

**SCSBA Champions for Public Education Nomination & Award Criteria Form**  
(Attach form to supporting information, materials)

Name of School District Board Berkeley County School District Date: 12-14-11

Name of person, organization, business, etc. being nominated:  
Anita Zucker

If nominee is an organization or business, name of key contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of organization, business or individual being nominated: 4838 Jenkins Ave.,

N. Charleston, SC 29405 Telephone Number of nominee: 843.367.3105

Board member/district staff completing form: Amy Kovach Phone Number: 843.899.8553

District size     Small (up to 2,999 students)     Medium (3,000 – 8,999)     Large (9,000+)

Local media to be notified if nominee is selected: Post & Courier

Board chairman's signature: Kathy Schube  
(certifies that school board supports nomination)

**Criteria**

Tell how your nominee meets the criteria listed below.

Use no more than one 8½ x 11 sheet for each criterion. Type double-spaced with a 250-word maximum per page. Staple to nomination form.

Address each of the four criteria concisely and factually, with specific examples. Provide your nominee's name in the upper right-hand corner of each sheet.

1. Shows leadership in support either of ongoing or special programs authorized by the school board or SCSBA.
2. Actively demonstrates concern and effectively works for the betterment of the school district or for public schools statewide.
3. Understands public education's importance to democratic society and does his/her/its part to inspire support for quality public schools within the community or state.
4. "Makes a difference" for the entire school district or schools statewide because of his/her/its involvement.

**Please include photograph of nominee if available.**

**Mail to  
SCSBA Awards, 1027 Barnwell Street, Columbia, SC**

**Anita Zucker**

***Shows leadership in support either of ongoing or special programs authorized by the school board or SCSBA.***

Anita Zucker demonstrates excellence and leads by example in our community and throughout the state of South Carolina in the area of public education for the improvement of sustainable opportunities for children.

Ms. Zucker has been a crusader for STEM and robotics curriculum in Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester County school districts. As a result, the Charleston region now hosts one of the largest robotics competitions in the southeast, the Palmetto Regional FIRST Robotics Competition, held each March at the North Charleston Coliseum. High school teens from eight states come together to create, demonstrate and dazzle attendees with their ability to maneuver a robot made with common parts for judges in the field of science, technology and engineering.

She is a former member of the Trident Technical College Foundation Board and Executive Board and is a past chairperson. She was appointed to the Trident Technical College Area Commission by Governor Sanford in October 2007. Together with Dr. Mary Thornley, president of Trident Technical College, she has been instrumental in partnering with Berkeley County to develop the Berkeley Middle College. Students participating in a middle college may complete high school and college level coursework simultaneously. The first Berkeley student to earn dual degrees from high school and Trident Technical College will graduate in June 2012. This successful program has become a model for the development of Charleston County's Wando Middle College.

Ms. Zucker's leadership creates alignment regionally that allows each partner in the education continuum to provide best in class education services.

*(Word Count: 250)*

**Anita Zucker**

***Actively demonstrates concern and effectively works for the betterment of the school district or for public schools statewide.***

Anita Zucker works effectively for the betterment of the school district and public schools throughout South Carolina. Ms. Zucker earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from the University of Florida and her master's degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of North Florida. She fundamentally understands the education system inside and out,

Ms. Zucker serves on countless boards; many organizations are fortunate to share her passions. However, it is her work with The Education Foundation, Trident United Way, Charleston Regional Development Alliance and the school districts that set her apart. In each of these organizations Ms. Zucker brings a determined focus to the discussion of public education. She makes sure the topic is prioritized at the table with business leaders, is considered as an economic development tool when recruiting new businesses, recognized for the successes it is having with little learners in early reading curriculum, and champions STEM education for high school students through her work with The Citadel and the College of Charleston.

Finally, Ms. Zucker has been a vocal and prominent advocate for continuing the work of the P-20 Council in the region by spearheading changes in how higher education and K-12 education programs work seamlessly together; she has chaired and continues to promote the need for the EEDA Council in the state; and, she promotes programming that benefits every child in the community from Head Start for three to five year old students to GED certification for adult learners.

**Anita Zucker**

***Understands public education's importance to democratic society and does her part to inspire support for quality public schools within the community or state.***

Anita Zucker inspires others to reach great heights of performance and success while moving forward in a productive, collaborative environment that keeps an eye on the prize of greatness. Ms. Zucker demonstrates passion, purpose, active listening and translates goals into meaningful objectives and strategies.

Ms. Zucker feels passionately about the vision and mission of public education in our community. She understands the importance it has on economic development, social equality, and future talent for the workforce. She shares her passion in a way that enables others to feel passionate. Using inclusive communication skills, Ms. Zucker shares the big picture and strategic thinking of the superintendent and his goals with the community members she meets thereby gaining new advocates in the process.

Additionally, Ms. Zucker listens – attentively. She never tires in her desire to learn something new each day or to try new approaches to solve old challenges. As a leader in the community, Ms. Zucker lets others develop and form a vision for the future of education in Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester County and supports that vision by offering suggestions, volunteer support, research capabilities or financial resources to see the vision become reality for every child.

Finally, Ms. Zucker democratically shares responsibility and is the first to recognize a successful idea and help see it to fruition. She intimately connects others to the actions and process that she is leading to the accomplishment of the goals. She ensures the success of every child by inspiring every adult to engage actively.

**Anita Zucker**

***“Makes a difference” for the entire school district or schools statewide because of her involvement.***

Ms. Zucker has taken her foundation for public education and translated it throughout the community, working with business leaders, government officials, and non-profits to provide a consistent voice.

A past president of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce and past Chair of The Education Foundation, Ms. Zucker chaired the Drug-Free Workforce Program and served on the Chamber’s School to Work Task Force. Additionally, she chaired the Business Education Council and the Business Education Partnership Committee.

Ms. Zucker is the past president of the Charleston Jewish Federation, a past member of the Trident Public Education Foundation, and a past member of the South Carolina Business Education Partnership Committee for Excellence in Education.

As her accomplishments suggest, Ms. Zucker is passionate about uniting education and business. Appointed by Governor Sanford in 2005, Ms. Zucker continues to serve as a member of the Coordinating Council of the South Carolina Education and Economic Development Act.

The recipient of numerous awards such as the South Carolina Order of the Palmetto and the chamber’s Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award, Ms. Zucker received an honorary Doctorate of Education degree in 1998 from The Citadel for her dedication to and support of education in the Lowcountry.

Ms. Zucker’s passion for education and business continues through her support for the work of the Charleston Regional Development Alliance (CRDA) and in the implementation of the Education and Economic Development Act. As a community leader second to none, Ms. Zucker champions high quality education for all children of the Lowcountry.