



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
 State Board
 of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2018

CONTACT: Communication
334-694-4686
comm@alsde.edu

Governor Kay Ivey
 President

**ALABAMA STUDENTS WILL THRIVE IN THE FUTURE – WILL GAIN
 VALUED COLLEGE AND CAREER SKILLS NEXT WEEK AT 2018 JLDC**

Jackie Zeigler
 District I

Montgomery, Ala. – The exciting *2018 Joint Leadership and Development Conference (JLDC)* will be held in Birmingham, on **December 3-4**.

Betty Peters
 District II

Last year over 6,000 Alabama students attended. This year promises to be even more exciting!

Stephanie Bell
 District III

JLDC is now Alabama’s largest annual education event for students. It will be held at the **Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex (BJCC)**. A dynamic line-up of national speakers, engaging student workshops, and other fun activities have been planned to inspire students to achieve their graduation, college, and career goals.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
 District IV

The newly redesigned event format is going to also provide teachers with professional development opportunities and specialized training, for even more classroom success.

<http://alabamafcccla.org/Websites/alfccla/images/TRIMedia-JLDC%202018-Promo%20Postcard-v2-Preview.pdf>

Ella B. Bell
 District V

Why Students attend JLDC each year:

- To develop employability skills essential for success in college and careers.
- To strengthen their Career Technical Education skills and leadership development.
- To network with thousands of their peers, who have similar goals and aspirations.
- To connect with other student leaders and top national business professionals.
- To be inspired by internationally acclaimed motivational speakers.

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
 District VI
 Vice President

This year’s event and session speakers include:

Jeff Newman
 District VII
 President Pro Tem

EDDIE SLOWIKOWSKI – *Speaker for the Premier General Session*

A Gold Medal winner for the USA Track & Field Team, a 3-time NCAA All-American, and one of the world’s most dynamic professional speakers, Eddie Slowikowski knows a thing or two about thriving. Through years of training, and running top businesses, he knows exactly what it takes to be elite. Students will laugh, parents will dance, and everyone will learn exactly what it takes to become a real success!

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.
 District VIII

STEPHEN MACKEY – *Speaker for the Kickoff Session*

Stephen Mackey brings an empowering and inspiring message to audiences of all backgrounds. Drawing from his own life story and the stories of people he meets across the country, Mackey has an uncanny ability to authentically connect with people through humor, wisdom, and character. Mackey’s life was changed by the mentors in his life, who challenged him to “Take Responsibility. Period.” for his life. This single challenge has fueled everything he has done, and is the foundation of the message he will provide to students!

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 Secretary and
 Executive Officer

–more–

2018 ALABAMA JLDC – December 3 and December 4 – At the Birmingham BJCC

JESSICA MEUSE – Featured 2018 JLDC Performer and Entertainer

Jessica Meuse is an American performer from Alabama. She has wowed audiences since the age of 10 and plays several instruments including the guitar, piano, and classical violin. At 20, she won our state artist showcase, *Stars of Alabama*. A spot on Season 3 of NBC's *The Voice* followed. Jessica was then selected by *American Idol* judges, Keith Urban, Jennifer Lopez, and Harry Connick, Jr., for Season 13 of this TV series. She rose to be a Top 4 National Finalist!

Learn more about this exciting event at <http://alabamajlhc.org/>, or contact Alabama JLDC Administrator Craig Collins at 334-694-4748.

###