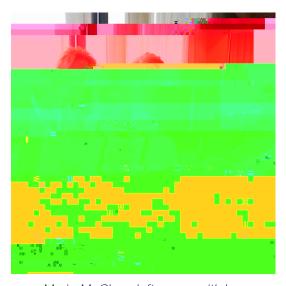


## Aiken County Public School District

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For Immediate Release

## <u>Aiken County Public Schools' Transportation Secretary Named State Support</u> Person of the Year



Maria McClure, left, poses with her secretary Sandra Blackwood, right, after she was presented with the SCAPT Support Person of the Year Award.

The South Carolina Association For Pupil Transportation (SCAPT) named Aiken County's Sandra Blackwood as the 2015 Support Person of the Year at their awards luncheon held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina earlier today.

Maria McClure, the District's Executive Manager of Transportation, submitted a heart-felt nomination letter describing Ms. Blackwood, her secretary, as "knowledgeable, professional, caring and so full of common sense."

Throughout her nine total years of secretarial support to the transportation office, Ms. Blackwood has supported her manager, Ms. McClure, through a series of health problems, a divorce and several babies. "The office never skipped a beat," Ms. McClure said of her secretary's a bility to carry on in her absence. "We are a team, she said. "Sandra knows that I appreciate and depend on her greatly. She respects that and takes it very seriously."

Ms. Blackwood has been employed with the District since 1975 and transferred into transportation to serve as their secretary in 1995. In addition to serving as secretary to the transportation office's Executive Manager, Ms. Blackwood is

also a support system for the department's eight supervisors and nine secretaries working at area transportation offices located throughout the district.

"We all depend on Sandra," Ms. McClure wrote in the nomination letter. "I just can't say enough about her! Yes, she does the everyday secretary responsibilities, but it goes beyond that. There's a sense of pride in what she does."

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