

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CASH FOR COLLEGE AWARDS FOR ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, all students must have an opportunity to reach their full potential and realize their lifelong aspirations; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, there has been a growing movement among educators, national employers, and top business professionals to further focus American's high school curriculum on college preparation and career development; to remain competitive in today's growing global economy, Alabama's students must continue to be provided the highest quality educational experience possible; and

WHEREAS, for the ninth consecutive year, our state has celebrated Alabama College Application Campaign and third year Cash for College campaign annual events developed by the Alabama State Department of Education and Alabama Possible to celebrate the importance of students continuing their educational goals after graduating high school and Campaigns; and

WHEREAS, each year, millions of students nationwide apply for financial aid services and complete the FAFSA; and

WHEREAS, an estimated sixty percent of high school seniors qualify for a Pell Grant in Alabama. Fifty two percent completed the FAFSA as of June 19, 2020, leveraging an estimated \$66,503,903 in Pell Grant aid across the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, nationwide more than 7,300 host sites were held this year to celebrate College Application Campaign, 763,400 students participated nationwide, and 1.2 million applications were submitted; and

WHEREAS, Alabama had 346 host sites, over 130 high schools were recognized for 100% of their seniors completing a college application. Fifty-six colleges and universities participated in the Alabama College Application Campaign Fee Waiver Program and over 74,661 applications were submitted; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognize the 2019-2020 Cash for College Campaign MVP and Most Improved Award Schools, Alabama Award of Excellence Recipient, and 100% Participation High Schools and encourages local boards of education, schools, business professionals, and local educational organizations to participate in this recognition that demonstrates the importance of Alabama's students achieving their aspirations of academic excellence and personal achievement:

Cash for College MVP Award

Large-size schools - Helena High School (Kristen Blanton, Counselor and Keyla Handley, Career Coach)
Medium-size schools - Ramsay High School (Steven M. Tarver, Counselor and Alfreda Brown, Career Coach)
Small-size schools - Amelia L. Johnson High School (Amy Ward, Career Coach)

Cash for College Most-Improved Award

Large-size schools - Huffman High School (Beverly Hackett, Counselor)
Medium-size schools - Parker High School (Laterrius Christian, Counselor and Cheryl Jones, Career Coach)
Small-size schools - Meek High School (Bethany Jordan, Counselor and Lynne Commens, Career Coach)

Alabama Award of Excellence Recipient

Mrs. Kathy Dean, Sulligent High School in Lamar County.

Done this 8th day of October 2020