

## **HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS THE 2024 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**, Hoover High 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**, Hoover High School has a deep connection to the roots of sustainability and outdoor education; and

**WHEREAS**, this school works to develop innovation in all areas and continues to maintain a keen focus on creating a safe and sustainable learning environment for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, Hoover High School now serves a student body of 2,900 young people who speak more than 14 different home languages and who are taught by an exceptional school staff, that works hard to bring out top academic achievement from every student; and

**WHEREAS**, Hoover High School has promoted real environmental sustainability by Reducing and Eliminating Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions from idling school buses and cars on campus, promoted the use of alternative transportation within the local community, and improved water quality by actively working to protect the overall quality of the Cahaba River; and

**WHEREAS**, Hoover High School was the recipient of four Southeast regional first place awards and scholarships for student-led projects involving staff members and students, to address biodiversity pollution, and human health issues; and

**WHEREAS**, Hoover High School has lowered environmental impacts by maintaining the water quality of the nearby Cahaba River, creating environmental buffer zones, and utilizing the Best Management Practices required by the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Hoover High School's STEM team and Bio Bucs/Green Initiatives Club have also expanded the school's certified outdoor classroom sensory and vegetable garden, to include exceptional learning through a life skills academy curriculum; and

**WHEREAS**, a current student project at the school involves studying different air and water quality parameters in different key sections of the local community; and

**WHEREAS**, last school year, special Girl Scout and Eagle Scout projects helped revitalized major trailheads along the local river, added swings, ADA tables, and a small pond to the Hoover High School outdoor classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, these listed efforts thoroughly show the genuine environmental commitment that exist at Hoover High School:

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

Done this 9th day of May 2024