Duncan Chapel Elementary program a semifinalist for education award

GREENVILLE, S.C. – The Riley Institute at Furman and South Carolina Future Minds have announced the ten semifinalists for the Third Annual Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSC Award for Excellence. Presented in conjunction with the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and the South Carolina State Board of Education, the award highlights educational initiatives throughout the state.

Among the ten semifinalists is Duncan Chapel Elementary’s Community in Schools program. CIS targets high-risk children, providing community based integrated student services, interventions, and connects community resources with academic and social service needs of students.

The program has been at Duncan Chapel since 2006, serving 45 students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades each year, according to the CIS website.

Other semifinalists include: Black Boys of Distinction, Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry, Francis Marion University Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children in Poverty, Horry County Schools’ Early College High School, Parents as Teachers SC, Project Lead the Way, Reach Out and Read, Summer Reading Loss program, and the Teacher Cadet Program, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement.

Candidates were selected from more than 80 entries in the Riley Institute’s WhatWorksSC clearinghouse. Three finalists will be selected by a confidential non-partisan panel and announced in October. Each finalist receives a cash prize to grow and share information about their program.

The finalists will be recognized and the top award will be presented October 16th at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center as part of the SC Conference of Public Education Partners organized by SC Future Minds.