AGENDA

Friday, August 23

4 - 7 p.m.  
Registration .................................................................Falls lounge

Saturday, August 24

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

8:30 - 9:45 a.m.  
First general session ..................................................... Ballrooms C1-3

Welcome and purpose
Tony Folk, SCSBA President, Dorchester School District 4

Vouchers, Education Savings Accounts, and the Growing Threat to Public Education
Legislative efforts are underway to expand a new form of the publicly-funded private school voucher program in South Carolina. Several bills that currently reside in both the House and Senate would establish an Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) program that would redirect public education dollars for individuals to use for private school tuition and related expenses. Hear how this program and others may be undermining the state’s first constitutional duty to support adequate opportunities in public schools from a University of South Carolina law professor whose focus of study is the intersection of constitutional law and public education.

Derek Black, Esquire, Professor of Law, University of South Carolina School of Law

9:45 -10:45 a.m.  
The view from Washington: The national school law landscape
Learn about recent key rulings, pending cases and agency activity affecting public schools at the national level.

Sonja H. Trainor, Managing Director, Legal Advocacy, National School Boards Association

10:45 - 11 a.m.  
Beverage break .................................................................Foyer  
Co-sponsored by Duff Freeman Lyon, L.L.C.

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Breakout sessions (choose one of four)
A wrong turn could cost you $44,402.50: FAQs to help you navigate the FOIA landscape – Ballroom C1
This presentation will consist of practical questions and answers to issues often encountered by state and local government entities related to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Attorney General opinions and judicial decisions will be discussed to provide an understanding of FOIA’s requirements regarding open meetings, access to records, the so-called “privacy exemption” and other provisions that have been the subject of litigation.
Warren V. Ganjehsani, Chief Legal Counsel, SC Technical College System

To post or not to post: A look into board members use of social media – Ballroom C3
Social media is a unique platform that allows board members to connect with the public. However, the ease of accessibility and the ability of users to freely express their thoughts can present legal challenges for public official users. Come hear about recent court decisions on the use of social media by public officials and how these decisions can provide you with best practices when using social media platforms. A key focus of this session will be understanding the First Amendment rights of board members and the public at large when interacting with public officials.
Charles J. Boykin, Esquire, Boykin & Davis, LLC
Tierney F. Dukes, Esquire, Boykin & Davis, LLC

Identifying and addressing workplace bullying – Meeting room 3
This interactive workshop will define workplace bullying, discuss the effects bullying has on the workplace and provide strategies employers can use to confront and prevent bullying at work.
Lisa R. Claxton, Esquire, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.

Consolidation…What to expect – Meeting rooms 8-9
In this session, Francenia B. Heizer, Burr Forman McNair will lead a panel discussion with representatives of Boykin & Davis, LLC; Halligan, Mahoney & Williams, P.A.; and White & Story, LLC to discuss approaches to consolidation.

12 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch (included in registration)............................... Ballrooms C4-6
1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Breakout sessions (choose one of four)

Effective policies and practices in the schoolhouse to keep boards out of the courthouse (Repeats at 2:45 p.m.) – Ballroom C1
In this interactive session, participants will learn about potential missteps that can keep boards entangled in litigation, complaints or grievances.
Dr. Jesulon Gibbs-Brown, Esquire
Dr. Tiffany N. Richardson, General Counsel and Director of Policy and Legal Services, SCSBA

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Repeats at 2:45 p.m.) – Ballroom C3
Come hear an overview of the lawsuit with the United States Department of Education regarding our state’s Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
Barbara A. Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, South Carolina Department of Education
Get on the bus – Navigating liabilities when transporting students – Meeting room 3
This presentation will address a district's legal responsibility when an incident occurs on a bus involving district personnel, students or the malfunction of a bus mechanism.
Lonnesse Williams, Esquire, White & Story, LLC

The opioid crisis and its effect on communities and schools – Meeting rooms 8-9
The opioid crisis is nationwide, growing daily and one that does not discriminate on the basis of geography, race, sex, age or socio-economic status. During this interactive presentation, school board members will hear from two attorneys with different professional backgrounds regarding the epidemic and how it affects students, employees, schools and communities. Board members will learn about the practical realities of opioid addiction, how they affect our communities and emerging trends in schools across the nation (K-12 and higher education) for dealing with these issues.
Allison Aiken Hanna, Esquire, Halligan Mahoney & Williams, P.A.
Darra James Coleman, Chief Advice Counsel, South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

2:30 - 2:45 p.m.  Beverage break .................................................................................................................Foyer
Co-sponsored by White & Story, LLC

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

Effective policies and practices in the schoolhouse to keep boards out of the courthouse
(Repeated) – Ballroom C1
Dr. Jesulon Gibbs-Brown, Esquire
Dr. Tiffany N. Richardson, General Counsel and Director of Policy and Legal Services, SCSBA

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Repeated) – Ballroom C3
Barbara A. Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, South Carolina Department of Education

Student data privacy under FERPA in the electronic age – Meeting room 3
This presentation will provide an overview of the confidentiality and nondisclosure provisions of FERPA with an emphasis on student privacy, security considerations and preventative measures related to electronic student data.
David T. Duff, Esquire, Duff Freeman Lyon, L.L.C.

The crossroads of school law and family law – Meeting rooms 8-9
Learn more about the challenges school districts often face when put in the middle of private custody actions. We’ll discuss encountering subpoenas, FOIA requests, family court orders and visits from guardians ad litem and caseworkers. Join us as we further explore the controversial topic of choice vaccinations, children victimized in the opioid crisis and the school districts’ protection of these children, and other issues at the intersection of school law and family law.
Elizabeth Smith Owen, Partner, Morton & Gettys, LLC
S.C. Caucus of Black School Board Members meeting .......................... Meeting room 3
This meeting is open to all participants.

Sunday, August 25

8 - 8:30 a.m.  Registration and breakfast break ................................................................. Foyer
Co-sponsored by Boykin & Davis, LLC

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  Second general session ........................................................................ Ballrooms C1-3

Opening remarks
Tony Folk, SCSBA President, Dorchester School District 4

Meet the Boards - Let’s talk politics
Join us for a Sunday morning “Meet the Press” type of session where legislative leaders will field general questions and political commentary. The session will feature observations of the 2019 Legislative session to include teacher advocacy, education reform legislation, this year’s state budget and a new call for education funding reform for 2020.

The Honorable Merita A. “Rita” Allison, chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee
The Honorable Wendy C. Brawley, member of the House Education and Public Works Committee
Dr. Katherine Coleman, Board Member, Saluda County Schools
Kimberly Johnson, SCSBA Board of Directors, Clarendon School District Two
The Honorable A. Shane Massey, Senate Majority Leader and member of the Senate Education Committee

Moderator: Bill Davis, Humorist and former Education and State House Reporter

9:30 - 9:45 a.m.  Beverage break ...................................................................................... Foyer
Co-sponsored by Duff Freeman Lyon, L.L.C.

9:45 - 11 a.m.  Closing general session ........................................................................ Ballrooms C1-3

Avoiding the $10,000 fine: What you need to know about South Carolina Ethics
Join us for an overview of the Ethics Reform Act with an emphasis on the rules of conduct for new school board members.

Meghan Walker, Executive Director, S.C. State Ethics Commission

11 a.m.  Closing remarks ...................................................................................... Ballrooms C1-3
Tony Folk, SCSBA President, Dorchester School District 4