

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
OCTOBER 13, 2016  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 10:10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. 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: DR. YVETTE RICHARDSON**

Dr. Eric Mackey, Executive Director, School Superintendents of Alabama, did the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was done in unison.

The following members were present:

**Present**

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

**Absent**

Governor Robert Bentley

Mr. Michael Sentance, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2016**

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of September 8, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

Motion was made by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, seconded by Mrs. Betty Peters, to adopt the *Alabama Administrative Code* item below. Following an in-depth discussion regarding concerns with the grading system that had been approved by the Alabama Legislature, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter withdrew her motion and made a motion to table the item. Mrs. Stephanie Bell seconded the motion. The Board voted 7-1-0 in support of the motion. Mr. Matthew Brown voted no. It was the consensus of a majority of the Board members that more time was needed, in part, for Superintendent Michael Sentance to review and receive other pertinent information.

**ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE 290-4-1-.03, PERTAINING TO EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY (GRADING SYSTEM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND SCHOOLS)**

Mr. Andy Craig, Deputy State Superintendent for Administrative and Financial Services, provided information to the Board members regarding the code items below and will provide follow-up information at a later Work Session.

On motion by Mr. Matthew Brown and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted 7-1-0 to adopt the Administrative Code item below. Mrs. Ella B. Bell voted no.

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

On motion by Mr. Matthew Brown and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted 7-1-0 to adopt the Administrative Code item below. Mrs. Ella B. Bell voted no.

**ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE 290-2-1-.02 PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF CURRENT UNIT FUNDS**

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

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING ELIZABETH FISHER ON BEING SELECTED AS THE "BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER" OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2016**

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher, Administrative Support Assistant III in the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Office of Career Technical Education/Workforce Development, exhibits a positive attitude and is always cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher has been an Administrative Support Assistant at the ALSDE for almost 12 years and during this time has not only excelled in her assigned duties but also goes above the minimum requirements to ensure that tasks are completed in a thorough manner; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher has a "let's get it done attitude," and is willing to go to extraordinary lengths to assist others in getting tasks accomplished; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher is very resourceful, dependable, goal-orientated, and maintains her composure and professionalism under all circumstances, even during stressful situations; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher possesses a positive attitude, is courteous when interacting with her peers and ALSDE personnel, and will do her best to lift someone's spirits when the individual is having a bad day; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Fisher also 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 Elizabeth Fisher for her selection as the recipient of the "Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter Award" for October - December 2016, 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

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

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING KENDRICK MYERS AS THE 2016-2017 ALABAMA ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR FOR ALABAMA**

**WHEREAS**, Kendrick Myers served as an educator in Alabama for nine years with four of those years as an administrator at Opelika High School in the Opelika City School System; and

**WHEREAS**, Kendrick Myers, former Assistant Principal of Opelika High School in the Opelika City School System, was selected as the 2016-2017 Assistant Principal of the Year for Alabama by the National Association of Secondary School Assistant Principals (NASSP) and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Assistant Principals; and

**WHEREAS**, Kendrick Myers earned his Bachelor's degree in 2007 from Alabama State University, a Master's degree in 2010 from Auburn University at Montgomery, a Master's degree in Educational Leadership in 2011 from Auburn University, and an Educational Specialist Degree from Auburn University in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Kendrick Myers, as former Assistant Principal of Opelika High School, positively affected the students and the faculty during his tenure at Opelika High School to ensure all students graduate college-and career-ready; and

**WHEREAS**, as assistant principal, he united community efforts and school resources to provide incentives for perfect attendance and was also credited with the implementation of an incentive program that rewarded students who had no disciplinary action; and

**WHEREAS**, Kendrick Myers, as former Assistant Principal of Opelika High School, through his work with the BICS program, helped at-risk 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 at-risk students are now enrolled in or seeking postsecondary educational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Association of Secondary School Assistant 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 Assistant Principals' state affiliate offices:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Kendrick Myers, former Assistant Principal of Opelika High School, Opelika City School System, for being named the 2016-2017 Assistant Principal of the Year for Alabama by the National Association of Secondary School Assistant Principals and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF BENJAMIN E. BAKER, ARITON SCHOOL, DALE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, 2016-2017 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**, Benjamin E. Baker, Principal of Ariton School in the Dale County School System, was selected as Alabama's 2016-2017 High School Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin E. Baker has served as an educator for 19 years and 12 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**, Benjamin E. Baker earned a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Troy University; and

**WHEREAS**, as principal of Ariton School, one of his 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**, Benjamin E. Baker instills in his students integrity, compassion, honesty, love, and patriotism that prepares students to become successful; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin E. Baker, as principal of Ariton School, initiated a program to supply food for students on the weekends and partnered with local businesses and churches, the school currently provides more than 70 meals on the weekend for students receiving free and reduced lunch; and

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin E. Baker has added an "enrichment block" to provide students and teachers an opportunity to enhance their creativity, and the block established an award-winning choir, art classes, award-winning school newspaper, and a nursery/greenhouse business where students with excessive absences, excessive referrals, or low grades can use this time to meet with a mentor; 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 Benjamin E. Baker upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2016-2017 Alabama Principal of the Year.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

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

**RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING DR. DANIEL STEELE, THOMPSON SIXTH GRADE CENTER, ALABASTER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2016-2017 MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele, Principal of Thompson Sixth Grade Center in the Alabaster City School System, was named the 2016-2017 Middle School Principal of the Year for Alabama by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals, and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele earned his Bachelor's degree from Covenant College, a Master's degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, an Educational Specialist degree and a Doctorate of Education degree from Samford University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele has served as an educator for 23 years, 15 of those years as an administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele, as principal of Thompson Sixth Grade Center, is credited with creating a school culture that is focused on student achievement and personal connections to all students; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele initiated a collaborative analysis of formative assessment results that encompassed teachers volunteering to be "lifelines" for identified at-risk students that resulted in an increase in students' reading proficiency by 60 percent and math proficiency by 68 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, Dr. Daniel Steele wrote and performed raps for students about expectations and students wrote their dreams on the "Wall of Dreams" posted outside his office; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Daniel Steele, as principal of Thompson Sixth Grade Center, led the faculty to build a more collaborative culture in the building using "eleot," an AdvancED classroom observation instrument where the teachers are able to observe their colleagues and give a report to the observed teacher; and

**WHEREAS**, these observations serve as a professional development tool for teachers and have increased their understanding of best practices; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby congratulate and commend Dr. Daniel Steele, Thompson Sixth Grade Center, Alabaster City School System, on his selection as the 2016-2017 Alabama Middle School Principal of the Year by the

National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Alabama Association of Middle School Principals, and the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF AMY MADDOX, VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL, VESTAVIA HILLS CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS ALABAMA'S HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, Amy Maddox, a teacher at Vestavia Hills High School in the Vestavia Hills City School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the History Teacher of the Year Award; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Preserve America, and HISTORY™ (the History Channel) sponsor the history Teacher of the Year Award to honor outstanding teachers of American history from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense, and U. S. territories; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, Amy Maddox was selected based upon her outstanding teaching abilities in making ancient times come alive for today's students allowing them to relive what our forefathers did many years ago and for her dedicated efforts in attending workshops and sharing the information with not only her students but also with other history teachers in her school system; and

**WHEREAS**, as Alabama's History Teacher of the Year, Amy Maddox receives a certificate and \$1,000 from the Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History, and Vestavia Hills High School receives an archive of primary historical materials; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy Maddox will represent Alabama as the state finalist for the National History Teacher of the Year Award in a selection process to be held in New York City this fall:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Amy Maddox upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's History Teacher of the Year.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES A. GARDNER, HOKES BLUFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ETOWAH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS ALABAMA'S 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**, Charles A. Gardner, Principal at Hokes Bluff Elementary School in the Etowah County School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the 2016 National Distinguished Principal of the Year Award for Alabama as sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles A. Gardner earned a Bachelor's of science degree from Auburn University in 1990, a Master's degree in 1992 from The University of Alabama, and an educational specialist degree from The University of Alabama in 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles A. Gardner has served as an educator in Alabama for 26 years, 19 of those as principal; and

**WHEREAS**, as Principal of Hokes Bluff Elementary School, he has implemented professional learning programs for faculty and staff prior to the beginning of each school year to provide a venue of reiteration regarding the concept that parents and community are valued stakeholders in the academic support of the students; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles A. Gardner creates an environment 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 Hokes Bluff Elementary School, he holds monthly data meetings to determine the next steps for all students and make informed decisions and measure progress for students, adults, and overall school performance; 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 Charles A. Gardner upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's National Distinguished Principal of the Year.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

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

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2016 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 2016 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, which are working with the U.S. Congress to designate National "Principals Month" and to enact resolutions in support 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 caretakers of 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**, in celebration of "National Principals Month," the state of Alabama honors elementary, middle level, and high school principals and recognizes the importance of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education; and

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

**WHEREAS**, in order to honor and recognize the contribution of all school principals and assistant principals, at all grade levels, or 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 2016, as "Principals Month" in the state of Alabama.

On motion by Mr. Matthew Brown and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 PLAN 2020:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education proclaims October 2016 as Statewide Parent Visitation Month in Alabama; declares this year's theme as **Home and School Partnerships: Breaking Barriers to Learning**, 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

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

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING ALABAMA SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK  
OCTOBER 17-21, 2016**

**WHEREAS**, more than 366,944 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 17-21, 2016, 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 every citizen of Alabama to make sure that every week is a safe one for the students and school buses of our state.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

Mrs. Stephanie Bell made a motion to adopt the resolution below and Mrs. Ella B. Bell seconded. Mr. Matthew Brown stated that he was uncomfortable with some aspects of the resolution, and then moved for an amendment and offered a substitute for the resolution (the proposed substitute resolution is available upon request). Dr. Cynthia McCarty seconded Mr. Brown's motion. Mrs. Stephanie Bell called for the question on the amendment to end the discussion. There was a vote on the call for the question, and five members of the Board voted in support of ending debate. Those voting in support were Mrs. Ella B. Bell, Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Mr. Jeff Newman, Mrs. Betty Peters, and Dr. Yvette Richardson. Mr. Matthew Brown, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, and Dr. Cynthia McCarty did not vote in favor of ending debate. The Board then voted on Mr. Brown's proposed amendment. Three Board members voted in favor of it: Mr. Matthew Brown, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, and Dr. Cynthia McCarty; four Board members voted against it: Mrs. Ella B. Bell, Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Mr. Jeff Newman, and Dr. Yvette Richardson. Mrs. Betty Peters did not vote. The proposed amendment failed to pass. There then was a discussion on the main motion. The Board members voted 7-1-0 in support of the main motion. Mr. Matthew Brown voted no.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE UNAUTHORIZED AND POTENTIALLY ILLEGAL DISSEMINATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**WHEREAS**, during the period of about June 2016 through August 2016, the Alabama State Board of Education conducted a search for a State Superintendent of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about July 14, 2016, information about one of the candidates being considered for the position of Alabama State Superintendent of Education was anonymously disseminated to the members of the Alabama State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education of the state of Alabama has not authorized any member, subcommittee, or person to request an investigation into any matter pertaining to any candidate being considered for the position of Alabama State Superintendent of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education has found and determined the following regarding the information believed to have been disseminated to the Alabama Ethics Commission: (1) Said information was of a 'private' and 'confidential' nature and due to be protected from unauthorized disclosure; (2) Said information was obtained by potentially unlawful means; and (3) The manner in which said information was obtained and disseminated to the Ethics Commission was, possibly, in violation of state laws concerning the handling of privileged, confidential, and/or sensitive personal information:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, By the Alabama State Board of Education that the Board hereby requests an investigation by the Alabama Ethics Commission and the Alabama State Attorney General's Office into the unauthorized and potentially illegal dissemination in 2016 of information concerning the position of Alabama State Superintendent of Education:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, By the Alabama State Board of Education that the Board hereby authorizes and directs the issuance of a formal opinion to the Board by the appropriate regulatory body—including but not limited to the Alabama Ethics Commission and Alabama Attorney General's office—as to whether or not the subject disseminated information, in fact, violated any state or federal laws.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016

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

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KEJA ALEXIS WYNN, CARVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, HONORED AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS**

**WHEREAS**, Keja Alexis Wynn, a Senior at Carver Senior High School, Montgomery County School System, was recently honored as a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, one of the world's highest honors for high school students; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Society of High School Scholars was formed in 2002 by founder and chairman Claes Nobel and whose family established the Nobel prizes; and

**WHEREAS**, James Lewis, the current president, recognizes academic excellence in high schools in order to advance students in their education through scholarships, internships, and international studies; and

**WHEREAS**, Keja Alexis Wynn was recommended by her teachers for this outstanding award and was recognized for her leadership, scholarship, and community commitment; and

**WHEREAS**, at the time of the announcement, Nobel stated she demonstrated hard work, sacrifice, and commitment to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence and went on to say, “She is now a member of a unique community of scholars – a community that represents our very best hope for the future”; and

**WHEREAS**, Keja Alexis Wynn is ranked in the top ten percent of her class at Carver Senior High School and as a lifetime member she will have access to college and career opportunities, with a focus in English and law:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education and Alabama State Department of Education does hereby commend Keja Alexis Wynn for her commitment to academic success, and community involvement as a member of the National Society of High School Scholars.

Done this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m. Immediately following the Alabama State Board of Education meeting, State Board members and State Superintendent Michael Sentance attended the A+ College Ready 2016 AP Celebration that was held in the auditorium of the State Capitol.

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Vice President

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Secretary and Executive Officer