

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
MAY 9, 2024  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

**PRESIDING: MRS. TRACIE WEST, VICE PRESIDENT**

The invocation was done by Brother Frank Bowling, Pastor, Eastmont Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag that was done in unison.

The following members were present:

**Present**

Mrs. Stephanie Bell in person  
Dr. Tonya Chestnut in person  
Dr. Wayne Reynolds in person  
Dr. Yvette Richardson in person  
Mrs. Tracie West in person  
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

**Absent**

Governor Kay Ivey  
Mrs. Marie Manning  
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 Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 11, 2024, MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of April 11, 2024.

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

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2024-2025  
ALABAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR MRS.  
DEBORAH STRINGFELLOW, AIRPORT ROAD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ELMORE  
COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, highly accomplished Alabama educator, Deborah Stringfellow is an excellent example of educational leadership, mentorship, and classroom innovation; and

**WHEREAS**, as an accomplished educator in the Elmore County School System, Debra Stringfellow inspires students and families in her community to achieve; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow is a fourth-grade teacher at Airport Road Intermediate School; and

**WHEREAS**, she is also a first-generation high school and college graduate who has worked hard to achieve in her professional and service endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow believes education is a life-long journey and has embraced every opportunity to teach and assisted her parents in earning their GEDs and achieve their personal educational goals; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow, during her exceptional career, was the first person in her local school system to complete National Board Certification; 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 Deborah Stringfellow earned a Bachelor of Elementary Education and Master of Science in Special Education from Troy University and Administration Specialist degree from Lincoln Memorial University; and

**WHEREAS**, she uses a variety of strategies to elevate student learning and masterfully coordinate classroom learning and engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, she believes it is essential to provide all students with real-world experiences to help them connect their learning to the world around them; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow believes all members of the education community, school personnel, classroom teachers, and parents have an important responsibility to reinforce the importance of education to younger learners; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow encourages her students to personally understand academic excellence requires personal perseverance; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow is a wonderful example for all educators statewide:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Deborah Stringfellow for her selection as the 2024-2025 Elementary Teacher of the Year and Alabama Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude for her dedication to achieving excellence in education.

Done this 9th day of May 2024

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

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2024-2025  
ALTERNATE STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND  
SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR, MRS. KIRA LEDBETTER AARON, VESTAVIA  
HILLS HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN CAMPUS, VESTAVIA HILLS CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, Vestavia Hills High School Freshman Campus Teacher Kira Ledbetter Aaron has been named our official 2024-2025 Alternate State Teacher of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, a graduate of Dadeville High School, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron earned a Secondary English Language Arts degree from Auburn University, a Master of Science from Troy University, and an Education Specialist degree in Leadership from The University of Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron works every day to promote student-focused learning and enrichment; and

**WHEREAS**, as an accomplished educator in the Vestavia Hills City School System, Kira Ledbetter Aaron inspires students and families in her community to achieve; and

**WHEREAS**, as a top teacher at Vestavia Hills High School Freshman Campus she works tirelessly to ensure all students receive the best educational experience possible; and

**WHEREAS**, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron's commitment to excellence does not end at her classroom door—it continues within her local community; and

**WHEREAS**, she believes education is a life-long journey, and she embraces modern methods to keep students engaged in the learning process; and

**WHEREAS**, her focus remains on developing meaningful classroom approaches to assist every student in reaching their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, she believes it is essential to provide all students with real-world experiences to help them connect their learning to the world around them; and

**WHEREAS**, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron also believes local communities and parents have a great responsibility to model educational excellence for the benefit of keeping learners engaged in school; and

**WHEREAS**, she is an excellent example of educational leadership, mentorship, and classroom innovation; and

**WHEREAS**, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron encourages her students to excel, achieve, and persevere in the classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, Alternate State Teacher of the Year Kira Ledbetter Aaron is a great professional example for all educators statewide:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Kira Ledbetter Aaron for being selected the 2024-2025 Alternate State Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude for her dedication to student achievement.

Done this 9th day of May 2024

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING  
THE 2024-2025 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**, highly-skilled, dedicated, enthusiastic, and innovative teachers are essential in promoting excellence in Alabama schools and empowering youth to become successful adults; and

**WHEREAS**, the honorees in the 2024-2025 Alabama Teacher of the Year Program exhibit these attributes and more:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education celebrates them for their commitment, sacrifice, dedication, and service to students in Alabama who have earned the distinction of District Teachers of the Year; and

**Shelley Grimes**, Brookwood Elementary School, Enterprise City School System, State School Board District I Elementary Teacher of the Year

**Rylee Baxter**, Enterprise High School, Enterprise City School System, State School Board District I Secondary Teacher of the Year

**Deana S. Hooks**, Pick Elementary School, Auburn City School System, State School Board District II Elementary Teacher of the Year

**Katie Dye**, Randolph County High School, Randolph County School System, State School Board District II Secondary Teacher of the Year

**Deborah Stringfellow**, Airport Road Intermediate School, Elmore County School System, State School Board District III Elementary Teacher of the Year

**Kira Ledbetter Aaron**, Vestavia Hills High School Freshman Campus, Vestavia Hills City School System, State School Board District III Secondary Teacher of the Year

**Sharya J. Aaron**, Sun Valley Elementary School, Birmingham City School System, State School Board District IV Elementary Teacher of the Year

**Dr. Sarah Frances Moland**, Jackson-Olin High School, Birmingham City School System, State School Board District IV Secondary Teacher of the Year  
**Laura H. Fennell**, Pine Level Elementary School, Autauga County School System, State School Board District V Elementary Teacher of the Year  
**Neysa Countryman**, Saraland High School, Saraland City School System, State School Board District V Secondary Teacher of the Year  
**Janet Kuchinski**, Coldwater Elementary School, Oxford City School System, State School Board District VI Elementary Teacher of the Year  
**Jennifer W. Dasinger**, Oxford High School, Oxford City School System, State School Board District VI Secondary Teacher of the Year  
**Melissa T. Bryan**, Maddox Intermediate School, Jasper City School System, State School Board District VII Elementary Teacher of the Year  
**Derick A. Franck**, Florence Middle School, Florence City School System, State School Board District VII Secondary Teacher of the Year  
**Shannon Williamson**, Blossomwood Elementary School, Huntsville City School System, State School Board District VIII Elementary Teacher of the Year  
**Kristen Brown**, Liberty Middle School, Madison City School System, State School Board District VIII Secondary Teacher of the Year

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That we recognize outstanding educators on this day for making our schools centers of hope and opportunity.

Done this 9th day of May 2024

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

**RESOLUTION HONORING HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL  
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

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted 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 9th day of May 2024

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS**  
**Alabama A & M University (AAMU)**

**WHEREAS**, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.59(3), allows a program leading to an Alabama Professional Educator Certificate be approved through the Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) program review process; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A & M University submitted their Class B Biology (6-12), Class B Chemistry (6-12), Class B Collaborative Special Education (K-6), Class B Collaborative Special Education (6-12), Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3), Class B Elementary Education (K-6), Class B English Language Arts (6-12), Class B Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12), Class B General Social Studies (6-12), Class B Mathematics (6-12), Class B Music—Choral (P-12), Class B Music—Instrumental (P-12), Class B Physical Education (P-12), Class B Physics (6-12), Alternative Class A Biology (6-12), Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6), Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12), Alternative Class A Early Childhood Education (P-3), Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6), Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12), Alternative Class A Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12), Alternative Class A General Science (6-12), Alternative Class A General Social Studies (6-12), Alternative Class A Mathematics (6-12), Alternative Class A Music—Choral (P-12), Alternative Class A Music—Instrumental (P-12), Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6), Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12), Class A Early Childhood Education (P-3), Class A Elementary Education (K-6), Class A English Language Arts (6-12), Class A Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12), Class A General Science (6-12), Class A General Social Studies (6-12), Class A Instructional Leadership (P-12), Class A Mathematics (6-12), Class A Music—Choral (P-12), Class A Music—Instrumental (P-12), Class A Physical Education (P-12), Class A School Counseling (P-12), Class AA Biology (6-12), Class AA Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6), Class AA Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12), Class AA Early Childhood Education (P-3), Class AA Elementary (K-6), Class AA Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12), and Class AA Instructional Leadership (P-12); and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University had a CAEP site visit in November 2018 and was granted continuing accreditation until June 30, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University submitted their next self-study for continuing CAEP accreditation for a review Fall 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University submitted programs through the CIEP review process during the August 2023 CIEP review session; and

**WHEREAS**, during the program review, all programs submitted were deemed met pending a few clarifications; and

**WHEREAS**, a review team visited Alabama A&M University for discovery and clarification on February 22, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University was able to address all concerns during the onsite review of programs and documented compliance with all standards for the programs submitted; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University submitted a progress report in September 2023 (i.e., revised course syllabi, matrix of program progression, evidence of faculty training in the Science of Reading, evidence of newly adopted textbooks, etc.) detailing their efforts toward meeting the *Alabama Literacy Act* and the recommendations provided by The Barksdale Reading Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama literacy review team examined the evidence presented by Alabama A&M University and determined that significant progress has been made toward implementing the *Alabama Literacy Act* requirements and recommendations submitted by Barksdale; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama A&M University is engaged in a process of continuous improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education approved Alabama A&M University's AAMUTeach programs for Innovative Status March 14, 2024:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby grants approval of the following programs until May 31, 2031:

Class B AAMUTeach Biology (6-12)  
Class B AAMUTeach Chemistry (6-12)  
Class B AAMUTeach Mathematics (6-12)  
Class B AAMUTeach Physics (6-12)  
Class B Biology (6-12)  
Class B Chemistry (6-12)  
Class B Collaborative Special Education (K-6)  
Class B Collaborative Special Education (6-12)  
Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Class B Elementary Education (K-6)  
Class B English Language Arts (6-12)  
Class B Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12)  
Class B General Social Studies (6-12)  
Class B Mathematics (6-12)  
Class B Music – Choral (P-12)  
Class B Music – Instrumental (P-12)  
Class B Physical Education (P-12)  
Class B Physics (6-12)

Alternative Class A Biology (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6)  
Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12)  
Alternative Class A General Science (6-12)  
Alternative Class A General Social Studies (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Mathematics (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Music, Choral (P-12)  
Alternative Class A Music Instrumental (P-12)

Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Class A Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Class A Elementary Education (K-6)  
Class A English Language Arts (6-12)  
Class A Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12)  
Class A General Science (6-12)  
Class A General Social Studies (6-12)  
Class A Instructional Leadership (P-12)  
Class A Mathematics (6-12)  
Class A Music – Choral (P-12)  
Class A Music – Instrumental (P-12)  
Class A Physical Education (P-12)  
Class A School Counseling (P-12)

Class AA Biology (6-12)  
Class AA Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Class AA Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Class AA Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Class AA Elementary (K-6)  
Class AA Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12)  
Class AA Instructional Leadership (P-12)

Approval of the aforementioned programs until May 31, 2031, is contingent upon Alabama A&M University receiving CAEP accreditation. If the CAEP accreditation review produces any result other than full approval, the programs are conditionally approved until May 31, 2026.

Done this 9th day of May 2024

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS**  
**University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)**

**WHEREAS**, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.59(3), allows a program leading to an Alabama Professional Educator Certificate be approved through the Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) program review process; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville submitted their Class B Biology (6-12), Class B Chemistry (6-12), Class B Collaborative Special Education (K-6), Class B Collaborative Special Education (6-12), Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3), Class B Early Childhood Special Education (P-3), Class B Elementary Education (K-6), Class B English Language Arts (6-12), Class B French (6-12), Class B General Science (6-12), Class B General Social Studies (6-12), Class B German (6-12), Class B History (6-12), Class B Mathematics (6-12), Class B Physics (6-12), Class B Spanish (6-12), Class B Visual Arts (P-12), Alternative Class A Biology (6-12), Alternative Class A Chemistry (6-12), Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6), Alternative Class A English for Speakers of Other Languages (P-12), Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12), Alternative Class A History (6-12), Alternative Class A Mathematics (6-12), Alternative Class A Music—Choral (P-12), Alternative Class A Music—Instrumental (P-12), Alternative Class A Physical Education (P-12), Alternative Class A Physics (6-12), Class A English for Speakers of Other Languages (P-12), and Class A Reading Specialist (P-12) programs for review beginning in 2017 and received approval with conditions until June 30, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville submitted their Class B Music—Choral (P-12), Class B Music—Instrumental (P-12), Class B Physical Education (P-12), Class A Biology (6-12), Class A Chemistry (6-12), Class A Collaborative Teacher (K-6), Class A Collaborative Teacher (6-12), Class A Elementary Education (K-6), Class A English Language Arts (6-12), Class A History (6-12), Class A Mathematics (6-12), Class A Physics (6-12), Class A Visually Impaired (P-12) programs for review in 2017, and was granted approval until June 30, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville resubmitted CIEP documents for program review in November 2022 for the 2023 review; and

**WHEREAS**, program approval for all programs that expired in June 2023 was extended until June 30, 2024, to allow the CIEP document review and onsite visit to occur; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville submitted programs through the CIEP review process during the August 2023 CIEP review session; and

**WHEREAS**, during the program review, all programs submitted were deemed met pending a few clarifications; and

**WHEREAS**, a review team visited the University of Alabama in Huntsville for discovery and clarification on February 23, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville was able to address all concerns during the onsite review of programs and documented compliance with all standards for the programs submitted; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville submitted a progress report in September 2023 (i.e., revised course syllabi, matrix of program progression, evidence of faculty training in the Science of Reading, evidence of newly adopted textbooks, etc.) detailing their efforts toward meeting the *Alabama Literacy Act* and the recommendations provided by The Barksdale Reading Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama literacy review team examined the evidence presented by the University of Alabama in Huntsville and determined that significant progress has been made toward implementing the *Alabama Literacy Act* requirements and recommendations submitted by Barksdale; and



**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville had a CAEP site visit in October 2020 and was granted continuing accreditation until June 30, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville must submit their next self-study for continuing CAEP accreditation for a review fall 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville submitted a notice of discontinuation of Visual Impairments licensure program on March 6, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Alabama in Huntsville is engaged in a process of continuous improvement:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby grants approval of the following programs until May 31, 2031:

- Class B Biology (6-12)
- Class B Chemistry (6-12)
- Class B Collaborative Education (K-6)
- Class B Collaborative Education (6-12)
- Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3)
- Class B Early Childhood Special Education (P-3)
- Class B Elementary Education (K-6)
- Class B English Language Arts (6-12)
- Class B French (6-12)
- Class B General Science (6-12)
- Class B General Social Studies (6-12)
- Class B German (6-12)
- Class B History (6-12)
- Class B Mathematics (6-12)
- Class B Music – Choral (P-12)
- Class B Music – Instrumental (P-12)
- Class B Physical Education (P-12)
- Class B Physics (6-12)
- Class B Spanish (6-12)
- Class B Visual Arts (P-12)
  
- Alternative A Biology (6-12)
- Alternative A Chemistry (6-12)
- Alternative A Collaborative Education (K-6)
- Alternative A Collaborative Education (6-12)
- Alternative A Elementary Education (K-6)
- Alternative A English Language Arts (6-12)
- Alternative A English for Speakers of Other Languages (P-12)
- Alternative A History (6-12)
- Alternative A Mathematics (6-12)
- Alternative A Music – Choral (P-12)
- Alternative A – Instrumental (P-12)
- Alternative A Physical Education (P-12)
- Alternative A Physics (6-12)
  
- Class A Biology (6-12)
- Class A Chemistry (6-12)
- Class A Collaborative – Autism Spectrum Disorders (K-6)
- Class A Collaborative – Autism Spectrum Disorders (6-12)
- Class A English Language Arts (6-12)
- Class A English for Speakers of Other Languages (P-12)
- Class A History (6-12)
- Class A Mathematics (6-12)
- Class A Physics (6-12)
- Class A Reading Specialist (P-12)
- Class A Instructional Leadership (P-12)

Approval of the aforementioned programs until May 31, 2031, is contingent upon the University of Alabama in Huntsville receiving CAEP accreditation. If the CAEP accreditation review produces any result other than full approval, the programs are conditionally approved until May 31, 2027.

Done this 9th day of May 2024

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE 2024-2025  
STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE  
FOR SCIENCE GRADES K-12**

**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 Alabama 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 2024-2025 State Science Textbook Committee for a term beginning May 9, 2024, and ending on May 9, 2025; 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 this 9th day of May 2024

**2024-2025 STATE SCIENCE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE**

**TERM: May 9, 2024 – May 9, 2025**

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD DISTRICT**

I	Maegan Gayle	Elementary	Mobile County
II	Sherry Beasley	Elementary	Eufaula City
III	Amanda Fuller	Secondary	Pike Road City
IV	Rosie James	Secondary	Tarrant City
V	Leigh Singley	Secondary	Choctaw County
VI	Steve Owens	Secondary	Albertville City
VII	Danielle Wilson	Elementary	Franklin County
VIII	Denise Nelson	Elementary	Madison County

**STATE-AT-LARGE**

A.	Cynthia Wilson	Administrator	Baldwin County
B.	P. J. Godwin	Teacher	AL School of Fine Arts
C.	Karla McInnis	Teacher	Mobile County
D.	Beverly Sport	Administrator	Crenshaw County

**INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

- A. Samantha Strachan Associate Professor Alabama A&M University
- B. Sandy Luster Associate Professor Faulkner University

Done this 9th day of May 2024

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE 2024-2025  
STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE  
FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLUSTERS  
(ARTS, A-V TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMUNICATION; HEALTH SCIENCE; AND HUMAN  
SERVICES)**

**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 Alabama 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 2024-2025 State Career and Technical Education Textbook Committee for a term beginning May 9, 2024, and ending on May 9, 2025; 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 this 9th day of May 2024

**2024-2025 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE  
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLUSTERS:  
(ARTS, A-V TECHNOLOGY, & COMMUNICATIONS;  
HEALTH SCIENCE; AND HUMAN SERVICES)**

**TERM: MAY 9, 2024 – MAY 9, 2025**

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD DISTRICT**

I	Maria Smyly	Secondary	Andalusia City
II	Tamara Hickman	Elementary	Eufaula City
III	April Mitchell	Secondary	Birmingham City
IV	Amy McCown	Elementary	Tuscaloosa County
V	Diana Nixon	Secondary	Sumter County
VI	Alex Lane	Elementary	Albertville City
VII	Wendy Davenport	Secondary	Franklin County
VIII	Natalie Balentine	Elementary	Madison County

**STATE-AT-LARGE**

A.	Michelle Funderburg	Teacher	Gadsden City
B.	Heather Courtney	Teacher	Madison City
C.	Carrie McLaney	Administrator	Pike County
D.	Deborah Wright	Administrator	Dothan City

**INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

A.	Joe Gaston	Instructor	University of South AL
B.	Shelley Holden	Instructor	University of South AL

Done this 9th day of May 2024

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

**ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE, 290-3-3-.61, PERTAINING TO LITERACY COURSEWORK: SCIENCE OF READING (SOR)**

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

**REPEAL OLD AND ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-4-3-.01, PERTAINING TO PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

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

**ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-4-3-.04, PERTAINING TO ALABAMA STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP**

**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 this week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and it is especially appropriate today as the Alabama district teachers of the year, the teacher of the year, and alternate teacher of the year have all been honored. Dr. Mackey alluded to the statement that Alabama Teacher of the Year Deborah Stringfellow stated that there are 48,000 other people who go into the classrooms every day to perform this type of work in our schools. Dr. Mackey stated to have our students in attendance today, who he hopes will become teachers so they can recruit others to become teachers because it is about continuing to make sure that Alabama is preparing the next generation so they can prepare the generation that comes after them. Dr. Mackey said he could not think of a better way to honor Alabama teachers than what the Board has done this morning. Dr. Mackey informed everyone that the Department is constantly working on issues due to some areas that continue to have shortages. Dr. Mackey stated that local school boards and superintendents are faced with challenges, but the commitment is that we are going to get better by making these types of investments. Dr. Mackey thanked the Board for their leadership and commitment in making sure that every child in Alabama schools get a high-quality teacher.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

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Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary and Executive Officer