



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

INEZ MOORE TENENBAUM
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Jim White, Ph.D.
State Textbook Office

DATE: August 31, 2006

RE: Web-Based Inventory Management System

The General Assembly authorized the Department to implement a statewide Web-based inventory management system for instructional materials. A solicitation was issued through the Division of the State Chief Information Officer, and a contract awarded to Follett Software Company.

Follett Software Company is a division of Follett Corporation and has provided library and textbook automation for over 100,000 schools and universities in the United States and 165 countries. Many schools in South Carolina currently use their Destiny Library Manager solution, and Greenville County School District (GCSD) has been using their Web-based Destiny Textbook Manager solution since 2005. The *Greenville News* published a story entitled "Tracking System Helps Schools Solve Book Shortage Problems," August 16, 2006, that reported favorably on the implementation of Destiny Textbook Manager in GCSD.

Destiny Textbook Manager will provide South Carolina schools and districts total Web-based tracking and management of state-owned textbooks, utilizing patron data (student and teacher) from SASlpx and textbook inventory data from the central textbook depository on-line ordering system to ensure **equity** and accuracy. Secure Socket Layer (SSL) encryption to and from the server will be employed to ensure the security of sensitive patron data and all on-line Textbook Manager transactions. **Most importantly, Destiny Textbook Manager dramatically improves accessibility and accountability, ensuring that textbooks are available and in the hands of each and every student.**

The Department, through the State Textbook Office, plans to implement the Destiny Textbook Manager solution in several phases to ensure successful integration with our infrastructure. The initial phase will begin in September 2006. Destiny Textbook Manager software will be installed on a state server located at the Central Textbook Depository. Several districts have been invited to participate in a pilot program that will be completed by December 2006. During the second phase, beginning in early 2007, additional districts currently using other textbook software with compatible barcodes will be added to the system. In the final phase, the remaining districts will be added when students return textbooks at the end of the school year (facilitating the application of bar codes).

Please ask district textbook and SASlpx coordinators to serve as district contacts for the Destiny Textbook Manager implementation. You may also appoint another member of your staff by sending an e-mail message to jwhite@ed.sc.gov. Please call me at 803-253-4188 if you have comments or questions.