

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
AUGUST 12, 2021
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, August 12, 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 Pastor Frank Bowling, Eastmont Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Dr. Tonya Chestnut
Governor Kay Ivey
Dr. Cynthia McCarty
Mrs. Belinda McRae
Dr. Wayne Reynolds
Dr. Yvette Richardson
Mrs. Tracie West
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JULY 13, 2021, MEETING

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of July 13, 2021.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION DECLARING THE PRESERVATION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND
NON-DISCRIMINATION IN ALABAMA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

At this time, Ms. JoCeleste Pettway; Mr. Benson Miller of Urban Conservative of America; Mr. Bernard Simelton, President of Alabama NAACP; Reverend Jan Turnbore, Branch President of Lawrence County NAACP; Dr. Eric Little; Ms. Terri Michal; and Ms. Lori Herring of Eagle Forum of Alabama, who registered to speak prior to the Alabama State Board of Education meeting on agenda item G.2.o (Alabama State Board of Education Resolution Declaring the Preservation of Intellectual Freedom and Non-Discrimination in Alabama's Public Schools), did so individually via in person. Their speeches may be viewed in full, as well as the complete Board meeting, at <https://www.alabamaachieves.org/state-board-of-education/meeting-videos>. The Board Members and State Superintendent thanked the members of the public for providing their input and sharing their views.

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING 2021-2022 ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND
SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR KIMBERLY JOHNSON, AUBURN JUNIOR HIGH
SCHOOL, AUBURN CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that employment demands for highly skilled K-12 teachers is projected to grow even more significantly from 2022 to 2029; and

WHEREAS, rising student enrollments throughout our country continue to increase the need for highly professional kindergarten, elementary, and high school educators nationwide; and

WHEREAS, accomplished 2021-2022 Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson is an excellent example of educational leadership, mentorship, and classroom innovation; and

WHEREAS, over the entire span of her 24-year career, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson has focused on developing the essential and full set of life-skills of her students, while also providing a solid foundation of engaging classroom experiences to support and boost learning; and

WHEREAS, in 1999 as a returning second-year teacher, she spent her entire summer in Alabama Reading Initiative training – a key turning point in her career; and

WHEREAS, the professional development she received was challenging but, ultimately, one of the most rewarding experiences; and

WHEREAS, that same summer she fully committed to utilizing a student-centered approach to teaching, which is still a central part of her teaching methodology and focus today; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson has earned an education specialist degree, is a successfully published author, and is a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT); and

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

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson has been a vital part of the Auburn City School System's District Strategic Planning Team, a U.S. Space Academy Counselor, a presenter at the National Council of English Teachers Convention, and a member of the International Honorary Organization for Women Educators; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson now teaches at Auburn Junior High School, Auburn City School System, and often expresses how deeply inspired she was to become an educator by her personal experiences growing up in Anniston; and

WHEREAS, she wholeheartedly believes it is essential to provide every student with positive experiences to help them connect their classroom learning to the world around them; and

WHEREAS, as a student, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson developed her genuine appreciation for learning from her loving mother, close family-friends, and classroom teachers; and

WHEREAS, she encourages her students each day to truly understand that academic excellence requires *personal* perseverance; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Teacher of the Year Kimberly Johnson is an excellent professional example for all educators statewide; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Mrs. Kimberly Johnson, for being selected the 2021-2022 Alabama Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year and expresses great gratitude for her dedication to K-12 excellence.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2021-2022 ALTERNATE ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR ALLI PHELPS, SHADES CAHABA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOMEWOOD CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year Alli Phelps is a top Homewood City School System educator who is an innovative, active, and committed part of her community; and

WHEREAS, while a K-12 student you would often find her reading and learning new things on her own – she soon realized teaching would be her career; and

WHEREAS, Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year Alli Phelps worked two jobs as a full-time college student, to save enough money to begin teaching at a prestigious Australian boarding school; and

WHEREAS, this famed school was known for its highly diverse student population; and

WHEREAS, while teaching internationally she gained valuable insight and perspective on the importance of individual and student-focused teaching methods; and

WHEREAS, after this great professional experience, Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year Alli Phelps returned to the United States and began teaching at Homewood High School; and

WHEREAS, she also went on to earn a master's degree in ESL and to participate in a prestigious Venezuelan cultural immersion program; and

WHEREAS, Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year Alli Phelps was reared from a young age to be both supportive and helpful to others; and

WHEREAS, her family instilled a lasting appreciation for education, which inspired Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year Alli Phelps to dedicate her life to teaching; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, she began teaching at Shades Cahaba Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, she holds a great belief in providing all students rewarding opportunities to build wide-ranging skills through language development and international studies; and

WHEREAS, her classroom curriculum promotes student success through a keen focus on personal educational experiences and research; and

WHEREAS, she is a member of the Homewood City Schools Superintendent Leadership Team, a College Choice Foundation Scholar mentor, an Assistant League of Greater Birmingham Operation Literacy Liaison, and a professional mentor to many educators statewide:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby congratulate Mrs. Alli Phelps for being named the 2021-2022 Alternate Alabama Teacher of the Year and the Elementary Teacher of the Year and commends her dedication to Alabama's K-12 students.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING
THE 2021-2022 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 celebrates the commitment of educators who demonstrate each day they enter the classrooms, engage students, and communicate with families who together make learning possible; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher of the Year Program is a means of identifying and rewarding some of the state's outstanding teachers who continue to hold true to their core values and belief that all students can learn and will learn; 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 following honorees in the 2021-2022 Alabama Teacher of the Year Program exhibit these qualities and more:

District I Elementary Teacher of the Year – Julia M. Neidhardt
Hutchens Elementary School, Mobile County School System

District I Secondary Teacher of the Year – Krista Marcum

Gulf Shores High School, Gulf Shores City School System

District II Elementary Teacher of the Year – Sherlita Gilchrist
Meadowlane Elementary School, Phenix City School System

District II Secondary Teacher of the Year – Kimberly C. Johnson
Auburn Junior High School, Auburn City School System

District III Elementary Teacher of the Year – Alli C. Phelps
Shades Cahaba Elementary School, Homewood City School System

District III Secondary Teacher of the Year – Pamela M. McClendon
Riverchase Career Connection Center, Hoover City School System

District IV Elementary Teacher of the Year – Sabrina Wright
Sun Valley Elementary School, Birmingham City School System

District IV Secondary Teacher of the Year – Leah Hughes
Hillcrest High School, Tuscaloosa County School System

District V Elementary Teacher of the Year – Catherine J. Grissett
Banks School, Pike County School System

District V Secondary Teacher of the Year – Dr. Lilian U. Zekeri
Tuskegee Institute Middle School, Macon County School System

District VI Elementary Teacher of the Year – Megan Kreitlein
Eden Elementary School, Pell City School System

District VI Secondary Teacher of the Year – Mashell K. Wehn
Arab High School, Arab City School System

District VII Elementary Teacher of the Year – Rachel Graves
Weeden Elementary School, Florence City School System

District VII Elementary Teacher of the Year – Candilyn R. Holt
Elkmont Elementary School, Limestone County School System

District VII Secondary Teacher of the Year – Jeff Schrupp
Hewitt Trussville High School, Trussville City School System

District VIII Elementary Teacher of the Year – Valerie Johnson
G. W. Floyd Elementary School, Gadsden City School System

District VIII Secondary Teacher of the Year – Kierstan Bell
Hampton Cove Middle School, Huntsville City School System

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we recognize them on this day for making our schools beacons of hope and opportunity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF
TERRI COLEMAN
2020 ALABAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR
TRACE CROSSINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, an innovative Alabama educator, who makes it her personal mission to incorporate strategies to make learning more engaging and relevant for students, has earned the prestigious Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year Award is one of the highest honors bestowed by the Alabama School Counselor Association; and

WHEREAS, the Elementary School Counselor of the Year Award honors school counseling professionals who devote their careers advocating for students—helping them to achieve success in school and throughout life; and

WHEREAS, Alabama’s elementary school counselors make significant contributions to the total and overall well-being of students and advocate for academic achievement, career development, and social growth; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year, Terri Coleman, is a counselor at Trace Crossings Elementary School, located in the Hoover City School System; and

WHEREAS, this is her fourth year at Trace Crossings Elementary School, where she has been instrumental in this school being recognized as a 2020 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year, Terri Coleman, received her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Alabama Birmingham, master and Education Specialist degrees in School Counseling from the University of West Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the great state of Alabama is proud of the Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year, Terri Coleman, and her many accomplishments; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby extend appreciation and heartfelt congratulations to Alabama’s 2020 Elementary School Counselor of the Year, Terri Coleman.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF
AMANDA YEARWOOD
2020 ALABAMA SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR
WEST POINT HIGH SCHOOL
CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, an innovative Alabama educator, who makes it her personal mission to incorporate strategies to make learning more engaging and relevant for students, has earned the prestigious Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award is one of the highest honors bestowed by the Alabama School Counselor Association; and

WHEREAS, the Secondary School Counselor of the Year Award honors school counseling professionals who devote their careers advocating for students—helping them to achieve success in school and throughout life; and

WHEREAS, Alabama’s secondary school counselors make significant contributions to the total and overall well-being of students and advocate for academic achievement, career development, and social growth; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year, Amanda Yearwood, is a counselor at West Point High School, located in the Cullman County School System; and

WHEREAS, she has served over ten years as high school counselor at West Point High School, where she has been instrumental in developing the counseling and guidance program; and

WHEREAS, Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year, Amanda Yearwood, received her bachelor's degree in Specific Learning Disabilities from Athens State and master's degree in School Counseling from the University of West Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the great state of Alabama is proud of the Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year, Amanda Yearwood, and her many accomplishments; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby extend appreciation and heartfelt congratulations to Alabama's 2020 Secondary School Counselor of the Year, Amanda Yearwood.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF 2020
ALABAMA SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION
FOR ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction recognizes school counseling programs that demonstrate an exemplary level of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program; and

WHEREAS, the program components align with the Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Model for Alabama public schools and the American School Counselor Association National Model; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School Counselor Association recognizes the Alabama public schools listed below, as 2020 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) recognizes Alabama public schools, as 2020 Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) Schools of Distinction; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend the professional school counselors of Alabama public schools on achieving the status of Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction in 2020.

Central Baldwin Middle School, Baldwin County School System, State School Board District One
Daphne East Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, State School Board District One
Daphne Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, State School Board District One
Magnolia Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, State School Board District One
Silverhill Elementary School, Baldwin County School System, State School Board District One
Pillans Palmer Middle School, Mobile County School System, State School Board District One
Reeltown High School, Tallapoosa County School System, State School Board District Two
Creek View Elementary School, Alabaster City School System, State School Board District Three
Trace Crossings Elementary School, Hoover City School System, State School Board District Three
Vestavia Hills High School, Vestavia City School System, State School Board District Three
Huffman Middle School, Birmingham City School System, State School Board District Four
Scarborough Model Middle School, Mobile County School System, State School Board District Five
Hayden Primary School, Blount County School System, State School Board District Six
Susan Moore Elementary School, Blount County School System, State School Board District Six

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT
CASPER CASEY
SPARKMAN HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR**

WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama’s continued prosperity and future growth; and

WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation’s infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, America’s cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation’s vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens’ private health data; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Casper Casey has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey is a top student at Sparkman High School, located in the Madison County School System; and

WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and

WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and

WHEREAS, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and

WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Casper Casey earned the coveted title of “National Cyber Scholar” after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey for earning this prestigious honor:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Casper Casey upon the honor of being selected as one of America’s outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT
HUNTER GOFFINETT
SPARKMAN HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR**

WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama’s continued prosperity and future growth; and

WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation’s infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, America’s cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation’s vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens’ private health data; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Hunter Goffinett has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Hunter Goffinett is a top student at Sparkman High School, located in the Madison County School System; and

WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and

WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and

WHEREAS, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and

WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Hunter Goffinett earned the coveted title of “National Cyber Scholar” after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Hunter Goffinett also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Hunter Goffinett also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar Hunter Goffinett for earning this prestigious honor:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Hunter Goffinett upon the honor of being selected as one of America’s outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT
WILLIAM GRICE
HOMESCHOOLED
AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR**

WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama’s continued prosperity and future growth; and

WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation’s infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, America’s cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation’s vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens’ private health data; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student William Grice has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar William Grice is a top Alabama Homeschooled student; and

WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and

WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and

WHEREAS, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and

WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student William Grice earned the coveted title of “National Cyber Scholar” after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar William Grice also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar William Grice also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar William Grice for earning this prestigious honor:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate William Grice upon the honor of being selected as one of America’s outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT
ALEX KING
JAMES CLEMENS HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR**

WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama’s continued prosperity and future growth; and

WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation’s infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, America’s cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation’s vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens’ private health data; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Alex King has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Alex King is a top student at James Clemens High School, located in the Madison City School System; and

WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and

WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and

WHEREAS, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and

WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Alex King earned the coveted title of “National Cyber Scholar” after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Alex King also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Alex King also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar Alex King for earning this prestigious honor:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Alex King upon the honor of being selected as one of America's outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT
AUSTIN PERRY
HOMESCHOOLED
AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR**

WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama's continued prosperity and future growth; and

WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, America's cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation's vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens' private health data; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Austin Perry has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Austin Perry is a top Alabama Homeschooled student; and

WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and

WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and

WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and

WHEREAS, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and

WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and

WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Austin Perry earned the coveted title of "National Cyber Scholar" after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Austin Perry also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Austin Perry also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar Austin Perry for earning this prestigious honor:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Austin Perry upon the honor of being selected as one of America's outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE 2021-2022 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLUSTERS: Business Management and
Administration; Finance; Marketing; and Work-Based Learning**

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 seven congressional districts of Alabama and one statewide; 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 2021-2022 State Career and Technical Education Textbook Committee for a term beginning September 13, 2021, and ending on September 13, 2022; 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 12th day of August 2021

**2021-2022 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CLUSTERS: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION; FINANCE; MARKETING;
AND WORK-BASED LEARNING**

TERM: SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

I	Genniefer Meeks Young	Elementary	Conecuh County
II	Heather Walters	Secondary	Enterprise City
III	Samantha Shoup	Elementary	Russell County
IV	Jessica Flannigan	Secondary	Decatur City
V	Carolyn Wade	Secondary	Huntsville City
VI	Angie Lane	Elementary	Autauga County
VII	Crystal Peden	Elementary	Birmingham City

<u>STATE-WIDE</u>	Colten Cureton	Secondary	Houston County
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STATE-AT-LARGE

A.	Anthony Hart	Teacher	Alexander City
B.	Beth Kennedy	Administrator	Jasper City
C.	James Hill	Teacher	Shelby County
D.	Gia Russell	Administrator	Athens City

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

A.	TBD	TBD	TBD
B.	Dr. Kelli Smith	Lecturer	Auburn Montgomery

Done this 12th day of August 2021

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

**APPROVE MR. CHUCK MARCUM AS CHIEF OF STAFF FOR ALABAMA STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 7-2-0 to approve the following. Drs. Tonya Chestnut and Yvette Richardson opposed.

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION DECLARING THE
PRESERVATION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND NON-DISCRIMINATION IN
ALABAMA’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education believes that all individuals are endowed with equal inalienable rights, without respect to race or sex, and

WHEREAS, concepts that impute fault, blame, a tendency to oppress others, or the need to feel guilt or anguish to persons solely because of their race or sex violate the premises of individual rights, equal opportunity, and individual merit, and therefore have no place in professional development for teachers, administrators, or other employees of the public educational system of the State of Alabama, and

WHEREAS, for the same reasons, such concepts should not be taught to students in the public educational system of the State of Alabama:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alabama State Board of Education affirms that we will not support, or impart, any K-12 public education resources or standards intended to indoctrinate students in social or political ideologies that promote one race or sex above another; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes that slavery and racism are betrayals of the founding principles of the United States, including freedom, equality, justice, and humanity, and that individuals living today should not be punished or discriminated against because of past actions committed by members of the same race or sex, but that we should move forward to create a better future together; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education intends to adopt rules and regulations specifically prohibiting each local board of education from offering K-12 instruction intended to indoctrinate students in social or political ideologies that promote one race or sex above another. All K-12 instruction in Alabama Course of Study standards required for graduation, professional development, and other activities shall be in accordance with the *Alabama Administrative Code* and the most current Alabama State Board of Education resolution regarding intellectual freedom and non-discrimination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education intends that no federal grant shall be applied for or accepted by the Department, if such grant requires or encourages the teaching of the concepts or implementation of the practices contrary to the sentiments expressed in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education believes that no state education agency, local education agency, or school should train any administrator, teacher, staff member, or employee, or teach any student, to believe that one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex; that members of one race or sex cannot, or should not attempt to, treat others disrespectfully due to race or sex; or that fault, blame, or bias should be assigned to a race or sex, or to members of a race or sex solely or partly because of their race or sex; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education values and promotes honest and healthy research, debate, and dialogue as important and valuable to the educational experience and that such should not be infringed upon so long as it is responsible and respectful. Rather, students and educators should be encouraged to engage in the marketplace of ideas, subject to developmental appropriateness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education acknowledges the right to express differing opinions, foster and defend intellectual honesty, engage in freedom of inquiry, and honor freedom of speech as required by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution in the public schools of Alabama; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education intends to adopt rules and regulations codifying the tenets of this resolution into the *Alabama Administrative Code* as provided by law.

Done this 12th day of August 2021

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO AMEND ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-040-040-.02, PERTAINING TO CERTAIN TEACHING TECHNIQUES

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

ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-040-040-.02 -.01 ER, PERTAINING TO CERTAIN TEACHING TECHNIQUES, AS AN EMERGENCY RULE

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following.

ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 290-3-3, PERTAINING TO EDUCATOR PREPARATION

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

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-2-1-.01, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF FOUNDATION PROGRAM FUNDS

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

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO REPEAL ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-2-1-.02, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF CURRENT UNITS

ALABAMA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION NOMINEES

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Anthony S. Overton, Chair and Professor of Samford University Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, to serve on the Alabama Public Charter School Commission.

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

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

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mackey thanked the Governor for his time to present his superintendent report. Dr. Mackey stated that several things are going on since the start of this school year. Dr. Mackey acknowledged Mrs. Kimberly Johnson, Auburn Junior High School in the Auburn City School System, as the 2021-2022 Alabama Teacher of the Year; Mrs. Alli Phelps, Shades Cahaba Elementary School in the Homewood City School System, as the 2021-2022 Alternate Teacher of the Year; 2021-2022 District Teachers of the Year; Ms. Terri Coleman, Trace Crossings Elementary School in the Hoover City School System, as the 2020 Alabama Elementary School Counselor of the Year; Ms. Amanda Yearwood, West Point High School in the Cullman County School System, as the 2020 Alabama Secondary School Counselor of the Year; Casper Casey and Hunter Goffinett, students at Sparkman High School in the Madison County School System; William Grice and Austin Perry, who are Homeschooled; and Alex King, a student at James Clemens High School in the Madison City School System, as Alabama K-12 Students' 2021 National Cyber Scholars. He said that it is good to see so many educators and students who were recognized today. He informed the educators that the great work they are recognized for today is very much appreciated. Dr. Mackey stated that the Teacher of the Year recognition program is normally done in May, but because of the pandemic the timeframe shifted. He said most of the teachers here today attended the ceremony last night after working with students all day. Dr. Mackey stated that is a confirmation of the great commitment and dedication of Alabama's educators. Dr. Mackey wished Mrs. Kimberly Johnson great luck in being the National Teacher of the Year. Dr. Mackey asked the cyber scholar students to remain after the Board meeting to give he and the Board Members an opportunity to speak with them face to face.

Dr. Mackey recognized the Career and Technical Education Section, Jobs for Alabama's Graduates (JAG). Dr. Mackey invited Dr. Jimmy Hull, Assistant State Superintendent, Mr. Craig Collins, Education Administrator, and Mrs. Mandy Nichols, Education Specialist, to elaborate on the JAG 5 of 5 award received for obtaining the National Jobs of America's Graduates performance goals. Alabama JAG exceeded the five performance goals of 100% graduation rate, total civilian jobs in military service placement, total positive outcome, total full-time jobs, and total full-time placement rate. There were 230 seniors in the class of 2020. Dr. Mackey stated that Dr. Hull and his staff do outstanding work and last year they were able to go from part time to full time.

Dr. Mackey thanked Ms. JoCeleste Pettway, Mrs. Benson Miller, Mr. Bernard Simelton, Reverend Jan Turnbore, Dr. Eric Little, Ms. Terri Michal, and Ms. Lori Herring, who spoke during the Public Hearing section of the agenda. Dr. Mackey stated that everyone has different perspectives, and he wants everyone to know that every person's voice is valued. He said the Department and Board Members are committed to high-quality education to every student in the state of Alabama, regardless of where they live.

Dr. Mackey stated that this school year has started and over 600,000 students are in classrooms this week. He said that some school systems will start next week. Dr. Mackey stated that over 90% of students are in person. He said unfortunately, several hundred students and several dozen teachers have already been sent home due to positive testing for COVID. Dr. Mackey stated that all of the positive cases were contracted prior to them reporting to school. Dr. Mackey ask that everyone keep the students and all school systems' staff in your thoughts and prayers as they face an even more challenging year than last 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 10:58 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer