



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Philip C. Cleveland, Ed.D.
Interim State Superintendent
of Education

July 27, 2016

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of Education

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MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
FROM: Philip C. Cleveland *PCC*
Interim State Superintendent of Education
RE: REACH Student Advisory Initiative

As part of the continuing efforts of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) to provide innovative ways for Alabama school systems to meet the goals of PLAN 2020, the Counseling and Guidance Section is pleased to announce the establishment of the REACH Student Advisory Initiative. REACH provides planning and implementation tools, including curriculum maps and standards-based lesson plans designed to enhance academic, career, and personal-social development for Alabama students in Grades 5-12. The purpose of REACH is to advance student learning, academic success, and personal development in a proactive, deliberate, and developmental manner by establishing a personal relationship with at least one consistent adult who facilitates weekly/monthly lessons and serves as an advocate for his/her students. REACH provides a vehicle for schools to link to other schools and community initiatives and develops the whole child through a system of individualized supports for each student.

The REACH curriculum is designed to bridge the gap between what is taught in the course of study and the skills necessary for success in school, postsecondary education, and the world of work by addressing six essential skills areas: (1) School Success Skills, (2) Academic Planning, (3) Career Exploration, (4) Postsecondary Planning, (5) Interpersonal/Life Skills, and (6) Work Ethic.

School- and system-level personnel who are positioned as Principal, Counselor, Counseling Coordinator, and Career Coach are provided access to the REACH Student Advisory Initiative SharePoint by virtue of their position in EdDir. Superintendents or their designees should provide additional specific school- and system-level personnel access by assigning the REACH Lead Advisor position in the Program Key Contacts of District or School Staffing pages in EdDir. The REACH Student Advisory Initiative SharePoint site can be found at <https://connect.alsde.edu/sites/reach>.

Regional professional development and training opportunities for school- and system-level staff will be available throughout the 2016-2107 school year. If you have questions regarding the REACH Student Advisory Initiative, please contact Mr. Sean J. Stevens, Education Administrator, by telephone at 334-242-9111 or by e-mail at sstevens@alsde.edu or Mrs. Wanda Langley, Education Specialist, by telephone at 334-242-9111 or by e-mail at wlangley@alsde.edu.

PCC:SS:CJ

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