



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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of Education

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MEDIA ALERT



**EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
TOUR DATES ANNOUNCED**

New law will help strengthen Alabama's educational priorities

WHAT: [The Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#) replaces the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law and affords states greater flexibility. The ESSA encourages states and schools to innovate and at the same time maintain a focus on accountability, an emphasis on state and local systems of improvement, and a more balanced assessment system. The **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Community Engagement Tour** will highlight the benefits to Alabama public school students and professionals as well as detail how ESSA will complement Alabama's Plan 2020.

WHO: Members of the [Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation Committee](#) will provide an overview of [ESSA](#), which continues to build upon the [framework](#) the Alabama State Department of Education has [established](#) for preparing Alabama's students for college or career upon graduation from high school. Appointed by Governor Robert Bentley, the [committee](#) is comprised of educators, lawmakers, school board members and parent advocates. Upon conclusion of the presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to [ESSA Implementation Committee](#) members on how Alabama can develop a more equitable K-12 public education system. The [committee's](#) work will continue throughout 2016, culminating with a final recommendation made to Governor Bentley, followed by a vote of the Alabama State Board of Education.

WHEN: The Every Student Succeeds Act Community Engagement Tour will be hosted at eight* school systems throughout the state. All tour stops will begin at 6 p.m. and end at 7 p.m., followed by a 30-minute Q&A session. Dates and locations are as follows:

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Executive Officer

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- **August 9**
Montgomery County Schools – Carver High School
2001 W. Fairview Ave., Montgomery, AL 36108
- **August 16**
Auburn City Schools – Auburn High School Performing Arts Center
405 S. Dean Road, Auburn, AL 36830
- **August 18**
Shelby County Schools – Helena High School
1310 Hillsboro Parkway, Helena, AL 35080
- **August 23**
Birmingham City Schools – Parker High School
400 Rev. Abraham Woods Jr. Blvd., Birmingham, AL, 35204
- **August 25**
Mobile County Schools – Davidson High School
3900 Pleasant Valley Road, Mobile, AL 36609
- **September 6**
Huntsville City Schools – The Academy for Academics and Arts
4800 Sparkman Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35810
- **September 13**
Tuscaloosa City Schools - Tuscaloosa Career & Technology Academy
2800 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
- **September 20**
Anniston City Schools – Anniston High School Performing Arts Center
1301 Woodstock Avenue, Anniston, Alabama 36202

INFORMATION: To learn more about [ESSA](#), visit the Every Student Succeeds Act page on the Alabama State Department of Education website, the [Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation Committee](#) page, or click [here](#). Follow the ESSA Community Engagement Tour on Twitter at [#ESSAAlabama](#).

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