

District Administrator honors 45 schools and systems with this year's District of Distinction program. These school districts have created homegrown initiatives to support students' social-emotional development, to provide powerful new opportunities for career-focused STEM learning and to improve the skills of educators.

Recognized Impact: Since implementing STAR Academy, the Berkeley County school district's graduation rate has risen from 67.3 percent to 83.5 percent. STAR Academy students miss an average of only 3.5 days per year, and their attendance has improved 62 percent by their grade 7 year. Discipline infractions have been reduced by 75 percent.