



Barnwell School District 45

Innovation – Integrity – Investment – Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barnwell School District 45 Acknowledged for Fiscal and Programmatic Success

Barnwell, S.C. – Each year the South Carolina State Department of Education (SCDE) issues a risk score to districts as part of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. This risk assessment emphasizes the requirements for the SCDE as the pass-through entity for specific federal programs to judiciously award, administer, and monitor each sub-award. To comply with requirements, the SCDE conducts the annual risk assessment and assigns a risk score to each of its sub-recipients based upon overall financial and programmatic performance as demonstrated through the following 10 criteria:

- Required Reporting
- Turnover of Key Personnel
- Programmatic Compliance
- Fiscal Compliance
- Performance
- Frequency and Need of Technical Assistance
- Financial Stability
- Quality of Management Information Systems (internal controls)
- Timeliness of Annual Financial Audit Submission
- Other Material Factors (accreditation and confirmed cheating/test security violations)

The scores from each criterion are totaled for an overall risk score that indicates low, medium, or high-risk categories. Overall risk scores less than 18 indicate low risk, risk scores between 19 and 28 indicate medium risk, and risk scores of 29 and higher indicate high risk. If a district is considered high risk, several corrective action steps must be put into place, including onsite visits, reports, and meetings to work through issues and determine the next steps.

Barnwell School District 45 is proud to announce an overall risk score of “9” which is considered low risk and is the lowest risk score a district can receive.

“Both the Board of Trustees and our district leaders take very seriously our responsibility to this community and our families to be fiscally accountable and practice integrity within our fiscal

operations,” shared BSD45 Superintendent Crissie Stapleton. “It is the work of so many people within our district that makes this possible and thanks go to our administrative team at the district level who ensure required reporting and programmatic compliance are done accurately and in a timely manner throughout the year.”

The SCDE sub-recipient risk assessment procedures are located on the agency’s website at <https://www.ed.sc.gov/finance/auditing/information-memos-and-forms/subrecipient-risk-assessments/>.