

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
FEBRUARY 11, 2021
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its Annual meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, February 11, 2021, 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 Dr. James Troglen, Pastor First Baptist Church, Wetumpka, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell via electronic means
Dr. Tonya Chestnut via electronic means
Governor Kay Ivey via electronic means
Dr. Cynthia McCarty in person
Mrs. Belinda McRae in-person
Dr. Wayne Reynolds via electronic means
Dr. Yvette Richardson via electronic means
Mrs. Tracie West in person
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

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

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 290-010-010.04, WHICH ARE IN CONFLICT AND SUPERSEDED BY THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION RELATED TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT ISSUED ON MARCH 18, 2020; NAMELY, THE REQUIREMENT TO VOTE BY RAISED HAND AND THOSE PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM BY PHYSICAL PRESENCE AND MEETING BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 14, 2021, MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of January 14, 2021.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID–
ACCESS TO FEDERAL STUDENT AID**

At this time, Ms. Kaila Pouncey, Alabama Possible Student Advocacy, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Dr. Kimberly Walker, Supervisor of Guidance and Counseling, Mobile County School System; Mrs. Chandra Scott, Executive Director, Alabama Possible; and Mr. Tim McCartney, Chairman, Alabama Workforce Council, who registered to speak prior to the State Board of Education meeting on the agenda item H.2.e (Announce Intent to Adopt Amended *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule 290-3-1-.02 (21), Pertaining to The Free Application for Federal Student Aid–Access to Federal Student Aid), did so individually via electronic means. Their speeches may be viewed in full, as well as the complete Board meeting, by clicking [here](#). The Board members and State Superintendent thanked the members of the public for providing their input and sharing their views.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

RESOLUTION HONORING EMILY HURST SELECTED AS “BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER” JANUARY-MARCH 2021

WHEREAS, Mrs. Emily Hurst, Gifted Specialist in the Alabama State Department of Education, Division of Instruction, Special Education Services Section, exhibits a positive attitude and is always cooperative; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Emily Hurst not only possesses a wealth of knowledge about a wide array of gifted topics, but is also willing to go to extraordinary lengths to assist in helping to meet the needs of every local education agency (LEA), provides regional, state, and national trainings regarding gifted learners; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Emily Hurst desires the absolute best for Alabama’s gifted students and strives to ensure they are receiving the highest quality of gifted programming. Mrs. Hurst researches and evaluates other gifted programs throughout the country as she continually looks to make positive changes to Alabama’s programs to ensure the intellectual, creative, and affective needs of the gifted population are met and the gifted population flourishes; and

WHEREAS, as much as strong professional skills and expertise in her field characterizes her as an effective leader, it is her interpersonal skills and caring spirit that draws people, superiors, and subordinates alike to her and make for a positive and supportive environment:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Department of Education and the Special Education Section hereby express their gratitude to Mrs. Hurst for her dedicated and caring service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Emily Hurst for her selection as the recipient of the “Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter Award” for January-March 2021 and expresses its appreciation for her exemplary service to the department, to this Board, and, ultimately, to Alabama’s public elementary and secondary schools.

Done this 11th day of February 2021

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM Faulkner University

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education approves educator preparation programs, including the time frame for approved program status; and

WHEREAS, during summer 2017 and summer 2018, the Faulkner University College of Education submitted documentation of compliance with Alabama State Board of Education standards pertaining to initial and advanced programs and was deemed to meet Alabama-specific standards or to meet Alabama specific standards with conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Faulkner University College of Education hosted a successful site visit for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) on April 28-30, 2019, and granted continuing accreditation on October 21, 2019, with an expiration date of December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2020, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education recommended approval with conditions through June 30, 2021, for the Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6) program to allow time for the program to meet reading course requirements in the *Alabama Literacy Act*; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2020, the Alabama State Board of Education adopted a resolution to grant conditional approval of the Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6) program through June 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6) program has provided evidence of providing the coursework required in the *Alabama Literacy Act*:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby grants approval of the following educator preparation program at Faulkner University, with conditions to be addressed as noted on the attached pages until June 30, 2023:

Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6)

Done this 11th day of February 2021

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH 8-12, 2021,
AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education has recognized for over 50 years, the School Breakfast Program has contributed to the health and educational development of Alabama’s children by making nutritious meals available in Grades K-12 public schools; and

WHEREAS, every March, the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture join together to celebrate the National School Breakfast Week; and

WHEREAS, the National School Breakfast Week 2021 (#NSBW21) theme is “Score Big with School Breakfast,” a fun way to show students, parents, and stakeholders all the ways that your school breakfast program is a winner; and

WHEREAS, research has indicated that students who eat breakfast have better attention and memory, and the quality of foods children eat impacts cognition, and poor nutrition is linked with absenteeism, health problems, hunger symptoms, and psychosocial problems; and

WHEREAS, scientifically based food and nutrition information contributes powerful education benefits to all elementary and secondary students; and

WHEREAS, the School Breakfast Program served over 34 million breakfast meals for the school year 2019-2020 to Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to school nutrition professionals who make the local School Breakfast Program work in 1,475 school sites statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages Alabama schools to participate in promoting National School Breakfast Week; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does designate March 8-12, 2021, as “School Breakfast Week” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 11th day of February 2021

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

**ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE 290-4-3-.03, PERTAINING TO
ALABAMA CORE TEACHING STANDARDS**

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty the Board voted 6-3-0 to adopt the following. Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Dr. Wayne Reynolds, and Mrs. Jackie Zeigler opposed.

**ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE
290-3-1-.02 (21), PERTAINING TO THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT
AID–ACCESS TO FEDERAL STUDENT AID**

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

**ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE,
CHAPTER 290-8-8, PERTAINING TO SPECIALIZED TREATMENT CENTERS**

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Eric G. Mackey stated that there was no report necessary for the month of February.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mackey recognized Emily Hurst, who is the Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter for January through March 2021. Dr. Mackey stated that Ms. Hurst works with the gifted education program and gifted teachers in the local education agencies (LEAs) across the state. He said Ms. Hurst does a wonderful job working for the department. Dr. Mackey stated that gifted students need special teachers and guided instruction.

Dr. Mackey thanked the Governor and Dr. Scott Harris along with the staff at Public Health for the additional openings of the vaccinations to teachers and other adult staff who works in schools across the state. He said thousands of teachers got their first vaccine dosage this week. Dr. Mackey stated that the vast majority of teachers who want to get the vaccine are getting it essentially one year to the beginning of the COVID pandemic. He stated that it has been a long year and teachers who wants the vaccine should be getting the first dosage this month. Dr. Mackey stated that most teachers will receive their second dose in mid-March.

Dr. Mackey shared his appreciation to Governor Ivey and the Board members for their continued support and work with the department and the LEAs as everyone gets through what has been the most difficult year of our lives. He said the light is at the end of the tunnel. Dr. Mackey stated that Dr. Scott Harris will release today, information on the new quarantine guidelines, which will follow Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. He stated that everyone hopes to be back to a more normal looking end to this school year.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer