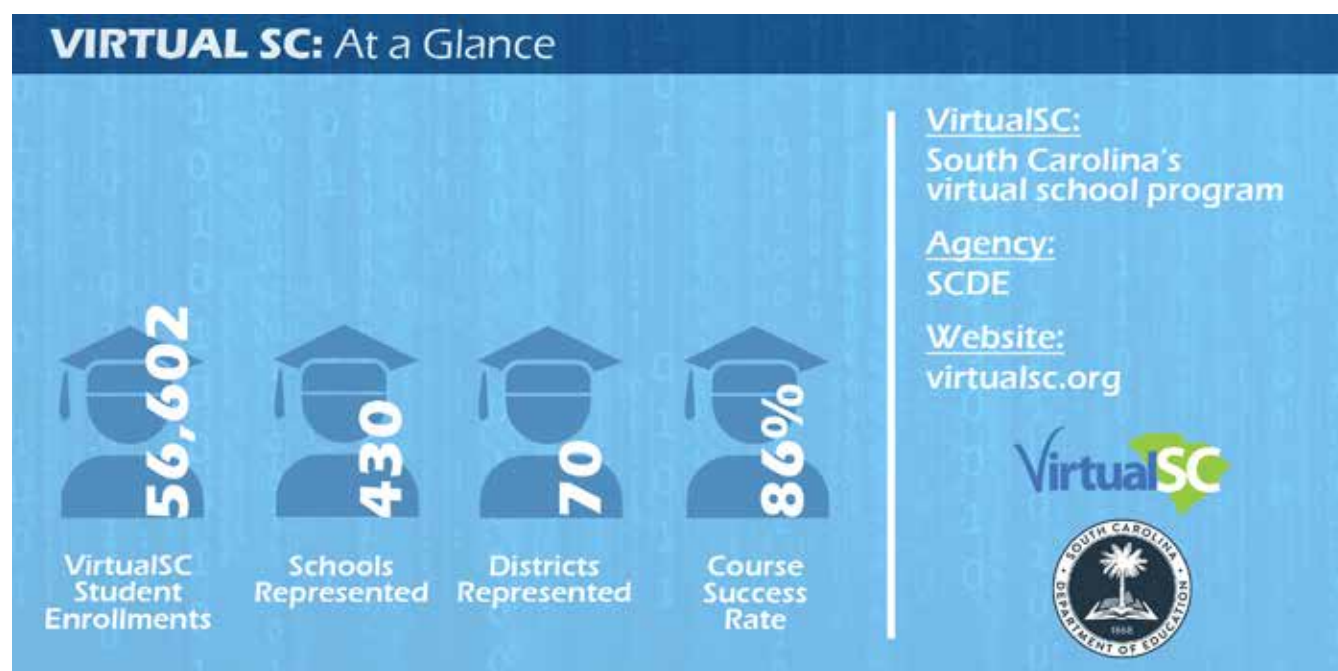
- ▶ Academic electives
- ▶ Career and technology education
- ▶ English and language arts
- ▶ Health and physical education
- ▶ Mathematics

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Skills recovery
- ▶ Social studies
- ▶ Visual and performing arts
- ▶ World languages

The program offered 114 diverse courses of varying levels, including advanced placement, honors, college prep, middle school and credit recovery classes. In addition to courses in the core content areas of English, mathematics, science and social studies, VirtualSC offered courses in Spanish, Latin, German and French, as well as a variety of electives in popular career majors. VirtualSC is also seeking ways to continue expanding the newly implemented middle school program. The program has continued to add new exploratory courses to the catalog so that middle school students have opportunities to take coursework they may not otherwise have access to at their local schools.

### VirtualSC Middle School Program

In 2021, VirtualSC began a pilot program serving public, private and home-schooled students in grades six to eight. The program consists of 24 courses in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science and social studies, plus five





exploratory courses.

This year, the program served 469 middle school students in 746 enrollments and had a success rate of 83%.

The middle school program, which became fully state-funded in FY 2023, continues to grow and expand course opportunities for students with a focus on expanding exploratory course options.

To learn more about SCDE's VirtualSC, visit [virtualsc.org](https://virtualsc.org).

### **Statewide Instruction Hub (iHub)**

SCDE proudly supports educators through its statewide [Instruction Hub](#) (iHub), a comprehensive digital library designed to provide access to high-quality instructional materials. The iHub serves as a centralized, user-friendly platform, offering teachers a wealth of digital books, resources and educational tools to enhance classroom instruction.

To ensure equitable access to modern digital courses and materials for all schools, SCDE partnered with SAFARI Montage, a leading digital education content provider, to create a robust learning object repository (LOR). This searchable digital library enables teachers, students and administrators are able to store, access and share a wide range of educational resources from any device, anywhere, fostering flexibility and convenience.

The iHub seamlessly integrates with various learning management systems used across South Carolina, utilizing industry-standard data formats for efficient content distribution to every school district. By streamlining access to high-quality digital resources, the iHub saves educators valuable time on lesson planning and preparation, allowing them to focus on teaching.

At the heart of the iHub is a statewide "megalibrary" that consolidates SCDE-purchased instructional content with curated resources from trusted providers, including Discovery Education, the State Library's Discus platform,

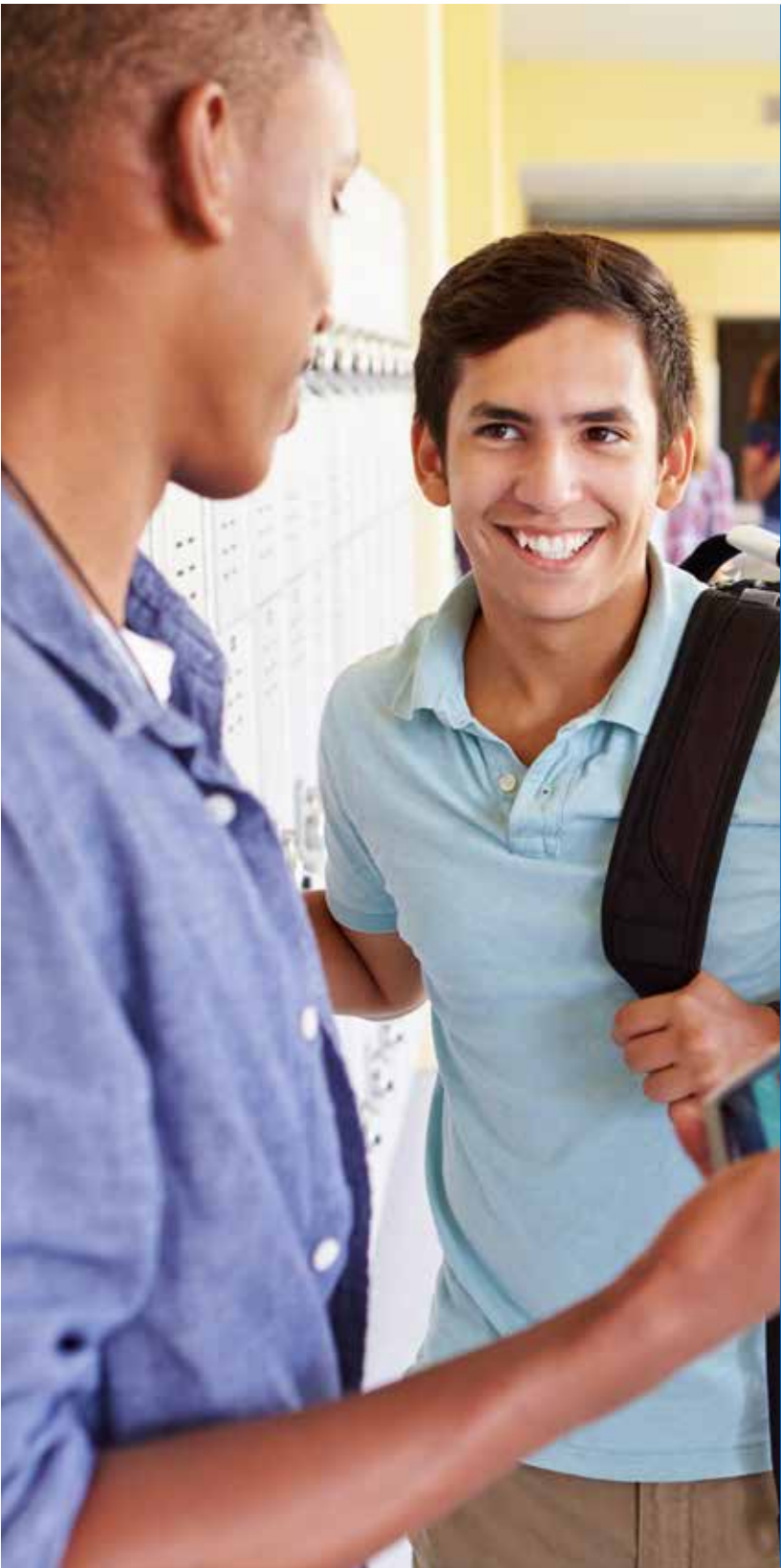
SCETV's KnowItAll, Streamable Learning and more. Additionally, each school district maintains its own satellite library within the iHub, which includes statewide resources plus district-specific materials tailored to local needs.

Implemented in 99% of schools statewide, the iHub features a robust meta-tagging system, enabling educators to easily locate content by grade level, subject, keyword or academic standards. Through the iHub, teachers gain access to licensed resources from multiple content providers, empowering them to deliver engaging and effective instruction.

The iHub is transforming education in South Carolina by providing equitable access to innovative tools and resources, supporting educators, and enhancing student learning experiences across the state.

To learn more about SCDE's Instruction Hub, visit [ed.sc.gov/instruction/instruction-hub](https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/instruction-hub).





## STATE-HOSTED SERVICES, COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES AND SHARED SERVICES

### **South Carolina Technology Plan Goal:**

To better support districts, create efficiencies and improve effectiveness and quality, the state will increase and expand state-level technology systems and services, including state-hosted regional technology support centers, backup and recovery services, procurement assistance, coordination of training, an updated student information system (SIS) with district operational data stores and single sign-on.

# STATE-HOSTED SERVICES, COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES AND SHARED SERVICES

The K-12 School Technology Initiative partners engage in variety of activities and programs designed to improve the areas of state-hosted services, collaborations and shared services. Such activities and programs are detailed throughout this section of the 2024-25 Progress Report.

## SCETV COLLABORATIONS

### Community Forum on Educator Tour

SCETV's Community Forum on Education Tour features three stops coordinated during the funding year. The tour was designed to foster meaningful and productive conversations between educational entities, families and communities. Addressing topics determined in consultation with the state's education agencies and those proposed via public feedback, the tour featured discussions about the implementation of the statewide cell phone policy implemented by SCDE, student absenteeism, parent-teacher engagement and innovation in school funding.

During the first forum segment, panelists representing education agencies and organizations shared success stories and actional strategies for improving teaching and learning experiences. The second segment was audience-led and created opportunities for productive dialogue between panelists and audiences. The third and final stop of the funding year featured an all-student panel and audience, fostering a peer-to-peer conversation about the importance of using one's influence for good.

Organizations represented in the forum included:

- ▶ Darlington Middle School
- ▶ Education Oversight Committee

- ▶ Fact Forward
- ▶ Florence School District One
- ▶ Principals, superintendents and students
- ▶ United Way of Greenville County's OnTrack Greenville
- ▶ South Carolina Education Association
- ▶ South Carolina municipal leaders
- ▶ Southside High School – Greenville

To learn more about the Community Forum on Education tour visit [scetv.org/EdForum](https://scetv.org/EdForum).

### Family and Community Engagement

In a continuous effort to expand family engagement, SCETV partnered with the University of South Carolina's Carolina Family Engagement Center (CFEC) to establish a Community Family Resource Center at The Village Educational Services in Dillon, S.C.

Grant funding supported SCETV in making learning technology – including two iPads and Apple Pencil bundles, five Wacom graphic tablets and three headphone sets – available to support afterschool programming. During the funding year, technological devices were used to support 346 hours of extended learning among the students receiving support services.

In addition to the provision of technological devices, SCETV provided standard-aligned and developmentally appropriate book donations for the CFEC-sponsored book vending machine. Both partners provided family engagement and student success printable materials for distribution. Data analytics show that students redeemed more than 130 book tokens and selected more than 100 print resources to

support their family learning needs. To learn more about SCETV's resources, visit [scetv.org/education/fcr](https://scetv.org/education/fcr).

### **Newsletter, Blog and Social Media**

Throughout the year, SCETV distributes an education-related newsletter in collaboration with the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC) and the South Carolina Department of Education for the promotion of SCETV education features. The monthly newsletter assists with informing over 21,228 pre-K-12 administrators, teachers and staff of timely education resources and services.

SCETV also has a monthly Educator blog which features perspectives on a variety of topics from educators across the state. Further, SCETV uses social media including Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube and the social platform X to engage the education community.

## **SCDE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS**

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is engaged in a variety of technology-related partnerships with districts throughout the state. These partnerships, designed to support and enhance district efforts, are detailed below.

### **Standards Authoring Tool**

SCDE's standards authoring tool is populated with academic standards — including those from the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate and the South Carolina Teacher Standards — that can be loaded into a state-level learning object repository and district LMS in a machine-readable format. This is a key component of providing direct access to state standards and the resources needed to facilitate remote K-12 learning opportunities in a digital ecosystem.

The tool is utilized to digitize the activity coding manual. Next year, SCDE should be able to include a base course code with standards alignment and certification requirements.

### **1EdTech**

SCDE was able to supplement a 1EdTech associate membership, which was offered to state districts for 20% of the cost. This model assures affordability without providing services that were not being consumed. Membership provides technology planning support around related standards as well as access to a privacy and security vetting service, TrustedApps.

### **District Data Governance Group**

SCDE partnered with a subset of school districts to form the District Data Governance Group (DDGG). This group manages change requests through the PowerSchool student information system and supports members with the development of the Ed-Fi Operational Data Store (ODS) in each district.

### **Teacher as Researcher**

SCDE has leveraged Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to connect professional development with a technology platform to promote short-cycle process improvement in the classroom.

A public-facing resource, [Strategy Workshop](#) contains research-based strategies for the What Works Clearinghouse linked to South Carolina content and teaching standards. The associated application for teachers uses the rosters from district Ed-Fi ODS to prepopulate the application for teachers. It also demonstrates the viability of a statewide rostering service.

## **SCDE HOPE Network Pilot Project**

SCDE's HOPE Network Pilot Project is an initiative designed to provide shared IT services to smaller and mid-size school districts that often lack the technical resources and funding options necessary to support their technology needs effectively. This project aims to offer a comprehensive range of services, including:

- ▶ Data center enhancements
- ▶ Server and data hosting
- ▶ Backup/recovery and business continuity

- ▶ Application programming
- ▶ Web hosting
- ▶ Network services
- ▶ Security services
- ▶ Software licensing consolidation
- ▶ Help desk support
- ▶ Enhanced technical support

By centralizing these services, school districts can achieve more reliable systems, critical for supporting students and improving the overall learning experience.

During the 2024-25 school year, SCDE made significant strides by purchasing and implementing a Hitachi hyperconverged solution. This move has greatly increased the agency's data center and backup capabilities, which are essential for supporting the range of services offered. Additionally, the implementation of a remote patch management solution has been a significant milestone for the project.

Currently, SCDE is in the process of developing a rollout plan for additional services within the cybersecurity and networking areas. This development is highly anticipated and will further enhance the support provided to school districts within the state.





## REPORT CONCLUSION

As demonstrated in this year's report, the South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative's partners prioritize having the technological tools and resources necessary to ensure the success of South Carolina students through continuous technological advancements, investments and support.

These investments will help to fulfill the goal of having all South Carolina students graduate with the world-class knowledge, skills and characteristics identified in the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

South Carolina K-12 School Technology Initiative partners will continue to work together to support students, teachers and families across the state in their journey of providing needed resources.



# APPENDIX A: INITIATIVE BUDGET

## FY 2024-25 K-12 School Technology Initiative Budget

Base Appropriation: School Technology	\$12,271,826
<b>Total Appropriations :</b>	<b>\$12,271,826</b>
<b>Carry Forward:</b>	
State Library	\$0
SCETV	\$0
SCDE	\$0
Department of Administration	\$0
<b>Total Carry Forward :</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>K12 – Other State Funds :</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Available Funds:</b>	<b>\$12,271,826</b>
E-Rate Funds (Estimated)	\$24,386,350
<b>Total Funds Anticipated:</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>
<b>Total Budget Requested:</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>
<b>Net Remaining Funds:</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Priority	Principals Budget Requests	Budget Requests	School Technology Appropriation	E-Rate Funds (Estimated)	Approved Budgets
<b>Non Discretionary</b>					
<b>DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATION</b>					
1	Network Connectivity Costs	\$31,974,445	\$7,588,095	\$24,386,350	\$31,974,445
2	E-Rate Field Training and Outreach	\$8,800	\$8,800		\$8,800
3	DNS-based Internet Security License Renewal	\$864,900	\$864,900		\$864,900
4	Infrastructure Upgrades Schools & Libraries*	\$2,076,395	\$2,076,395		\$2,076,395
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$34,924,540</b>	<b>\$10,538,190</b>	<b>\$24,386,350</b>	<b>\$34,924,540</b>
<b>SCDE</b>					
1	School District Technology Technical Assistance (Proviso 1.56)	\$350,000	\$350,000		\$350,000
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>
	<b>Total Non Discretionary:</b>	<b>\$35,274,540</b>	<b>\$10,888,190</b>	<b>\$24,386,350</b>	<b>\$35,274,540</b>
	<b>Total Available Budget</b>	<b>\$1,383,636</b>	<b>\$1,383,636</b>		<b>\$ 1,383,636</b>
<b>Discretionary</b>					
<b>DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATION</b>					
1	No Additional Request	\$0	\$0		\$0
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>STATE LIBRARY</b>					
1	Mailbox Plus	\$153,636	\$153,636		\$153,636
2	Tumblebooks	\$108,500	\$108,500		\$108,500
3	Tutor.com	\$168,000	\$168,000		\$168,000
4	Encyclopedia Britannica	\$263,500	\$263,500		\$263,500
5	Encyclopedia Britannica – Spanish Reference	\$0	\$0		\$0
6		\$0	\$0		\$0
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$693,636</b>	<b>\$693,636</b>		<b>\$693,636</b>
<b>SCDE</b>					
1	No Additional Request	\$0	\$0		\$0
2		\$0	\$0		\$0
3		\$0	\$0		\$0
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>SCETV</b>					
1	KnowItAll.org Maintenance and Enhancements	\$75,000	\$75,000		\$75,000
2	Standard Alignment and Content Development	\$175,000	\$175,000		\$175,000
3	Career Gaming and AI for Workforce Development Initiative	\$400,000	\$400,000		\$400,000
4	Professional Development & Student Activities	\$40,000	\$40,000		\$40,000
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$690,000</b>	<b>\$690,000</b>		<b>\$690,000</b>
	<b>Total before Carry forward</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>	<b>\$12,271,826</b>	<b>\$24,386,350</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>
	<b>Total Carry Forward From Previous year:</b>	<b>\$0</b>			<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Budget Surplus/Shortfall</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Grand Total for a Balanced Budget:</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>	<b>\$12,271,826</b>	<b>\$24,386,350</b>	<b>\$36,658,176</b>
<b>\$0 Balanced</b>					

\* Committee funding will be leveraged with the Category 2 federal share, FY 2024-25 financial impact will be approximately \$17.5 million.

## APPENDIX B: BY THE NUMBERS

### BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE: At a Glance

**515 Gbps**

School District  
Bandwidth  
Capacity

**30 Gbps**

Library Systems  
Bandwidth  
Capacity

**44 Gbps**

Charter School  
Bandwidth  
Capacity

**Broadband Efforts:**  
Connectivity for public  
schools and libraries

**Agency:**  
Admin

**Website:**  
[admin.sc.gov](http://admin.sc.gov)  
[sck12techinit.sc.gov](http://sck12techinit.sc.gov)



### Internet Security Protection: At a Glance

**179**  
School Districts, Charter  
Schools and Library Systems

Entities  
Using Cisco  
Umbrella

**214.1 Billion**

School/Library  
Queries  
Handled

**10.5 Million**

Security  
Threat and  
Sites  
Blocked

**159 Thousand**

School/Library  
Clients Using  
Cisco Umbrella

**Cisco Umbrella:**  
Provided to help  
combat the increased  
number and  
complexity of malware,  
ransomware and other  
advanced security  
threats



### DISCUS: At a Glance

**29,400,000**

Discus  
Items  
Accessed

**\$32 million**

Cost  
Avoidance  
Provided

**8,051,952**

PebbleGo  
Items  
Retrieved

**5,265,864**

TeachingBooks  
Items  
Retrieved

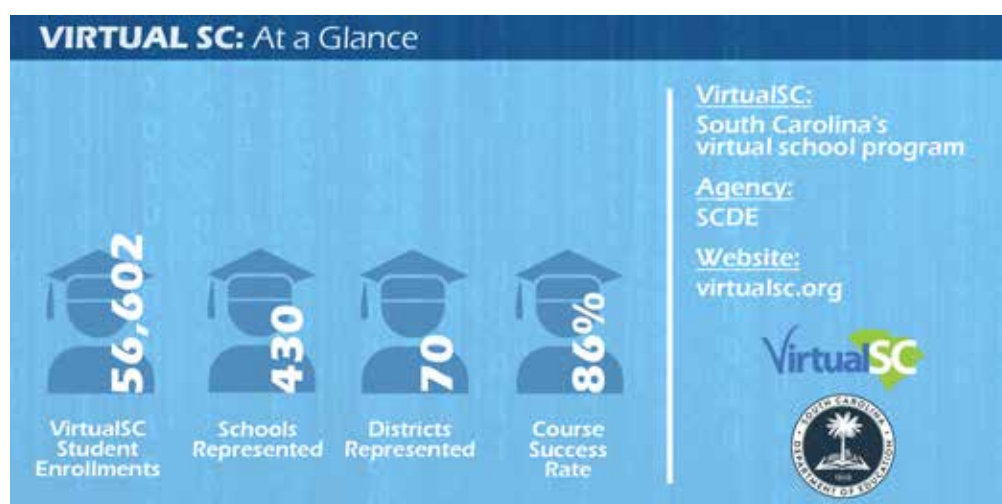
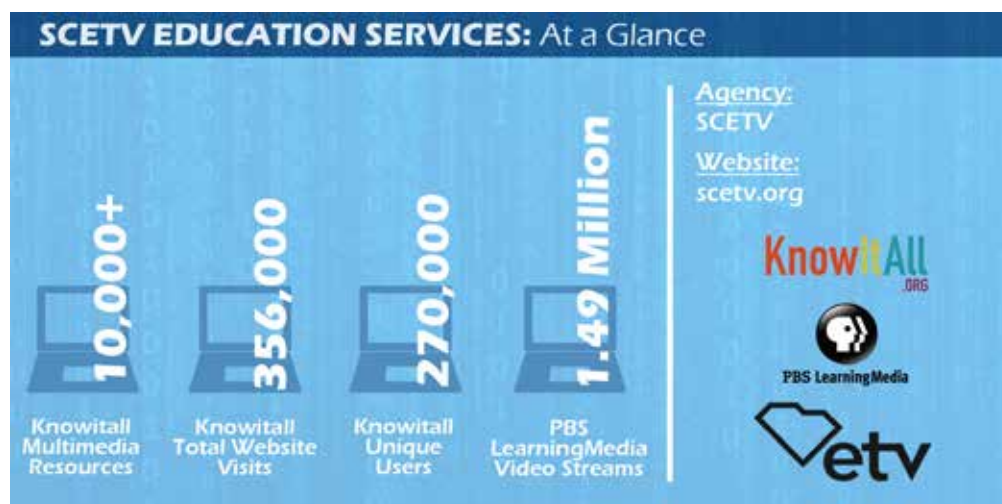
**Discus:**  
South Carolina's  
virtual library

**Agency:**  
SC State Library

**Website:**  
[scdiscus.org](http://scdiscus.org)

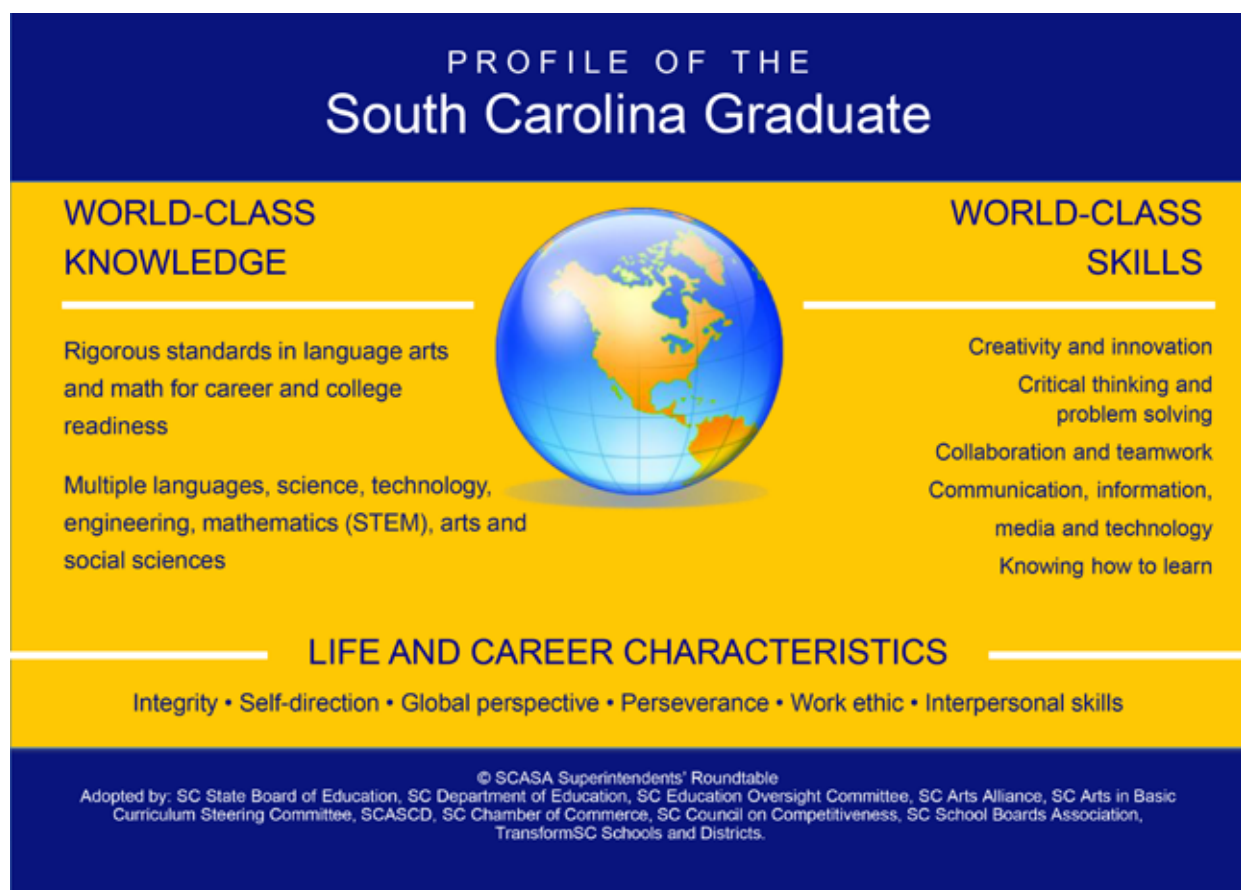


## APPENDIX B: BY THE NUMBERS



## APPENDIX C: PROFILE OF THE SC GRADUATE

The [Profile of the South Carolina Graduate](#) is designed to identify the knowledge, skills and characteristics high school graduates should possess in order to be prepared for success as they enter college or pursue a career. The profile is intended to guide all that is done in support of college and career readiness.







## Appendix D: What Others Are Saying

### Discus Resources

- ▶ “It has made researching easy for my students! Tutor.com and the researching sites have been a blessing for our school!”  
– Samantha Luzzatti, Midland Valley High School
- ▶ “My students use Discus constantly for research!”  
– Beth King, Lugoff-Elgin High School
- ▶ “Discus is our go-to resource tool and the kids know that’s our best place to go to get quality research and resources!”  
– Rebecca Webb, Oakbrook Middle School
- ▶ “Discus has made access to quality and vetted resources available 24/7! Best resource EVER!”  
– Rene’ Glover, William J. Clark Middle School
- ▶ “I promote Discus to all classes at our school. I tell students if it is in Discus it is legit!”  
– Kelly Moran, Indian Land Middle School
- ▶ “Discus has been one of the most helpful and most used resources in my library. We use TumbleBooks most to find accelerated Reader Books and kids love PebbleGo. Discus is a wonderful supplement and resource for the library curriculum.”  
– Gloria Bailey, Vance Providence Elementary School



- ▶ “Teaching elementary school, I use Discus for lessons more than assignments and I love the diverse databases that are available to pull from.”  
– Chaisson Dangerfield, Lambs Elementary School
- ▶ “Discus is such an excellent and trustworthy resource. I use PebbleGo, Learn360 and Britannica School to enhance so many of my literary lessons.”  
– Malinda Schurlknight, William Reeves Elementary School
- ▶ “I retired from another state and began here five years ago. I want you to know that Discus is above and beyond what I used in the other state. Discus is much more user friendly and provides a wonderful variety of resources and programs for all ages! So... thank you!”  
– Cyndi Duke, Ridgeland Elementary School



## SCETV Technology Initiatives

- ▶ “I was truly honored to attend the Carl the Collector red carpet screening event hosted by SCETV and SC Public Radio. I want to sincerely applaud SCETV for organizing such a thoughtful and inclusive experience for children and families. From the moment we arrived, it was clear that inclusivity was at the heart of this event. The team made intentional efforts to create a welcoming environment for all children — offering both a loud, high-energy room and a quiet, calming space. The sensory room was especially meaningful, and I personally witnessed several children benefiting from the opportunity to take a break and regulate in a supportive environment.”  
– Stephanie Turner, Autism Division Director, SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs”
- ▶ “I plan to use the information in my Schoology course with my students. Those videos will give them knowledge because some student may never get to see those places or careers.”  
– Professional development workshop attendee
- ▶ “I thoroughly enjoyed this presentation and it helped me to not be afraid of generative AI and make me feel more comfortable and embracing it because this is the era that we are in and if we don’t embrace it we’re going to be left behind.”  
– Professional development workshop attendee





- ▶ “My child is a student in their after-school program and was one of the first kids to receive a book from that beautiful book vending machine. I’ve also gotten a few of the brochures off of the wall that had some useful information on ways to deal with situations with my children and also their school.”  
– Village Educational Services Parent on resources provided by South Carolina ETV
- ▶ “We strive to take the focus of broadcasting and journalism beyond the classroom, and SCETV helps us reach that goal. The SCETV educators make the planning process easy, and the day of the field experience memorable for the students. Our students tour the studio, write scripts, and record in the MediaSCape Studios after the field study. Students are able to utilize some of the different strategies and techniques when presenting and recording at school. We have been coming to SCETV for four years and look forward to returning next year.”  
– Ashley Murray, Edisto Elementary School





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