



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

October 16, 2015

Alabama
State Board
of Education

MEMORANDUM

Governor
Robert Bentley
President

TO: City and County Superintendents

Matthew S. Brown, J.D.
District I

FROM: Thomas R. Bice *TRB*
State Superintendent of Education

Betty Peters
District II

RE: Dyslexia Awareness

Stephanie Bell
District III

During the October 8, 2015, Board Meeting, the Alabama State Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt Amended Rule 290-3-1-.02 of the *Alabama Administrative Code* pertaining to regulations governing public schools' support of students with dyslexia and students exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia. This code defines dyslexia, Response to Instruction (RtI), and the Problem Solving Team (PST) process and outlines the procedure for identifying and supporting students in need of dyslexia-specific services.

Yvette M.
Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV
President Pro Tem

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is currently developing resources that can be used to provide training on dyslexia-specific awareness, screening, interventions, classroom strategies, academic accommodations, and use of assistive technology. You should receive detailed information regarding these resources later this month.

Ella B. Bell
District V

Additionally, during the October 8, 2015, meeting, the Alabama State Board of Education voted unanimously to recognize the month of October as Dyslexia Awareness Month. Dyslexia impacts between 10% and 20% of children in Alabama schools. Through effective screening, students with dyslexia can be identified as early as kindergarten, long before their learning challenges have resulted in learning disabilities. Please join us in promoting awareness of dyslexia during the month of October and pledging to support the academic achievement of Alabama students.

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
District VI

Jeff Newman
District VII
Vice President

For additional information regarding training and resources related to dyslexia-specific instruction and interventions, please contact Ms. Judith Stone at jstone@alsde.edu or (334) 353-1389. If you have questions regarding the PST process or RtI, please contact Mrs. Christine Spear at cspear@alsde.edu or (334) 353-5320.

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.
District VIII

Thomas R. Bice, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

TRB/CRS/LM

cc: Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris; Mrs. Shanthia Washington; Mrs. Robin A. Nelson;
Ms. Judith Stone; Mrs. Christine Spear

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