



**Dick and Tunky Riley**  
**WhatWorksSC<sup>SM</sup>**  
**Award for Excellence**

Honoring highly effective education initiatives in South Carolina

October 26, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

South Carolina Archives & History Center  
Columbia, South Carolina



# Program

Presented by the Riley Institute and South Carolina Future Minds, in conjunction with the South Carolina State Board of Education and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

## Welcome

**Trip DuBard**, *Executive Director,*  
*South Carolina Future Minds*

**Don Gordon**, *Executive Director,*  
*The Riley Institute at Furman*

**Richard W. Riley**, *former U.S. Secretary of Education*  
*and former Governor of South Carolina*

## Video Presentation

Clinton Elementary School: American Reading  
Company's 100 Book Challenge

Reading Recovery Training Center at Clemson University

South Carolina Teaching Fellows, Center for Educator Recruitment,  
Retention and Advancement (CERRA), Winthrop University

## Presentation of Award

**Richard W. Riley**

**Mike Brennan**, *President,*  
*BB&T South Carolina*

**Robert Barnett**, *Associate Vice President,*  
*South Carolina Chamber of Commerce*

## Concluding Remarks

**Mike Brennan**

**Gerrita Postlewait**, *Chair,*  
*South Carolina State Board of Education*

## Reception

This event is made possible by the generosity of BB&T, the South Carolina Association of School Administrators and Colonial Life, Childs & Halligan, P.A., and SC ETV.

# 2011 Award Finalists

## **Clinton Elementary School, Lancaster: American Reading Company's 100 Book Challenge**

Through renewed expectations for every student, new tools for principal instructional leadership, and measured parental involvement, Clinton Elementary School is making certain that children, especially African American males, are taking essential steps toward college and career readiness. 100 Book Challenge is the reading accountability system from American Reading Company, in which students are expected to read for 200 hours per school year and receive expert instruction from teachers in school and daily parental involvement at home. Through the partnership with American Reading Company, Principal Rachel Ray has achieved measurable results in test scores and has ignited new and essential attitudes among teachers about their effectiveness and ability to close the achievement gap for African American males.

Contact: Rachel Ray, Principal, Clinton Elementary School, 803.285.5395, rray@lcsd.k12.sc.us  
Pam Atkison, 866.810.2665, pam.atkison@americanreading.com

## **Reading Recovery Training Center at Clemson University**

Reading Recovery® is a short-term, one-to-one early intervention for students with lowest achievement in literacy learning in the first grade. Designed to prevent students at risk of failing to learn to read and write, students meet individually with a specially trained teacher for 30 minutes each day for a period of 12–20 weeks. The goal is to accelerate learning through an individually designed and delivered lesson series that aims to close the achievement gap early so children benefit from regular classroom instruction. The annual program evaluation continues to establish the replicability and fidelity of the intervention. Clemson University is the training site for Reading Recovery in South Carolina and works in collaboration with the South Carolina Department of Education to continue effective statewide implementation of the program.

Contact: C.C. Bates, Director, 864.656.4506, celestb@clemson.edu

## **South Carolina Teaching Fellows, Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement, Winthrop University**

The South Carolina Teaching Fellows program was founded in 1999 by the state's General Assembly to recruit talented high school seniors into the teaching profession and help them develop leadership qualities. The program, administered by the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) at Winthrop University, provides enrichment and professional development opportunities for promising future teachers, in addition to making available to these students a forgivable loan of up to \$6,000 per year of college. In addition, Teaching Fellows are involved in communities and businesses throughout the state. Currently, there are Teaching Fellows enrolled at 11 Universities across South Carolina.

Contact: Jenna Hallman, Program Director, CERRA, 800.476.2387, hallmanj@cerra.org

## **Semi-Finalists**

Bridges to a Brighter Future, Furman University, Greenville

Clemson-Barnwell First Steps Partnership, Barnwell County

Focus to Develop Reading (FDR) Time, Sue Cleveland Elementary School, Greenville

Horry County Early College High School, Conway

Language! West Ashley High School, Charleston

Project Lead the Way, Anderson Districts 1 & 2 Career and Technology Center, Williamston

SC TAP System: South Carolina Department of Education and National Institute for Excellence in Teaching

## About the Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSC Award for Excellence

The **Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSC** Award for Excellence is dedicated to the memory of Ann “Tunky” Riley, a devoted teacher and passionate advocate for quality public education for all children.

Together, Dick and Tunky made up the education dream team for South Carolina. It is widely known that Dick Riley was South Carolina’s “Education Governor” (1978–1987), and as U.S. Secretary of Education (1993–2001), he spearheaded initiatives to improve academic standards, made education more accessible for lower-income families, and expanded college grant and loan programs. Throughout his leadership, Tunky made her own mark on South Carolina and the nation. While First Lady of South Carolina, she chaired a statewide Partnership for Parent Involvement in Education that she was asked by educators and parents to create because of her proven ability to be a bridge builder between parents and educators in her home city of Greenville. She played an instrumental role in the passage of South Carolina’s Education Improvement Act, garnering grassroots support throughout the state, all while undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer. During their eight years in Washington, Tunky traveled extensively with the Secretary to schools all over the country, as well as abroad, to support improving the quality of education for all children.

Secretary Riley remains an ambassador for improving education in the United States and abroad. He serves as chair of the Board of Trustees at his alma mater, Furman University, as well as Advisory Board chair of the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership at Furman. With the full support of his law firm and its affiliate—Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough and EducationCounsel—Secretary Riley speaks to education groups each year, and serves in a leadership, advisory, or collaborative capacity with many other entities across the nation and abroad that support education improvement at all levels. Secretary Riley has been inducted into the South Carolina Hall of Fame and has been named by *TIME Magazine* as one of the “Top Ten Best Cabinet Members” in our nation’s history.

The Riley Institute at Furman and South Carolina Future Minds, in conjunction with BB&T, the South Carolina State Board of Education, and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, have partnered to present the first annual Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSC Award for Excellence to an outstanding education initiative in South Carolina. A confidential, non-partisan selection committee consists of representatives from the South Carolina State Board of Education, a major South Carolina-based corporation, a South Carolina institution of higher education, and a representative from each of two highly-regarded national education foundations. Finalists were selected from initiatives now in the Riley Institute’s WhatWorksSC clearinghouse and have shown convincing data concerning program effectiveness.

## About WhatWorksSC

**WhatWorksSC** is a web-based resource for educators, students, the community, and policy makers. It ties strategies for world-class schools in South Carolina to promising in-state initiatives and includes policy papers written by state leaders, case studies, and an evolving clearinghouse of initiatives that explore and exemplify key strategies for improving South Carolina’s public schools.

Creation of WhatWorksSC was driven by “In Their Own Words: A Public Vision for Educational Excellence in South Carolina.” This study, the largest ever done in South Carolina and unique in the nation, details key strategies for creating world-class schools in South Carolina, derived from 3000 focus group hours with more than 800 stakeholders, and funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

WhatWorksSC is continually seeking information about exemplary education initiatives and welcomes ongoing nominations for consideration for future awards at <http://riley.furman.edu/education/projects/whatworkssc>.



**Presented by:**



The Riley Institute at Furman



**In conjunction with:**

