

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
OCTOBER 12, 2017
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: GOVERNOR KAY IVEY, PRESIDENT

Pastor Travis Coleman, First Baptist Church Prattville, did the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Present

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Governor Kay Ivey
Dr. Cynthia McCarty
Mr. Jeff Newman
Mrs. Betty Peters
Dr. Yvette M. Richardson
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2017, AND
SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2017**

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of September 14, 2017, and Special-Called meeting of September 27, 2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board delayed Agenda Item G.2.d., Resolution to Modify Certain Passing Scores on Praxis Subject Assessments as a Precondition for Initial Certification until the November 9, 2017, Work Session. One of the concerns were surrounding states' cut scores at 160 to certify proficiency and Alabama's cut score of 145. Board members were asked to submit any questions for discussion during the November 9 meeting.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

Several individuals addressed the Board pertaining to the Approval of the *Every Student Succeeds Act*. The archived video is available at <http://www.alsde.edu/sites/boe/Pages/PreviousMeetings.aspx>.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

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

**ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE NUMBER 290-2-1-01,
PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM
FUNDS**

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously for the following.

**ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE NUMBER 290-2-1-.03,
PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDS**

Governor Kay Ivey stated that inconsistencies and deficiencies in the previous *Every Student Succeeds Act* draft had been addressed. There will be an opportunity for modifications. Governor Ivey stated that some decisions would be better in a state strategic plan.

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 6-3-0 in favor adopting the following:

APPROVAL OF ESSA PLAN

Voted Yes

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Governor Kay Ivey
Dr. Cynthia McCarty
Mr. Jeff Newman
Dr. Yvette Richardson

Voted No.

Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mrs. Betty Peters
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler

Dr. Ed Richardson thanked the Board for the passage of the ESSA plan. He stated that the Board’s action made it possible for more than \$500 million in federal dollars to go to the school systems.

Due to another commitment, Governor Kay Ivey had to leave the meeting and Vice President Stephanie Bell presided over the remainder of the meeting.

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING A HIRING FREEZE RELATED TO THE MONTGOMERY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS INTERVENTION**

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2017, the Alabama State Board of Education adopted a resolution to authorize a hiring freeze as to the Alabama State Department of Education and the Montgomery County Board of Education until certain requested budgetary information had been provided to and reviewed by the Alabama State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the requested budgetary information has since been provided and reviewed by the Alabama State Board of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does find that the condition of the Resolution has been satisfied and that the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby rescind its previously adopted resolution dated June 8, 2017, authorizing a hiring freeze.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING REBECCA BOZEMAN ON BEING SELECTED AS
THE “BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER”
OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2017**

WHEREAS, Rebecca Bozeman, Senior Accountant and Quality Review expert in the Alabama State Department of Education Office of Supporting Programs, Child Nutrition Programs, works to ensure that her colleagues understand the requirements of the various Child Nutrition Program (CNP) initiatives and is always friendly in her communications with colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Bozeman is a team player and goes above and beyond her regular duties by assisting staff with questions and concerns. For instance, when CNP auditors are out in the field performing administrative reviews, often times they need additional information and do not have access to the Internet. Rebecca Bozeman is always willing to assist and work with them until they receive all the pertinent details; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Bozeman is always professional and courteous with the CNP programs' sponsors. When sponsors become frustrated, she remains professional, never raises her voice, and works with the sponsors to troubleshoot issues; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Bozeman is very dependable, works late evenings, weekends, and even holidays to ensure that the quality review process is completed in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Bozeman is held in high regard throughout the Child Nutrition Programs section, and her colleagues appreciate her warm and welcoming spirit:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Rebecca Bozeman for her selection as the recipient of the "Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter Award" for October - December 2017 and expresses its appreciation for her exemplary service to the department, to this Board, and, ultimately, to Alabama's public elementary and secondary schools.

Done this 12th day of October 2017.

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson the Board voted unanimously for the following:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ADOPTING PRAXIS ASSESSMENT 5531:
PRE-KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION AS A PRECONDITION FOR INITIAL
CERTIFICATION FOR PRE-K TEACHERS**

WHEREAS, by a March 9, 2017, resolution, the Alabama State Board of Education adopted standards for two approaches leading to certification of Pre-K teachers; and

WHEREAS, both approaches to earning a certificate require prospective Pre-K teachers to earn a passing score on the appropriate Praxis II content test as a condition for certification; and

WHEREAS, by Resolutions of April 14, 2005; February 9, 2006; October 12, 2006; December 14, 2006; March 8, 2007; July 10, 2012; July 9, 2013; and other Resolutions from time to time, the Alabama State Board of Education has adopted certain Praxis content-knowledge assessments and minimum passing scores as conditions for initial teacher certification in the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Testing Services (ETS) has conducted a score-setting study with a panel of Alabama faculty and educators for Praxis Assessment 5531—Pre-Kindergarten Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to implement the adoption of Praxis Assessment 5531—Pre-Kindergarten Education with a minimum passing score of 155 for all individuals seeking initial Pre-Kindergarten certification.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

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

**RESOLUTION TO RECEIVE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE
FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS FOR ARTS EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Law provides that textbooks be adopted by the Alabama State Board of Education according to a rotation cycle, and this is the year for arts education and world languages; and

WHEREAS, said law also provides that the State Textbook Committee meet to review textbooks submitted by publishing companies and prepare recommendations for adoption and/or rejection for submission to the Alabama State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 State Textbook Committee has met and has prepared such recommendations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached recommendations for adoption of textbooks made by the State Textbook Committee are hereby received by the Alabama State Board of Education and such recommendations will be considered for approval on December 14, 2017.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Jacqueline Zeigler and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KATE HOOD, BAY MINETTE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kate Hood of Bay Minette Middle School, Baldwin County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kate Hood was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Kate Hood upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Jacqueline Zeigler and seconded by Mrs. Betty Peters, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CAROLANNE GROGAN, SARALAND HIGH
SCHOOL, SARALAND CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Carolanne Grogan of Saraland High School, Saraland City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 14 years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Carolanne Grogan was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Ms. Carolanne Grogan upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Jacqueline Zeigler and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JULIE G. PIERCE, FAIRHOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, ALABAMA'S 2017-2018 NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) sponsors a national program to honor outstanding elementary and middle school principals from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense, and U.S. Territories; and

WHEREAS, Julie G. Pierce, Principal, Fairhope Elementary School in the Baldwin County School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the 2017-2018 National Distinguished Principal for Alabama by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Julie G. Pierce earned a Bachelor's degree from The University of Alabama in 1984, a Master's degree in 1988 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and an Administrative degree from the University of South Alabama in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Julie G. Pierce, as Principal of Fairhope Elementary School, leads professional learning for faculty and staff in a collaborative style that promotes student ownership of and responsibility for their learning; and

WHEREAS, Julie G. Pierce creates an atmosphere for parents and community members to be engaged in the sharing of responsibility by communicating and involving all stakeholders in the partnership of creating success for children; and

WHEREAS, as principal of Fairhope Elementary School, she is a believer in project-based learning, STEM and STEAM instructional strategies, and exemplary student engagement; and

WHEREAS, each year, the National Association of Elementary School Principals congratulates principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements by recognizing them in its National Distinguished Principals program; and

WHEREAS, the National Distinguished Principals program honors outstanding elementary and middle-level administrators who ensure that America's children acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and achievement; and

WHEREAS, the program was established in 1984 to recognize and celebrate elementary and middle-level principals who set high standards for instruction, student achievement, character and climate for the students, families, and staffs in their learning communities; and

WHEREAS, public school elementary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the National Association of Elementary School Principals' state affiliate offices:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Julie G. Pierce upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's National Distinguished Principal of the Year for 2017-2018.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Betty Peters and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KEITH YORK, OPELIKA MIDDLE SCHOOL, OPELIKA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, 2017 MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASPP) sponsors a national program to honor outstanding middle and high school principals from across the United States and more than 45 countries; and

WHEREAS, Keith York, Principal of Opelika Middle School in the Opelika City School System, was selected as Alabama's 2017 Middle School Principal of the Year by the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principal; and

WHEREAS, Keith York has served as an educator for 25 years, 16 of those as an administrator; and

WHEREAS, Keith York earned his Bachelor's degree from Auburn University in 1993, a Master's degree from Troy University in 2000, and an Educational Specialist degree from Troy University in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Keith York, as principal of Opelika Middle School, is credited with creating a school culture that is focused on student achievement and committed to personal connections to all students; and

WHEREAS, Keith York, as principal of Opelika Middle School, instituted a "Be Nice" initiative that has become a common aspect of the positive character development for everyone at Opelika Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Keith York worked with all teachers and students to increase mathematics and reading skills for all students; and

WHEREAS, Keith York, as principal of Opelika Middle School, led the efforts to decrease discipline infractions for all students by focusing on building positive relationships; and

WHEREAS, each year, the National Association of Secondary School Principals congratulates principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements by recognizing them in its Principal of the Year Program; and

WHEREAS, the Principal of the Year Program, established in 1993, honors outstanding secondary and middle-level principals who ensure that America's students acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and achievement, and the program annually honors secondary and middle-level principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession; and

WHEREAS, secondary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the National Association of Secondary School Principals' state affiliate offices:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Keith York upon the honor of being selected as the 2017 Alabama Middle School Principal of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF BETH KAISER, VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL,
VESTAVIA HILLS CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beth Kaiser, Vestavia Hills High School, Vestavia Hills City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beth Kaiser was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Beth Kaiser upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KRISTIN BUNDREN, SPAIN PARK HIGH SCHOOL,
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kristin Bundren of Spain Park High School, Hoover City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kristin Bundren was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Kristin Bundren upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

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

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CARRIE BUSBY, HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL,
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS THE 2017 ALABAMA ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF
THE YEAR FOR ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, Carrie Busby has served as an educator in Alabama since 1995 as an English teacher and as an administrator since 2013; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Busby, assistant principal of Hoover High School in the Hoover City School System, was selected as the 2017 Assistant Principal of the Year for Alabama by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Busby earned her Bachelor's degree in 1994 from the University of Alabama and a Master's degree in 2009 from the University of Montevallo; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Busby, as assistant principal of Hoover High School, positively affects the students and the faculty at Hoover High School to ensure all students graduate college and career ready; and

WHEREAS, she developed a new focus for the Peer Helping program that allows students to travel to other schools within the district to tutor, assist, and mentor other students; thereby increasing leadership capacity for students under her care and modeling excellence for schools in Alabama and across the country; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Busby, as assistant principal of Hoover High school, through her work in Hoover, helped students by providing confidence-building activities, new experiences, college visits, leadership conferences, business tours, and other relevant visits, and because of this program, many of those students are now enrolled in or seeking post-secondary educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals congratulates assistant principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements by recognizing them in its Assistant Principal of the Year program; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Assistant Principals annually recognizes outstanding school leaders who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS, secondary and middle-level assistant principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the National Association of Secondary School Principals' state affiliate offices:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Carrie Busby, Assistant Principal of Hoover High School, Hoover City School System, for being named the 2017 Assistant Principal of the Year for Alabama by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF VAN A. PHILLIPS, CENTER POINT HIGH SCHOOL, JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, 2017 HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) sponsors a national program to honor outstanding middle and high school principals from across the United States and more than 45 countries; and

WHEREAS, Van A. Phillips, Principal, Center Point High school, Jefferson County School System, was selected as Alabama's 2017 High School Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals; and

WHEREAS, Van A. Phillips has served as an educator for 34 years, 29 of those years as an administrator; and

WHEREAS, secondary and middle-level principals are nominated for this achievement by peers in their state and final selections are made by committees appointed by each of the National Association of Secondary School Principals' state affiliate offices; and

WHEREAS, Van A Phillips earned a Bachelor's degree from Kentucky State University in 1982, a Master's degree from Bowling Green State University in 1983, and an Administrative Degree from Alabama State University in 1987; and

WHEREAS, as principal of Center Point High School, one of Mr. Phillips' greatest contributions is the life lessons he teaches to his students who are not only prepared for college and career but know what it is to be great citizens; and

WHEREAS, Van A. Phillips, as principal of Center Point High School, initiated a 9th Grade Academy program designed to enhance learning opportunities for the youngest learners at Center Point High School; and

WHEREAS, Van A. Phillips has added an afterschool tutorial program for instructional support for students that includes a hot dinner and transportation home for the students at the end of the evening; and

WHEREAS, each year, the National Association of Secondary School Principals congratulates principals from across the nation for their exemplary achievements by recognizing them in its Principal of the Year program; and

WHEREAS, the Principal of the Year program, established in 1993, honors outstanding secondary and middle-level principals who ensure that America's students acquire a sound foundation for lifelong learning and achievement; and

WHEREAS, the program annually honors secondary and middle-level principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Van A. Phillips upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2017 Principal of the Year.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CORTNEY COOPER SLAUGHTER, FULTONDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS THE ALABAMA ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FOR 2017-2018

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter has been an outstanding educator in Alabama for ten years and an excellent assistant principal at Fultondale Elementary School in the Jefferson County School system for the past three years; and

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter has earned a Bachelor's degree in Education from Athens State University, a Master's degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and an educational specialist degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham; and

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter is on pace to graduate from Samford University with a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership in December 2017; and

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter advocates for effective communication with all stakeholders under her care at Fultondale Elementary School on a regular and consistent basis; and

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter has volunteered in many capacities during her time as assistant principal including veteran's ceremonies, tornado relief, and civic fundraisers; and

WHEREAS, Cortney Cooper Slaughter has been recognized by her peers for her exemplary service to the students, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders at Fultondale Elementary School:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Cortney Cooper Slaughter, Assistant Principal at Fultondale Elementary School in the Jefferson County School System, for being named the 2017-2018 Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year for Alabama.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF AMY GARRETT,
TROY-PIKE CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY,
PIKE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Amy Garrett of Troy-Pike Center for Technology, Pike County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Amy Garrett was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Amy Garrett upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY CAFFEE,
BLOUNT COUNTY CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER,
BLOUNT COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Nancy Caffee of Blount County Career Technical Center, Blount County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 31 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Nancy Caffee was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Nancy Caffee upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF DELAURA DOWNS, IRONDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeLaura Downs of Irondale Middle School, Jefferson County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeLaura Downs was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. DeLaura Downs upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF LORIE WHITE, ROGERS HIGH SCHOOL,
LAUDERDALE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lorie White of Rogers High School, Lauderdale County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 29.5 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lorie White was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Lorie White upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF ALAINA PETTUS, BROOKS HIGH SCHOOL,
LAUDERDALE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Alaina Pettus of Brooks High School, Lauderdale County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Alaina Pettus was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Alaina Pettus upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF REBECCA PHILLIPS,
LEE HIGH SCHOOL, HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS A
2017 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the 21st century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D. C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, five 2017 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rebecca Phillips of Lee High School, Huntsville City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 9 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rebecca Phillips was chosen as a 2017 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Rebecca Phillips upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Jacqueline Zeigler and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2017 AS "PRINCIPALS MONTH"

WHEREAS, the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators, the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals, and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals have declared the month of October 2017 as National Principals Month, in coordination with the efforts of the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals who are working with the U.S. Congress to designate National Principals Month and resolutions thereof; and

WHEREAS, the vision, dedication, and determination of a principal provides the mobilizing force behind any school reform effort; and

WHEREAS, principals are expected to be educational visionaries, instructional leaders, assessment experts, disciplinarians, community builders, public relations experts, budget analysts, facility managers, special programs administrators, and guardians of various legal contractual, and policy mandates and initiatives, as well as being entrusted with our young people, our most valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, principals set the academic tone for their schools and work collaboratively with teachers to develop and maintain high-curriculum standards, develop mission statements, and set performance goals and objectives for schools to achieve educational excellence; and

WHEREAS, principals work tirelessly in communities across Alabama to maintain academic accountability to ensure a safe and productive learning environment and to encourage and facilitate teachers and parents' efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of our young people; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama recognizes outstanding elementary, middle level, and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as their exemplary contributions to the profession; and

WHEREAS, to honor and recognize the contribution of all school principals and assistant principals, at all grade levels, to the success of students in Alabama's elementary, middle, and high schools and to encourage residents of Alabama to observe "Principals Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim October 2017 as "Principals Month" in the state of Alabama.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mr. Jeff Newman, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING ALABAMA SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK
(October 16-20, 2017)**

WHEREAS, nearly 362,567 of Alabama's elementary and secondary students are transported to and from school each day of the school year; and

WHEREAS, the safety of these students is of utmost importance to all citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's school bus drivers and other transportation employees work diligently to ensure safe transportation for all of Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby endorse October 16-20, 2017, as Alabama School Bus Safety Week and urges all Alabamians, particularly motorists, to be especially cautious where school buses and schoolchildren are involved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education calls on the citizens of Alabama to make every week a safe one for the students and school buses of our state.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Betty Peters, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION
OF OCTOBER
AS DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, dyslexia is defined as a language-based 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, dyslexia impacts between 10% and 20% of the children in Alabama schools; and

WHEREAS, through effective dyslexia screening, students with dyslexia can be identified as early as kindergarten, long before their learning challenges have resulted in learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, early identification and intervention will equip many students with dyslexia for success in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has specifically addressed dyslexia within the *Alabama Administrative Code*; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has established a dyslexia advisory council to work with the Alabama State Department of Education staff to develop and maintain a dyslexia resource guide for use in public schools by teachers and for parents:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes October as Dyslexia Awareness Month and encourages school systems to engage their schools, families, and communities in activities that create a culture of understanding, support, encouragement, and learning for dyslexic students.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION
PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS
STATEWIDE PARENT VISITATION MONTH IN ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education strongly support parent and family engagement in the education of Alabama students, and parent engagement is critical to student and school success; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is committed to parent and family engagement in our schools as it strives to provide all public school children with an opportunity for a quality education with high academic standards that offer every student an opportunity to graduate and to obtain the necessary skills to be prepared for the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, more than 30 years of research identify parental engagement as a key component in ensuring a child's academic achievement, and a successful partnership between educators and parents is one of the most crucial factors influencing the success of students in school; and

WHEREAS, Statewide Parent Visitation Month provides parents the opportunity to learn how they can become more actively engaged in their children's education by visiting their children's school, learning about the curriculum, consulting with their children's teachers, and participating in school activities; and

WHEREAS, Statewide Parent Visitation Month is an excellent opportunity for Alabama's public schools to emphasize and increase parent engagement, to partner with communities to raise awareness and increase support for public education, and to educate parents and others about Alabama Ascending:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education proclaims October 2017 as Statewide Parent Visitation Month in Alabama; declares this year's theme as Home and School Partnerships Equal Student Success which encourages educators, communities, parents, and families to participate in this observance and challenges educators to solicit sustained, year-round parent and family engagement.

Done this 12th day of October 2017

Interim State Superintendent's Report

At the request of the Montgomery County Board of Education members, Dr. Richardson will attend the system's Board meeting on October 16. He will also attend the legislative Ways and Means Committee meeting on October 25.

Dr. Richardson also informed Board members of his earlier meeting with Special Education advocates. Some of those concerns were voiced during today's Public Hearing.

Dr. Richardson commented on a new assessment tool that will be discussed during the Work Session that will be held immediately following the Board meeting.

On motion by Mrs. Betty Peters and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. The Work Session was held immediately following the meeting in Plaza 104 of the Gordon Persons Building.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer