

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
APRIL 8, 2015  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met on Wednesday, April 8, 2015, at 1:05 p.m. for a regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters. 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. ELLA B. BELL, VICE PRESIDENT**

Minister Kenny Hoomes, First Baptist Church, did the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was done in unison.

The following members were present:

**Present**

Mrs. Ella B. Bell  
Mrs. Stephanie Bell  
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter  
Dr. Cynthia McCarty  
Mr. Jeff Newman  
Mrs. Betty Peters  
Dr. Yvette Richardson  
Mr. Al Thompson

**Absent**

Governor Robert Bentley

Dr. Thomas R. Bice, State Superintendent of Education and Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board, was present at the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2015**

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the minutes for the meeting of February 11, 2015, were approved as read.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Thomas R. Bice requested that Agenda Item G.2.d-g be removed from the agenda until the May 13, 2015, meeting. On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as requested.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**COMMENDING WILLIAM "BILL" SIMPSON ON BEING SELECTED AS THE  
"BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER"  
APRIL – JUNE 2015**

**WHEREAS**, William "Bill" Simpson, Senior Information Systems Specialist in the Alabama State Department of Research, Information and Data Services, exhibits a positive attitude and is always cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Simpson is a team player and always meets goals and deadlines in a timely and confidential manner; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Simpson is always helpful and has a willing attitude, interacts well with coworkers, colleagues, superiors, and subordinates, no matter how difficult or detailed the problem; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Simpson is very resourceful, professional, and exhibits total dedication and cooperation in performing assigned tasks and assisting employees; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Simpson maintains a positive image, communicates extremely well with the public, and represents the department well:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend William "Bill" Simpson for his selection as the recipient of the "Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter Award" for April - June 2015, and expresses its appreciation for his exemplary service to the department, to this board and, ultimately, to Alabama's public elementary and secondary schools.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted 7-0-1 to adopt the following.

Voted Yes

Mrs. Ella B. Bell  
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter  
Dr. Cynthia McCarty  
Mr. Jeff Newman  
Mrs. Betty Peters  
Dr. Yvette Richardson  
Mr. Al Thompson

Abstained

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Mrs. Stephanie Bell

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE RENOVATION FOR EDUCATION (WIRED)**

**WHEREAS**, WIRED, an acronym for “Wireless Infrastructure Renovation for Education,” details a standards-based plan to provide the necessary infrastructure to support wireless digital computing devices in every classroom in Alabama, whereby regardless of whether a school is rich or poor, urban or rural, every classroom will have the same wireless capabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally, three out of five schools lack the Wi-Fi needed to benefit from 21st century educational tools; and

**WHEREAS**, in Alabama the number of schools needing Wi-Fi upgrades is closer to four out of five; and

**WHEREAS**, WIRED removes barriers—human, financial, and structural—by providing every classroom and common area with robust wireless networks in an equitable manner for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, WIRED ensures that all students will be served by powerful Wi-Fi networks that meet industry standards to include infrastructure being implemented at the system level in order to provide the capacity, interoperability, and management needed to establish a fully functional efficient and effective network; and

**WHEREAS**, WIRED, with funding from the Alabama Legislature, will help Alabama school systems maximize potential Wi-Fi subsidies from the eRate Modernization program, furthering the impact that this investment will make for Alabama’s school children; and

**WHEREAS**, WIRED will build a new digital learning environment for all Alabama students and is an investment in the future of our students; and

**WHEREAS**, WIRED is a promise to our students’ future by providing access to resources beyond the confines of a school or community and providing students with skills they need for postsecondary instruction and for the workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to implement the WIRED proposal, funding from the Alabama Legislature and support from the Alabama State Board of Education are critical:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby support the Wireless Infrastructure Renovation in Education (WIRED) program in Alabama’s schools and does also hereby support any funding from the Alabama Legislature necessary in order to implement this program in Alabama’s schools.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DYSLEXIA SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, dyslexia is defined as a learning challenge that is neurological in origin and characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, these difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the delivery of effective classroom instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge; and

**WHEREAS**, dyslexia is highly prevalent, affecting one out of five individuals in some form, crossing racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines; and

**WHEREAS**, progress has been made in understanding dyslexia at a scientific level, including its epidemiology and cognitive and neurobiological bases; and

**WHEREAS**, diagnosis of dyslexia is critical and must lead to evidence-based, specialized instruction that is multisensory in nature; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes the need to specifically address dyslexia within the *Alabama Administrative Code*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education shall also establish a dyslexia advisory council, appointing members that are representative of all who provide support to students with dyslexia, including, but not limited to, teachers, administrators, parents, students, dyslexia advocates, business and education partners, and clinicians specializing in identifying dyslexia:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That due to the significant educational implications that may result for students with dyslexia, the Alabama State Board of Education calls for revision of the *Alabama Administrative Code* to acknowledge and address dyslexia and subsequent services needed to ensure the success of affected students.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SHADES VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
JEFFERSON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE TEAM FOR BEING  
SELECTED AS A “BEST IN NATION” WINNER OF THE VERIZON INNOVATIVE  
APP CHALLENGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Verizon Innovative App Challenge is designed to respond to a critical need to inspire student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math careers; and

**WHEREAS**, the national competition, created by the Verizon Foundation in partnership with the Technology Student Association, challenges middle and high school student teams to develop mobile application concepts that address a need or problem in the students’ communities or schools; and

**WHEREAS**, by focusing on concepts for mobile apps, Verizon’s Innovative App Challenge channels young people’s devotion to their mobile devices into a hands-on learning experience that empowers them to become builders of technology solutions to everyday problems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shades Valley High School Jefferson County International Baccalaureate (JCIB) Team is among eight teams of students across the country that are the “Best in Nation” winners of the third Verizon Innovative App Challenge; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shades Valley High School JCIB Team’s app concept, VOCAL, will help increase volunteering within the community and bring generations together for a common cause; and

**WHEREAS**, VOCAL uses a calendar and social media to help young people find volunteer experiences outside of the school’s curriculum and encourages team work to solve problems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shades Valley High School JCIB Team, which has previously won two Verizon App Challenge regional competitions, is led by Shades Valley High School math teacher Steven McDaniel and includes team members Jerry Hu, Cole Crownhart, Ryan Cook, Chris Arora, Courtney Barkley, and Kevin Jackson; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shades Valley High School JCIB Team is one out of four high school teams out of 1,000 applicants to win the 2015 national contest and the only team in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, as a “Best in Nation” team, the Shades Valley High School JCIB Team earned its school a \$20,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation to further develop or support STEM-related programming, and each team member received a Samsung tablet; and

**WHEREAS**, over the next few weeks, MIT App Inventor Master Trainers from the Center for Mobile Learning at the MIT Media Lab will give the “Best in Nation” teams onsite and virtual training on coding and app development; and

**WHEREAS**, in June, the Shades Valley High School JCIB Team will be invited to present its app at the National TSA Conference in Dallas:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education commends the Shades Valley High School Jefferson County International Baccalaureate Team for displaying remarkable 21st century critical thinking and problem solving skills in developing the VOCAL app, which helps fulfill a critical need in the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates the Shades Valley High School Jefferson County International Baccalaureate Team for being selected as the recipient of the prestigious “Best in Nation” Verizon Innovative App Challenge Award.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING ACT COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS CAMPAIGN  
STUDENT NOMINEE JOSHUA CYRIL ABREO, JAMES CLEMENS HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON  
CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, ACT has launched a College- and Career- Readiness Campaign to celebrate achievement and create awareness around the goal of college and career readiness for all; and

**WHEREAS**, ACT has partnered with Alabama and select states to celebrate nominated students with exemplary ACT scores, high grade point averages, and significant academic, professional, school and community involvements; and

**WHEREAS**, Joshua Abreo of James Clemens High School, Madison City School System, has been nominated by school staff as an ACT College- and Career-Readiness Student nominee for the Student Readiness Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Joshua Abreo has achieved an outstanding 36 on his ACT, along with a 4.0 GPA and also has served in leadership positions including President of the Science National Honor Society, President of the Chemistry Club, and Captain of the Quiz Bowl; and

**WHEREAS**, in the community Joshua Abreo has volunteered for Crestwood Hospital where duties included organizing patient charts, delivering patient meals, and assisting doctors and nurses when visiting patients at Manna House, a local food bank; and at Sci-Quest where he taught basic concepts in science to children; and

**WHEREAS**, Joshua Abreo’s plans are to attend a top-tier college and major in a multidisciplinary field such as chemical or biomedical engineering; and

**WHEREAS**, he would also like to take premed courses to balance his future endeavors of pursuing a career in medicine or engineering; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Student nominee and State Winner Joshua Abreo will be celebrated throughout the state and nation with the opportunity to be chosen by ACT as the national winner and honored at a gala in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Campaign helps to further the vision of PLAN 2020 “Every Child a Graduate – Every Graduate Prepared for College, Work, Adulthood in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby congratulates Joshua Abreo for his successful academic and professional work and as a nominee for the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Campaign.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015.

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING ACT COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS CAMPAIGN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE STATE NOMINEE  
CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, ACT has launched a College- and Career-Readiness Campaign to celebrate achievement and create awareness around the goal of college and career readiness for all; and

**WHEREAS**, ACT has partnered with Alabama and select states to celebrate community colleges in the nation that prepare students for a career after post-secondary education; and

**WHEREAS**, Calhoun Community College has shown an accessibility of career readiness assessments and career preparation programs such as an ACT WorkKeys Service Center; improved efforts to develop relationships with local employers including Daikin America that showed student success indicators including second-year retention, graduation, and four-year-college transfer rates, including for students from underrepresented racial/ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds; showcased

a dedication of administrators and faculty to career planning; and increased commitment to providing leadership opportunities for students outside the classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT WorkKeys Service Center allows students to receive ACT WorkKeys certification, obtain manufacturing and computer skills, learn how to build resumes and applications, improve workplace behavior skills and work ethics and in 2007, the Calhoun WorkKeys Service Center was ranked in the top 5% in the country of all community colleges that provide WorkKeys; and

**WHEREAS**, Calhoun Community College is recognized by industry as a resource to assist in the hiring and selection of a qualified workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Calhoun Community College has been nominated by the Alabama State Department of Education and ACT as an ACT College- and Career-Readiness Community College nominee for the Career Preparedness Award; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Community College State nominee, Calhoun Community College, will be celebrated throughout the state and nation with the opportunity to be chosen by ACT as the National Winner and honored at a gala in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Campaign helps to further the vision of PLAN 2020 “Every Child a Graduate – Every Graduate Prepared for College, Work, Adulthood in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby congratulates Calhoun Community College for a successful academic and professional work and for being named the Alabama Community College nominee for the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Campaign, Career Preparedness Award.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015

On motion by Mrs. Betty Peters and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING ACT COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS CAMPAIGN  
EMPLOYER NOMINEE, EAST ALABAMA HEALTHCARE AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, ACT has launched a College- and Career-Readiness Campaign to celebrate achievement and create awareness around the goal of college and career readiness for all; and

**WHEREAS**, ACT has partnered with Alabama and select states to celebrate employers who offer opportunities for new knowledge and skills attainment that develop strong relationships with local colleges and high schools; and

**WHEREAS**, East Alabama Healthcare Authority that include East Alabama Medical Center-Opelika and East Alabama Medical Center-Lanier has been nominated by the Alabama State Department of Education and ACT for the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Workplace Success Award; and

**WHEREAS**, East Alabama Healthcare Authority offers a variety of free educational and developmental opportunities and programs driven by a strategic direction allowing employees to gain, maintain, and improve knowledge and skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the School at Work (SAW) program is an eight-month program where participants improve their reading, math, and work readiness skills and the program is in its tenth year with graduates who have advanced their careers through promotions and continued education and all SAW students graduate with an ACT Work Keys certificate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Earn and Learn program is for local high school Health Occupations (HOSA) students and East Alabama Healthcare Authority selects ten HOSA students each year to hire during their senior year and are given the opportunity to work twenty hours a week in their field of interest for one semester; and

**WHEREAS**, this allows these students to gain work experience, build confidence, and affirm their career choice where many of the students have gone on to be awarded scholarships and continued employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Workplace Success Awardee, East Alabama Healthcare Authority, will be celebrated throughout the state and nation with the opportunity to be chosen by ACT as the national winner and honored at a gala in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, the ACT College- and Career-Readiness Campaign helps to further the vision of PLAN 2020 “Every Child a Graduate – Every Graduate Prepared for College, Work, Adulthood in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby congratulates East Alabama Healthcare Authority as a nominee for the ACT College- and Career- Readiness Campaign, Workplace Success Award.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING 30 ALABAMA SCHOOLS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND A+ COLLEGE READY ADVANCED PLACEMENT INITIATIVE FOR 2015-2016**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes the importance of raising expectations and rigor for students in Alabama to help them achieve their fullest academic potential; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Department of Education has partnered with A+ College Ready to expand the opportunities to more students in Alabama to challenge themselves to college-level and college-preparatory courses in math, English, and science; and

**WHEREAS**, 2015-2016 marks the eighth year of this successful partnership, which has helped prepare over 60,000 Alabama students to take rigorous college-level courses in math, English, and science, and is now in 148 Alabama high schools representing 66, almost half, of all Alabama local systems; and

**WHEREAS**, this Advanced Placement initiative has resulted in Alabama ranking number one from 2008-2014 among all 50 states in the percent increase in qualifying scores on math, English, and science AP exams; and

**WHEREAS**, the many teachers and education leaders in the 30 new Alabama State Department of Education and A+ College Ready program schools are committed to receiving the extra training and putting in the extra hours necessary to increase their capacity to teach high-level core academic courses, Advanced Placement courses, as well as foundational courses in the middle schools for future classes of students to be well prepared for Advanced Placement success; and

**WHEREAS**, 15 of the 30 schools were selected to participate as “Pipeline Schools,” and as such these schools will institute an aggressive teacher training program designed to increase the number of students enrolled in and succeeding in rigorous, CCRS-aligned courses and meeting critical college readiness benchmarks; and

**WHEREAS**, this Advanced Placement initiative has received the outstanding support of the National Math & Science Initiative, the Alabama State Legislature, the Governor, and numerous private foundations and corporations, and is partnered with the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative, the Alabama Reading Initiative, Alabama Science in Motion, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the successful public-private partnership that has enabled the Advanced Placement initiative to grow and expand each year serves as a model for Alabama and other states for how community support of education works for all students, regardless of where they live or their economic and family challenges:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby commends the 30 Alabama high schools listed below for their commitment to expanding Advanced Placement opportunities to the students in their community who are ready to step up to the challenge of higher academic success through the Alabama State Department of Education/A+ College Ready Program.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

**Cohort VIII Schools  
2015-2016**

School	District
<b>Program Schools</b>	
Albertville High School	Albertville City
Baldwin County High School	Baldwin County
Billingsley High School	Autauga County
Etowah High School	Attalla City
Fairview High School	Cullman County
Gulf Shores High School	Baldwin County
Leeds High School	Leeds City
Ohatchee High School	Calhoun County
Oneonta High School	Oneonta City

Park Crossing High School	Montgomery County
Ragland High School	St. Clair County
Robertsdale High School	Baldwin County
Springville High School	St. Clair County
White Plains High School	Calhoun County
Winterboro High School	Talladega County

Pipeline Schools	
B. B. Comer High School	Talladega County
Beulah High School	Lee County
Chickasaw High School	Chickasaw City
Chilton County High School	Chilton County
Fayetteville High School	Talladega County
Good Hope High School	Cullman County
Greensboro High School	Hale County
Hale County High School	Hale County
Loachapoka High School	Lee County
Northside High School	Tuscaloosa County
Pelham High School	Pelham City
Sulligent High School	Lamar County
Sumter High School	Sumter County
Walter Wellborn High School	Calhoun County
West Point High School	Cullman County

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following resolutions.

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND APPROVAL OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS  
MILES COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education approves educator preparation programs including the time frame for approved program status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) schedule simultaneous onsite reviews for NCATE-accredited educator preparation institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Miles College was accredited by NCATE in October 2008 with the next NCATE visit occurring in semester 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to July 1, 2013, Miles College submitted documentation of compliance with Alabama State Board of Education standards that do not duplicate NCATE standards and in September 2014 was deemed to meet all Alabama-specific standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the onsite Alabama/NCATE review conducted in April 2014 resulted in a determination that Miles College did not meet all NCATE standards and must host another comprehensive, NCATE onsite visit no later than spring semester 2016 in order to continue NCATE accreditation; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama State Board of Education approval of Miles College educator preparation programs will expire on May 31, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the status of Miles College based on the results of the second NCATE onsite review will not be determined until October 2016:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby extends approval of all educator preparation programs at Miles College until May 31, 2017; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That to continue state-approved program status beyond that date, Miles College must either document compliance with all NCATE standards or must host an onsite visit to document compliance with Alabama standards that duplicate NCATE standards.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND APPROVAL OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION  
PROGRAMS  
BIRMINGHAM SOUTHERN COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education approves educator preparation programs including the time frame for approved program status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) schedule simultaneous onsite reviews for NCATE-accredited educator preparation institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Birmingham Southern College was accredited by NCATE in March 2006 with the next NCATE visit occurring in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to April 14, 2014, Birmingham Southern College submitted documentation of compliance with Alabama State Board of Education standards that do not duplicate NCATE standards and in February 2015 was deemed to meet all Alabama-specific standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the onsite Alabama/NCATE review conducted in April 2014 resulted in a determination that Birmingham Southern College did not meet all NCATE standards and must host another comprehensive, NCATE onsite visit no later than spring semester 2016 in order to continue NCATE accreditation; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama State Board of Education approval of Birmingham Southern College educator preparation programs will expire on May 31, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the status of Birmingham Southern College based on the results of the second NCATE onsite review will not be determined until October 2016:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby extends approval of all educator preparation programs at Birmingham Southern College until May 31, 2017; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That to continue state-approved program status beyond that date, Birmingham Southern College must either document compliance with all NCATE standards or must host an onsite visit to document compliance with Alabama standards that duplicate NCATE standards.

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

**RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**

**WHEREAS**, a review of an innovative teacher education program at The University of Alabama was conducted on July 9-13, 2014, by the Alabama State Department of Education in accordance with the *Alabama State Board of Education, State Department of Education Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)2; and

**WHEREAS**, additional documentation was reviewed on October 7, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the innovative program is intended to increase the number of teachers in the critical shortage areas of mathematics and physics by allowing undergraduates in The University of Alabama Scholars Program who are majoring in mathematics with a minor in physics or who are majoring in physics with a minor in mathematics who have excelled in their studies to enroll in graduate courses before they earn a bachelor's degree; and

**WHEREAS**, the innovative program leads to a master's degree in secondary education and a Class A Professional Educator Certificate endorsed for mathematics and physics for Grades 6-12; and

**WHEREAS**, compliance with the Alabama State Board of Education rules has been verified; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education recommends approval of the innovative program:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby approves the following innovative program, with approval to expire on May 31, 2017:

Class A Mathematics and Physics (6-12)

Done this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted 6-0-2 to approve Mr. James R. Methvin as Director of Disability Determination Service and Ms. Melissa Shields as Regional Support Coordinator for Regions III and V in the Office of Student Learning. Mrs. Stephanie Bell and Mrs. Betty Peters abstained.

Voted Yes

Mrs. Ella B. Bell  
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter  
Dr. Cynthia McCarty  
Dr. Jeff Newman  
Dr. Yvette Richardson  
Mr. Al Thompson

Abstained

Mrs. Stephanie Bell  
Mrs. Betty Peters

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Thomas R. Bice informed Board members that Mrs. Karen Porter, Education Administrator, was going to provide a report on Innovation Zone/Flexibility Applications. A copy of the presentation is filed in the Board folder dated April 8, 2015. Mrs. Porter stated that information pertaining to applications may be accessed on the Department Web site where a template is also available.

Dr. Bice presented a detailed report prepared by the School Superintendents of Alabama on choices available to students in Alabama: There are 32,954 students who are in open enrollment; 121 students out of the 137 school systems attend schools in other systems; 17,290 students attend magnet schools in 41 different magnet programs in the state; 152,643 students attend career and professional academies; 10,064 students are in dual enrollment classes where 6,254 of the students attend high schools and 3,810 attend community college programs off campus; 574 students attend statewide public schools, the Alabama School of Math and Science, and Alabama School of Fine Arts; 25,062 students attend virtual schools through ACCESS; 36,074 students are in Advanced Placement programs; 3,097 students are in International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs; 7,344 students attend Pre-K Programs in school systems; 481 students attend a different school because their assigned school did not meet federal standards; 351 students are in laboratory schools run by four universities, UNA, UA, AUM, and UWA; 240 students are in a military academy; 326,253 students out of the 740,000 students are in choice programs. Dr. Bice stated that another choice option would be charter schools that will be discussed during the Work Session scheduled for Thursday, April 9. A detailed copy of this report is filed in the Board folder dated April 8, 2015.

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mr. Jeff Newman, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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Vice President

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Secretary and Executive Officer