

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
MAY 11, 2023
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: GOVERNOR KAY IVEY, PRESIDENT

The invocation was done by Reverend Freddie Moore, Pastor, Christian Chapel Baptist Church, Demopolis, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell in person
Dr. Tonya Chestnut in person
Governor Kay Ivey in person
Mrs. Marie Manning in person
Dr. Wayne Reynolds in person
Dr. Yvette Richardson in person
Mrs. Tracie West in person
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

Absent

Mrs. Belinda McRae

Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 13, 2023, MEETING

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of April 13, 2023.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2023-2024 ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND
ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR MR. JEFFREY L. NORRIS,
OAK MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL, SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the teaching profession is one of the most important careers within our nation;
and

WHEREAS, rising school and student enrollment continues to increase the need for highly professional kindergarten, elementary, and high school educators throughout our nation; and

WHEREAS, accomplished Alabama educator, Mr. Jeffrey L. Norris is an excellent example of educational leadership, mentorship, and classroom innovation; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris strives to live out John Maxwell's philosophy, a great leader's courage to fulfill his vision comes from passion, not position; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris began his career in a variety of distinct positions with the Shelby County School System, including as a third and fifth-grade educator; and

WHEREAS, he views professional development as a vital and significant resource, which ultimately can be one of the most rewarding experiences in an educator's career; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris also has been a highly effective school administrator, gifted education teacher, administrative assistant, and school principal; and

WHEREAS, educators are an essential part of our nation's continued prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris has attained National Board Certification and degrees in both Educational and Teacher Leadership; and

WHEREAS, his focus remains on developing more meaningful and authentic classroom approaches to help every student reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 pandemic prompted many to consider life changes, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris courageously decided to return to the classroom where he taught Advanced English Language Arts and sixth grade mathematics; and

WHEREAS, he believes all members of the education community have a responsibility to lead dynamic and engaging classroom lessons; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris' overall instructional methods center around three key concepts – environment, engagement, and empowerment; and

WHEREAS, when he plans his wonderful classroom lessons, he always focuses on keeping student engagement at the forefront and often goes to great lengths to incorporate best practice classroom activities to maintain the full attention of every student in his classroom; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris has gained a high-level of respect within his community and among his colleagues and parents; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris encourages his students to understand academic excellence truly requires personal perseverance; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Jeffrey L. Norris is a great professional example for all educators statewide:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Mr. Jeffrey L. Norris for being selected the 2023-2024 Alabama Teacher of the Year and Elementary Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude for his dedication to academic excellence.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2023-2024 ALABAMA ALTERNATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR
MR. KEVIN JACOB PUGHSLEY, BERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL,
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher of the Year Program, in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year Program, is the most prestigious teacher appreciation program in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the attributes of a great teacher include setting high expectations and creating a sense of belongingness in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley, a teacher at Berry Middle School in the Hoover City School System, exhibits these qualities and more and has been described as one who provides an atmosphere that gives students the ability to grow their minds and develop a thirst for knowledge and encourages student feedback for his professional growth while establishing student connections; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley obtained a bachelor's degree in Elementary/Special Education, and a master's degree in education and is a top trainer for educators across the state of Alabama and uses Marzano's New Art of Teaching and Five Questions Every Teacher Should Ask to encourage other educators to consider student and parent feedback; and

WHEREAS, since 2017, Kevin Jacob Pughsley has been employed as a sixth grade Earth Science teacher at Berry Middle School where he engages all students in the lesson, "Journey to Rocketry," which defines him as an educator as the lesson teaches life skills and supports a growth mindset of learning through trial and error and the engineering and design process; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley ensures that his students are connected to the world around them through various lessons taught such as, trips to Cape Canaveral, Florida, where they visited Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge to learn about the human impact on the environment; the Kennedy Space Center where they met an astronaut and learned about their time in space; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley holds certifications in several areas including, but not limited to, A-Plus College Ready, National Mathematics and Science Initiative, Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley is the recipient of the Pat Clemo Memorial Scholarship; Teacher Ambassador for Alabama Educator Space Camp, Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science and other awards and recognition; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley enjoys encouraging educators to utilize the best practices, district-wide training, small group mentoring opportunities and is truly thankful for his family, colleagues, students, and local community for their great support:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Kevin Jacob Pughsley for being selected the 2023-2024 Alabama Alternate Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude to him for his dedication to education, commitment to learning, and the inspiration that his career has brought to the teaching profession for the benefit of students and teachers in the state.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING
THE 2023-2024 DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education seeks to recognize and encourage excellence in education, both in teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher of the Year Program is a means of identifying and rewarding some of the state's outstanding teachers each year; and

WHEREAS, well-trained, dedicated, caring, enthusiastic, and innovative teachers are among the ingredients essential to achieving excellence in preparing Alabama's children and youth to become capable adults; and

WHEREAS, the honorees in the 2023-2024 Alabama Teacher of the Year Program exhibit these qualities and more:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education commends the teachers and expresses its gratitude to each of them for their commitment, sacrifice, dedication, and service to the children and youth of Alabama that have earned them the distinction of District Teachers of the Year; and

- Maegan Gayle**, Hutchens Elementary School, Mobile County School System, State School Board District One Elementary Teacher of the Year
- Amanda Talantis**, Gulf Shores High School, Gulf Shores City School System, State School Board District One Secondary Teacher of the Year
- Logan Faith Rasmusson**, Sherwood Elementary School, Phenix City School System, State School Board District Two Elementary Teacher of the Year
- Ansley A. Godwin**, Carroll High School, Ozark City School System, State School Board District Two Secondary Teacher of the Year
- Jeffrey L. Norris**, Oak Mountain Middle School, Shelby County School System, State School Board District Three Elementary Teacher of the Year
- Kevin Pughsley**, Berry Middle School, Hoover City School System, State School Board District Three Secondary Teacher of the Year

Dr. Allatesha Cain, Charles F. Hard Elementary School, Bessemer City School System, State School Board District Four Elementary Teacher of the Year
Mychoal B. Woods, George Washington Carver High School, Birmingham City School System, State School Board District Four Secondary Teacher of the Year
George Clausell, II, George Washington Carver Elementary School, Macon County School System, State School Board District Five Elementary Teacher of the Year
Jessica Roberson, Selma High School, Selma City School System, State School Board District Five Secondary Teacher of the Year
Lauren Murdoch Brasch, Coosa Valley Elementary School, Pell City School System, State School Board District Six Elementary Teacher of the Year
Katie McGee, Cullman Middle School, Cullman City School System, State School Board District Six Secondary Teacher of the Year
Kimberly Jared, Barkley Bridge Elementary School, Hartselle City School System, State School Board District Seven Elementary Teacher of the Year
Jennifer Coleman, Hewitt-Trussville High School, Trussville City School System, State School Board District Seven Secondary Teacher of the Year
Bonnie Howard, Madison Elementary School, Madison City School System, State School Board District Eight Elementary Teacher of the Year
Nia Nicole Stivers, North Jackson High School, Jackson County School System, State School Board District Eight Secondary Teacher of the Year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we celebrate the accomplishments of these outstanding educators in the classroom and community.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF DIVYA NAYAK,
 BROCK'S GAP INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
 WINNER OF THE 2023 "BRINGING OUR MISSING CHILDREN HOME"
 POSTER CONTEST**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education strongly support the national effort to commemorate the valiant and unselfish acts of the many organizations and individuals that work to keep Alabama students safe; and

WHEREAS, each year 1.3 million children are reported missing; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement, citizens, and even children have been instrumental in keeping children safe and returning them home to their families, community, and school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is committed to working with the United States Department of Justice through the Alabama Department of Public Safety and the Alabama Center for Missing and Exploited Children in sponsoring a poster contest entitled "Bringing Our Missing Children Home;" and

WHEREAS, the statewide "Bringing Our Missing Children Home" poster contest is an excellent opportunity for Alabama's public schools to emphasize and increase community involvement, to partner with law enforcement officials to raise awareness and increase support for assistance in finding missing children, and to educate parents and others about child safety:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Divya Nayak, a fifth grader at Brock's Gap Intermediate School in the Hoover City School System, as the winner of the "Bringing Our Missing Children Home" poster contest and wishes her well in the national poster competition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes all of the Alabama educators who participated, Mrs. Cathy Meacham, Teacher; Mr. Scott Mitchell, Principal, Brock's Gap Intermediate School; and Dr. Dee Fowler, Superintendent, Hoover City School System.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION HONORING SHADES MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS 2023 NOMINEE FOR ALABAMA GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes the importance of saving energy, reducing costs, creating environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protecting health, and fostering wellness for Alabama students and educators; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education annually recognizes those schools in the nation that are striving to achieve an energy-efficient and healthy school environment with the Green Ribbon School Award; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School, located in the Hoover City School System is awarded the Alabama Green Ribbon School Award by the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for its commitment to improving its overall environmental impact, energy efficiency, and environmental education efforts; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School encouraged students to take an active role locally to support the environment through Alabama Mathematics, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) experiences, both indoors and in outdoor learning spaces, through *EcoSchools* program where students were led to request an energy audit conducted by Alabama Power, which resulted in efficiency methods being implemented and the improvement of the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system working in coordination with a local HVAC specialist; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School's parent group volunteered to help design an outdoor space to include nature trails, a butterfly garden, rain barrel collection area, and raised vegetable beds accessible to students of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School improved water quality by installing a backflow device in line with Shades Mountain's water main, vacuum breakers to avoid cross contamination, auto stop water faucets in restrooms, and Brita filling stations from a grant; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School has a no-idling policy for all vehicles and has equipped new buses with diesel particulate filters, and only load and unload at least 25 feet from building air intakes, doors, and windows; and

WHEREAS, classroom units are equipped with outside air dampers to maintain American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) fresh-air standards and in compliance with all state and local building codes; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School partners with local and state affiliates to provide a comprehensive environmental program through its annual Arbor Day event, its school weather station that is part of the Community Collaborative for Rain, Hail, and Snow network, and ADS, a professional organization specializing in water, wastewater, and the effects of rainfall on these systems; and

WHEREAS, the STEM experience at Shades Mountain Elementary School uses AMSTI standards embedded projects with easily observable outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Shades Mountain Elementary School students think globally and take an active role locally to support our state's environment and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, female students also are inspired by their teachers to engage in STEAM learning opportunities, through the Girls Engaged in Math and Science initiative:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Shades Mountain Elementary School located in the Hoover City School System for its commitment to environmental education and does hereby express its sincere congratulations.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION HONORING GULF SHORES CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM AS A 2023 NOMINEE FOR ALABAMA GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes the importance of saving energy, reducing costs, creating environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protecting health, and fostering wellness for Alabama students and educators; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education annually recognizes those schools, school districts, and institutes of higher education in the nation that are striving to achieve an energy-efficient and healthy school environment with the Green Ribbon School Award; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System is awarded the Alabama Green Ribbon School Award by the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for its commitment to improving its overall environmental impact, energy efficiency, and environmental education efforts; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System has put significant effort into reducing its energy use and greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Gulf Shores City School System has focused all efforts on renovations that incorporate top energy efficient practices; and

WHEREAS, this school system conserves water by using bottle filling stations and captures water runoff at all campuses in rain barrels (cisterns) to hydrate flowers and plants; and

WHEREAS, the school system utilizes professional landscaping techniques to preserve and manage topsoil to promote positive land water runoff; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Shores City School System also has built hydroponic tower gardens to recapture and recirculate water to all of its flowers and plants; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System is dedicated to reducing its environmental footprint through a special recycling program initiated through 21st Century Grant awards to its elementary and middle schools and the Gulf Coast RCD Grant awarded to its high school; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System is dedicated to reducing its eco-footprint using composting education to promote the benefits of outdoor classroom gardens to significantly lower the misuse of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System sponsors monthly bike-to-school days with a principal day, and bikes for field trips and travel between and among the school campuses through bike trails; and

WHEREAS, the community works in coordination with the building administrators and the Child Nutrition Program supervisor on the superintendent's Nutrition and Wellness committee to develop the "Eat a Rainbow" initiative encouraging students to eat colorful foods and healthy snacks, and the Farm to Table program where the greenhouses, hydroponics labs, and garden classes are utilized to grow salad-ready vegetables for use in the culinary classes and cafeteria; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System has placed emphasis on Sustainability in Education through the Science by the Shore Curriculum Initiative that incorporates Alabama Science Course of Study and Literacy Standards, its Design Thinking Across the Curriculum with a focus on sustainability, and its Sand Dune restoration project; and

WHEREAS, the students at the Gulf Shores City School System participate in STEAM Education, from pre-kindergarten to high school through specialized courses in robotics, coding, designing plankton identification nets, building Dutch Bucket Systems; and

WHEREAS, this school system has also established a successful best practice Aviation Lab for students; and

WHEREAS, the *Gulf Shores City School Summer Camp* partners with State Park and Ecotourism initiatives to provide a fun experience for families each year, which includes guided trail tours, kayaking, bicycling, and information on local plants; and

WHEREAS, Green Career Pathways are modeled through several High School Green Career Academies including Aquaponics, Marine Science, and Gulf Coast Ecology through partnerships with Environmental Engineers from South Alabama and Volkert; and

WHEREAS, the school system's career academy coordinates a phenomenally successful fitness promotion project between its Health Science, Naval Junior ROTC, Middle School Physical Education, Sports Medicine, and Public Safety programs; and

WHEREAS, physical fitness is also emphasized by student participation in the *Happy Feet* running initiative, *Healthy Eating, Active Living* or HEAL, and the incorporation of standing desk options for all faculty and students; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Shores City School System is committed to connecting students to our state's natural resource management and sustainable efforts:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Gulf Shores City School for its commitment to environmental education and does hereby express its sincere congratulations:

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Marie Manning, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF NEWTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
DALE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
NATIONAL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA) DISTINGUISHED
SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program is a project of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators and provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be recognized for their positive educational advances and the outstanding academic achievement of their students; and

WHEREAS, schools nominated for the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program demonstrate high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years, meet or exceed state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years, and demonstrate a poverty rate of sixty percent or higher for the nominated year; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection process, Newton Elementary School in the Dale County School System was selected for Category 2 of the Distinguished Schools Program that is awarded for closing the achievement gap between student groups; and

WHEREAS, Newton Elementary School received recognition as a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School; and

WHEREAS, Newton Elementary School Principal, Mr. James E. Andrews, represented Alabama at the National ESEA Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, in February 2023:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Newton Elementary School upon the honor of being selected to receive recognition as a National ESEA Distinguished School:

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Marie Manning and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF PIEDMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PIEDMONT CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
NATIONAL *ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT* (ESEA) DISTINGUISHED
SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program is a project of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators and provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be recognized for their positive educational advances and the outstanding academic achievement of their students; and

WHEREAS, schools nominated for the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program demonstrate high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years, meet or exceed state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years, and demonstrate a poverty rate of sixty percent or higher for the nominated year; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection process, Piedmont Elementary School in the Piedmont City School System was selected for Category 1 of the Distinguished Schools Program that is awarded for exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, Piedmont Elementary School received recognition as a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School; and

WHEREAS, Piedmont Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Brigett Stewart, and select school staff represented Alabama at the National ESEA Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, in February 2023:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Piedmont Elementary School upon the honor of being selected to receive recognition as a National ESEA Distinguished School.

Done this 11th day of April 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF
LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM AWARD**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes, appreciates, and encourages schools to implement instructional programs that result in having higher levels of performance for Alabama students; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative School Performance Recognition Program was created within the Alabama State Department of Education to reward public schools that either demonstrate high performance by being ranked in the top 25 percent of public schools, as ranked in the school grading system, or demonstrate exemplary progress by improving the overall annual ranking of the school by at least one letter grade, as ranked in the school grading system; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative School Performance Recognition Program provides an opportunity for all public schools across the state to be recognized for their positive educational advances and the outstanding academic achievement of their students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate the Legislative School Performance Program Recognition Schools comprised of the 25 Top 25 Percent Schools and 25 Most Improved Schools listed below for their hard work and determination to improving student outcomes.

Alexander City School System

Nathaniel H Stephens Elementary School - Most Improved

Auburn City School System

Wrights Mill Road Elementary School - Top 25

Birmingham City School System

Huffman Academy - Most Improved
Oliver K5 School - Most Improved

Boaz City School System

Boaz Middle School - Most Improved

Madison City School System

Heritage Elementary School - Top 25

Horizon Elementary School - Top 25

Mill Creek Elementary School - Top 25

Marshall County School System

Asbury Elementary School - Most Improved

Douglas Elementary School - Most Improved

Mobile County School System

Eichold-Mertz School of Math and Science - Top 25

Cherokee County School System
Centre Elementary School - Most Improved

Chickasaw City School System
Chickasaw City Elementary School - Most Improved

Cleburne County School System
Pleasant Grove Elementary School - Most Improved

Conecuh County School System
Conecuh County Junior High School - Most Improved

Etowah County School System
Hokes Bluff Middle School - Most Improved

Eufaula City School System
Alabama Virtual Academy at Eufaula City Schools - Most Improved

Florence City School System
Kilby Laboratory School - Top 25

Gadsden City School System
Eura Brown Elementary School - Top 25

Haleyville City School System
Haleyville Middle School - Most Improved

Homewood City School System
Edgewood Elementary School - Top 25

Hoover City School System
Deer Valley Elementary School - Top 25
Greystone Elementary School - Top 25

Huntsville City School System
Chapman Elementary School - Most Improved

Jefferson County School System
Hueytown Middle School - Most Improved
Lipscomb Elementary School - Most Improved

Lawrence County School System
Speake - Most Improved

Lee County School System
Beulah Elementary School - Most Improved
Loachapoka Elementary School - Most Improved

Montgomery County School System
Forest Avenue Elementary School - Top 25
Loveless Academic Magnet Program High School - Top 25

Mountain Brook City School System
Brookwood Forest Elementary School - Top 25
Cherokee Bend Elementary School - Top 25
Crestline Elementary School - Top 25
Mountain Brook Elementary School - Top 25

Russell County School System
Mount Olive Intermediate School - Most Improved

Shelby County School System
Mt Laurel Elementary School - Top 25
Oak Mountain Elementary School - Top 25

Talladega County School System
BB Comer Memorial High School - Most Improved

Thomasville City School System
Thomasville Elementary School - Most Improved

Trussville City School System
Cahaba Elementary School - Top 25

Tuscaloosa City School System
Tuscaloosa Magnet School - Elementary - Top 25

Tuscaloosa County School System
Flatwoods Elementary School - Most Improved

Vestavia Hills City School System
East Elementary - Top 25
Liberty Park Elementary - Top 25
Pizitz Middle School - Top 25
Vestavia Hills Elementary Dolly Ridge - Top 25
West Elementary - Top 25

Washington County School System
McIntosh High School - Most Improved

Winston County School System
Double Springs Elementary School - Most Improved

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ALABAMA’S “GROW OUR OWN” INITIATIVE AND
“FUTURE TEACHERS OF ALABAMA” ORGANIZATION**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Education Association (AEA) have formed a partnership dedicated to encouraging Alabama’s students to pursue a career in the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, research shows there will be an even greater demand for highly qualified teachers in the next decade; and

WHEREAS, the Future Teachers of Alabama (FTA) organization and the TEACH Alabama program are innovative approaches focused on attracting more talented students to careers in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, the Future Teachers of Alabama organization and the TEACH Alabama program are rigorous, progressive, and vital parts of Alabama’s total education system; and

WHEREAS, these programs are committed to providing students with opportunities to gain valuable hands-on experiences through internships, classroom observations, and project-based learning; and

WHEREAS, Future Teachers of Alabama and TEACH Alabama started the “Grow Our Own” initiative to provide Alabama’s local school systems with additional opportunities to focus on activities that promote teaching as a career, highlight the importance of America’s educators, and encourage students to strongly consider the field of education as a future career choice; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Education Association and the Alabama State Department of Education also want to honor the service, dedication, and professionalism of Alabama's educators:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby recognize Alabama's "Grow Our Own" Initiative and the Future Teachers of Alabama Organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages local boards of education and all educational organizations statewide to support these special programs through activities that demonstrate the true importance of the teaching profession and the opportunities teaching provides for students to achieve personal and professional success.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF
EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS
Faulkner University**

WHEREAS, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.59(4)(b)2., requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the President at Faulkner University a written request to develop programs for Class B Music, Choral (P-12), Class B Music, Instrumental (P-12), Class B Computer Science (6-12), Class B English Language Arts (6-12), Class B General Science (6-12), Class B General Social Studies (6-12), Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12), Alternative Class A General Science (6-12), and Alternative Class A General Social Studies (6-12); and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed programs for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for the programs; and

WHEREAS, Faulkner University personnel have been advised that the proposed programs may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval, based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the programs be reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following programs:

Class B Music, Choral (P-12)
Class B Music, Instrumental (P-12)
Class B Computer Science (6-12)
Class B English Language Arts (6-12)
Class B General Science (6-12)
Class B General Social Studies (6-12)
Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12)
Alternative Class A General Science (6-12)
Alternative Class A General Social Studies (6-12)

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION TO MODIFY CERTAIN PASSING SCORES AS A PRECONDITION FOR INITIAL CERTIFICATION AND PROGRAM ADMISSION

WHEREAS, by Resolutions of April 14, 2005, February 9, 2006, October 12, 2006, December 14, 2006, March 8, 2007, July 10, 2012, July 9, 2013, December 14, 2017, December 13, 2018, August 8, 2019, March 12, 2020, March 24, 2021, June 9, 2022, and other Resolutions from time to time, the Alabama State Board of Education has adopted certain Praxis subject assessments and minimum passing scores as a condition for initial educator certification in the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, earning a passing score on a Praxis subject assessment is a prerequisite for initial certification, via state-approved program and several other certification approaches, in all subjects for which there is a Praxis subject assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has followed the pattern of adopting the multi-state passing score from Educational Testing Service as the Alabama passing score; and

WHEREAS, certain Praxis subject assessments previously approved by the Alabama State Board of Education have recently been updated and revised:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby discontinues the following current Praxis subject assessments and adopts the following replacement Praxis subject assessments and their multi-state passing scores as a precondition for initial educator certification in the state of Alabama:

Discontinued Subject Assessment	Passing Score for Discontinued Subject Assessment	Replacement Subject Assessment	Recommended Passing Score for Replacement Subject Assessment	Effective Date
5235 Biology	150	5236 Biology	154	September 1, 2023
5245 Chemistry	150	5246 Chemistry	146	September 1, 2023
5571 Earth and Space Science	150	5572 Earth and Space Science	154	September 1, 2023
5265 Physics	138	5266 Physics	145	September 1, 2023
5435 General Science	152	5436 General Science	141	September 1, 2023
5311 Library Media Specialist	148	5312 School Librarian	154	September 1, 2023
5421 School Counselor	156	5422 School Counselor	159	September 1, 2023
5402 School Psychologist	147	5403 School Psychologist	155	September 1, 2023

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Superintendent of Education is hereby directed to take any and all actions necessary to implement this resolution.

Done this 11th day of May 2023

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board unanimously to approve the following:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE 2023-2024 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLUSTERS: COSMETOLOGY AND BARBERING; EDUCATION AND TRAINING; AND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

WHEREAS, the *Code of Alabama* 1975, §16-36-60, provides for the appointment of a State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that four elementary teachers and four high school teachers are to be selected to serve on the State Textbook Committee and are to come from each of the eight State Board of Education districts of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that four people who shall be teachers, principals, supervisors, or superintendents are to be selected from the state-at-large; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that two members of said State Textbook Committee are to be selected from the institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that the fourteen people on the attached list are to be nominated to the Alabama State Board of Education by the State Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the people on the attached list are hereby appointed to the 2023-2024 State Career and Technical Education Textbook Committee for a term beginning June 6, 2023, and ending on June 6, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board recognizes that said law provides that the Governor of Alabama is to appoint nine people not in the field of education to serve on this State Textbook Committee and welcomes them to full membership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That State Superintendent of Education Eric G. Mackey is hereby authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur on this State Textbook Committee until the next meeting of this Alabama State Board of Education after such vacancy occurs and same to be added as ad interim business.

Done on this 11th day of May 2023

2023-2024 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLUSTERS: COSMETOLOGY AND BARBERING; EDUCATION AND TRAINING; AND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

TERM: JUNE 6, 2023 – JUNE 6, 2024

ALABAMA STATE BOARD DISTRICT

I	Christine Young	Secondary	Butler County
II	Heather West	Elementary	Chambers County
III	Tamela McWilliams	Secondary	Talladega County
IV	Krysta Darling	Secondary	Tuscaloosa City
V	Connie Rader	Elementary	Autauga County
VI	Lindsay Brannon	Elementary	Cullman City
VII	Jamie Payne	Elementary	Franklin County
VIII	Karen Rodriguez	Secondary	Huntsville City

STATE-AT-LARGE

A.	Ayada Truitt	Teacher	Henry County
B.	Brandi Eades	Administrator	Homewood City
C.	Kim McFarland	Teacher	Birmingham City
D.	Tracey Flowers	Teacher	Gadsden City

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

A.	Darvin McDaniel	Instructor	Lawson State
B.	Mary Elizabeth Boehm	Instructor	Coastal Alabama

Done this 11th day of May 2023

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Mackey stated that there was no report necessary for the month of May.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Mackey stated that the Alabama Teacher of the Year, Alternate Teacher of the Year, District Teachers of the Year, “Bringing Our Missing Children Home” Poster Contest Winner, Green Ribbon Schools, National *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA) Distinguished Schools, Legislative Schools, and Alabama’s “Grow Our Own” Initiative and “Future Teachers of Alabama” Organization were recognized today. He introduced Mr. Jeffrey L. Norris of Oak Mountain Middle School in the Shelby County School System, as the Alabama Teacher of the Year and allowed him to give a brief speech. Dr. Mackey stated that he looks forward to the May agenda because of the large celebration that takes place during this time of the year. He said it is the appropriate time to celebrate because most athletic championships and graduations takes place in the month of May. Dr. Mackey stated that May is a suitable time to celebrate students, and today, schools and teachers were celebrated.

Dr. Mackey acknowledged the following Future Teachers of Alabama (FTA) “Grow Our Own” contest winners: Adrianna Mewbourn and Cheney Westbrook from Allen Thornton Career and Technical Center were the winners of the video and lesson plan. Somer Horton is the FTA Advisor. Jordan Cook from Autauga County Technology Center was the winner of the notebook and display contest. Connie Rader is the FTA Advisor.

Dr. Mackey recognized and thanked the representatives who were in attendance for the Green Ribbon Schools, National ESEA Distinguished Schools, and the Legislative Schools.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer