Saturday, August 23

8:15-9 a.m.  **Registration and continental breakfast** ................................................................. Foyer  
*Co-sponsored by Boykin & Davis, LLC*

9-10:15 a.m.  **First general session** .......................................................................................... Atlantic Ballrooms 1-4

- **Welcome and purpose**  
  ElizaBeth Branham, Esquire, *SCSBA President, Lexington Two Board Member*

- **Federal overview and court update**  
  Learn about recent key rulings and pending cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and lower federal courts and their implications for public schools.  
  Francisco Negron, Jr., Esquire, *Associate Executive Director, Office of General Counsel, National School Boards Association*

10:15-10:30 a.m.  **Beverage break** ............................................................................................. Foyer  
*Co-sponsored by Duff, White & Turner, LLC*

10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  **Second general session** .............................................................................. Atlantic Ballrooms 1-4

- **Think your way to success, part 1**  
  Tap your knee with one of those little rubber medical hammers and like clockwork, the leg kicking up will be the reflex. According to emerging neuroscience, our brains can respond by reflex when there is a need to form a judgment and make a decision. The mental hammers eliciting those reflexes involve unconscious attitudes we don’t know exist. Learn the differences between decision making by unconscious reflex versus decisions made with deliberation and reflection and how those differences can mean better decisions and provide value to our board teams and the school district.  
  Sarah E. Redfield, Esquire, *Professor of Law, University of New Hampshire*

12:15 p.m.  **Lunch (included in registration)** ............................................................................. Atlantic Ballrooms 5-8  
*Co-sponsored by Childs & Halligan, P.A.*

1:30-2:30 p.m.  **Breakout sessions (choose one of four)**

- **Think your way to success, part 2** ....................................................................................... Atlantic Ballroom 4  
  Continue the discussion with an application to improve hiring and test scores.  
  Sarah E. Redfield, Esquire, *Professor of Law, University of New Hampshire*
Finance options for school construction

Participants will examine the impact of the Supreme Court's majority opinion in Home Builders Assoc. of S.C. v. School District No. 2 of Dorchester County as it may impact future legislation authorizing sales taxes for school building programs, alternatives to special legislation, related action taken in the 2014 Session of the General Assembly, and discuss current and proposed means for funding school building projects. The newly-effective federal rules regarding financial advisors will also be briefly addressed.

Theodore B. DuBose, Attorney, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.
Toya H. Green, Attorney, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.

The board’s role in employee grievances and complaints process

This interactive session will provide an overview on employee grievances and complaints after which participants will be asked to discuss and react to several scenarios in which an employee is addressing the board.

Andrea E. White, Esquire, Duff, White & Turner, LLC

The balancing of religion in schools and board meetings

Discussion will focus on the obligation of school districts to stay within the legal confines of the First Amendment by balancing the rights of individuals with the requirement that school districts not endorse or promote religion. This session will include an overview of the recent United States Supreme Court Decision in Town of Greece v. Galloway.

Doug Webb, Esquire, General Counsel, School District of Greenville County

2:30-2:45 p.m.   Beverages break
Co-sponsored by Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.

2:45-3:45 p.m.   Breakout sessions (choose one of four)

Legal updates and trends boards should know

As education leaders, board members must be aware of court cases affecting public school districts. In this session presenters will review recent cases, address various hot topics in school law, and highlight current litigation trends.

Allison Aiken Hanna, Esquire, Childs & Halligan, P.A.
Kimberly Kelley Blackburn, Esquire, Childs & Halligan, P.A.
Jasmine Rogers Drain, Esquire, Childs & Halligan, P.A.

Student discipline: guidance for educators on general education and special education disciplinary issues

Learn the “Jack and Jill” case study and test your knowledge of disciplining both a general education student and a special education student, when the allegation of misconduct is the same for both students. Learn how to identify the primary considerations necessary to discipline a general education student and a special education student.

Deidre D. Laws, Esquire, Boykin & Davis, LLC
Ralph J. Smiley, Esquire, Boykin & Davis, LLC
South Carolina’s legal battle to preserve IDEA funding .................................................. Atlantic Ballroom 4
After the great recession, the U.S. Department of Education threatened to withhold $36 million in federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funds from South Carolina for its failure to meet the State Level Maintenance of Effort. Against all odds, the legal team at the State Department of Education (SDE) fought back and won a landmark case that grants hearing rights to states receiving IDEA funds. Learn the background, steps and ruling of the case and its impact. Shelly Bezanson Kelly, Esquire, General Counsel, State Department of Education

Effective policies in the schoolhouse to keep boards out of the courthouse .......... Atlantic Ballroom 1
In this interactive session, participants will learn about common policy missteps that keep boards entangled in litigation.
Tiffany Richardson, Esquire, SCSBA Director of Policy and Legal Services
Jesulon Gibbs-Brown, Superintendent, Orangeburg Consol. School District Three

4-5 p.m.  S.C. Caucus of Black School Board Members ................................................. Atlantic Ballroom 4
This meeting is open to all participants.

Sunday, August 24

7:45-8:30 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast ......................................................... Foyer
Co-sponsored by Childs & Halligan, P.A.

8:30-9:30 a.m. Third general session .............................................................. Atlantic Ballrooms 1-4
State Superintendent of Education candidate forum
Listen to the candidates running for state superintendent of education discuss public education issues submitted by school board members in this interactive session.
Ed Murray, American Party candidate
Molly Spearman, Republican candidate
Tom Thompson, Democratic candidate

9:30-9:45 a.m. Beverage break ................................................................. Foyer

9:45-10:45 a.m. Closing general session .............................................................. Atlantic Ballrooms 1-4
The 60th Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education and South Carolina’s contribution to the historic case as memorialized by Jonathan Green’s painting “Breath of Freedom”.
Kenneth L. Childs, Esquire, Childs & Halligan, P.A.
Jonathan Green, Artist

11 a.m. Closing remarks ............................................................................. Atlantic Ballrooms 1-4
ElizaBeth Branham, Esquire, SCSBA President, Lexington Two Board Member
Myrtle Beach Marriott Resort at Grande Dunes

SCSBA’s 2014 School Law Conference
August 23-24, 2014