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ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CELEBRATES INNOVATION

Montgomery, Ala. – The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is celebrating innovation in schools and classroom across the state from now to December 2015 by focusing on innovative programs, schools, classrooms, and teachers who are creating innovative opportunities.

“Celebrate Innovation!” aims to highlight the many educators in Alabama’s school systems who are thinking outside the box and coming up with new and creative ways to deliver quality education. Some have taken advantage of the Innovation/Flexibility waiver, which allows school systems greater flexibility in meeting the educational needs of a diverse student population. Others have made innovative changes that do not require a waiver.

“I am continually amazed at the truly innovative programs, the high-quality teaching, and the authentic student learning I see taking place in classrooms across the state,” said State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tommy Bice. “Whether through the completion of an Innovation/Flexibility waiver or not, the leadership and vision that it takes to be a trailblazer in education should be celebrated.”

Innovation/Flexibility waivers have already been approved for several school systems, including establishing a Digital Renaissance Virtual School, extending the time of physical education instruction, and creating a career technical path diploma option, among others. By focusing on innovative programs, schools, classrooms, and teachers, the ALSDE hopes “Celebrate Innovation!” will inspire others to imagine the endless possibilities that will result in dramatic outcomes for students in Alabama schools.

For more information regarding the Innovation Celebration, visit the Innovation Zone on the ALSDE website.

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