**Agreement among School Superintendents**

**Berkeley County, Charleston County, Dorchester Two and Dorchester Four School Districts**

We have in common a devotion and commitment to public education in our region and to the support of our teachers, principals, district staff, and communities in the pursuit of educational success for every child.

We acknowledge the recent *Regional Education Report* of the Tri-County Cradle to Career Collaborative (TCCC) and that a widening achievement gap exists within the region. While our Districts have been deemed “Excellent” by the State of South Carolina, we see the continuation of this gap as a principal obstacle to further progress and a serious impediment to our aspirations for all children in the tri-county region’s public schools.

We believe that many of the opportunities for improvement are common across our districts and we are committing to work collaboratively with each other and with the TCCC to identify and implement strategies, programs and initiatives that move us toward closing the gap. To that end:

1. We are establishing the **Low Country Education Consortium** (LCEC) and will meet monthly:

 - To make common cause on issues of regional and State importance that impede our progress

 in the pursuit of educational success for every child in public education

 - To coordinate on matters of importance to each region (school calendars, weather response,

 budgets and other logistical matters) where a coordinated or collective approach makes sense

We intend, individually and collectively to work with the TCCC and to support initiatives that emerge from TCCC Collaborative Networks that are deemed in the best interests of public education in the region

2. We support the continued involvement of district personnel, including teachers and principals, in the Networks now established (High School Graduation and Kindergarten Readiness) and in Networks to be established related to our schools.

3. Within the limits of legal requirements and the appropriate protection of student confidentiality, we support the use of school and district data to identify both the most and least promising programs and initiatives supporting academic achievement.

4. We agree to meet periodically with the TCCC to review LCEC and TCCC progress and discuss issues of regional concern.

[Superintendents]