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January 2013 · Issue II

ALABAMA EDUCATION NEWS

The electronic newsletter of the
Alabama State Department of Education

1854

From the Superintendent

Regretfully, the work of the Alabama State Board of Education is often lost in the midst of this enterprise we call public education. This is regretful for it is the State Board's constitutional authority through which policy and associated practice are developed and adopted giving local school systems and the Alabama State Department of Education their framework within which to deliver a quality educational program for our students.

Recently, I provided State Board members with a review of actions taken over the past year to put into perspective their impact in public education in our state. The following are some of the highlights of that review, and I think you will see that through their leadership we are moving to a policy environment where innovation and differentiated support are a primary focus all within the context of what is best for the students in Alabama's public schools.

- Developed and implemented a revised State Board strategic plan for public education entitled PLAN 2020 that includes measurable goals and objectives, strategies for meeting those goals and objectives, and a plan to regularly measure effectiveness and return on investment.
- Redefined an Alabama High School Graduate based on the knowledge and skills two- and four-year colleges, workforce training programs, and business and industry report as essentials for college- and career-readiness.
- Reorganized the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) for implementation of PLAN 2020 and a focus on differentiated and strategic service delivery to our 134 school systems.
- Regionalized ALSDE service delivery system to school systems through 11 Regional Teams coordinated through our 11 Regional Inservice Centers including

representatives from Pre-K, Department of Postsecondary Education, and faculty from our institutions of higher education as part of the interdisciplinary support teams. Each of the 134 school systems has a customized plan of support that will be adjusted as data indicate.

- Adopted eBoard Solutions as a technology-based method of conducting State Board of Education business and aligning policy and budget decisions around the Board's strategic plan.
- Began live-streaming of all State Board meetings and work sessions to engage broader stakeholder participation and an advanced level of transparency to Alabama's citizens.

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ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

President – Gov. Robert Bentley
 District 1 – Tracy Roberts
 District 2 – Betty Peters
 District 3 – Stephanie Bell, Vice President
 District 4 – Yvette M. Richardson
 District 5 – Ella B. Bell, President Pro Tem
 District 6 – Charles Elliott
 District 7 – Jeff Newman
 District 8 – Mary Scott Hunter
 State Superintendent of Education and Secretary and Executive Officer – Thomas R. Bice

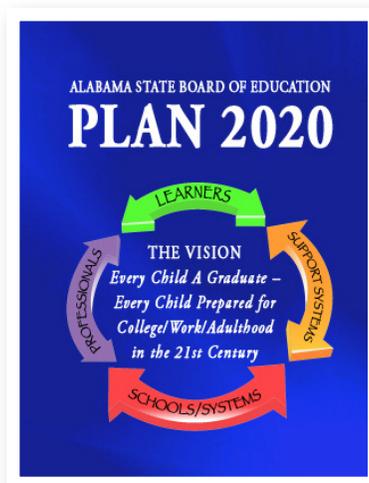
From the Superintendent

continued from the front

- Increased public relations and access by creating ALSDE Facebook and Twitter accounts for up-to-date information, press releases, events, etc.
- Implemented a bi-weekly electronic Alabama Education News (AEN) replacing the quarterly print copy at a savings of \$200,000 and an increased circulation and readership of over 50,000.
- Completed and adopted a set of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Commission recommendations to guide the programmatic and budgetary decision-making related to CTE.
- Developed a K-12/Department of Postsecondary Education (DPE) Joint Plan of Work for CTE.
- Revised the certification requirements for CTE instructors who hold industry-recognized credentials to ensure their ability to serve as instructors in our highly technical areas.
- Created a Pre-K, K-12, DPE, Higher Education, Legislative, and Business and Industry Task Force to develop a common definition of a high school graduate and the expected requirements for entry into credit-bearing courses and workforce training programs without the need for remediation (final recommendations coming in January).
- Developed and submitted to the Governor a Needs-Based K-12 Education Budget that acknowledges the Foundational funding needed by school systems prior to any funding for the ALSDE or statewide initiatives. This budget also included the "re-purposing" of existing funding streams to align with the goals and objectives of PLAN 2020.
- Developed the policies and procedures for implementation of the School Governance Improvement Act that sets new ethical and professional development standards for local boards of education and their individual members.
- Implemented the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate formula and was recognized by America's Promise/Johns Hopkins University as one of 12 states showing the greatest gains in graduation rate across the nation. As a result of this achievement the ALSDE received a \$9 million dollar grant, in partnership with Johns Hopkins, to study Alabama's success for replication across the nation.
- Implemented a K-12 Graduation Tracking System for use in early identification of patterns of attendance, discipline, and academic non-achievement in order to provide real-

time interventions to prevent ultimate high school dropout.

- In partnership with Microsoft created a Microsoft Academy Program in one school in each of the 134 school systems so students graduate with certification in Microsoft functions. The goal is to expand this to all high schools across the state and offer the training to the parents of students who wish to increase their employment opportunities.
- Entered into a partnership with the U.S. Space and Rocket Center to promote mathematics education through its MathAlive! program.
- Developed, in partnership with the Alabama Education Association, a Substitute Teacher Handbook to be used across the state to ensure our substitute teachers are prepared for their role in public education.
- Partnered with the UCLA Comprehensive Learning Supports Center to begin development of regional pilots of school system and community models of Alabama-specific Learning Support Systems in each of the eight State Board districts.



During this School Board Recognition Month take a moment to also thank your **Alabama State Board of Education members:**



DISTRICT 1
Tracy Roberts



DISTRICT 2
Betty Peters



DISTRICT 3
Stephanie W. Bell



DISTRICT 4
Yvette Richardson, Ed.D.



DISTRICT 5
Ella B. Bell



DISTRICT 6
Charles Elliott, M.D.



DISTRICT 7
Jeff Newman



DISTRICT 8
Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.

Alabama State Board of Education Welcomes Two New Members

Tracy Roberts of District One and Jeff Newman of District Seven

The Alabama State Board of Education welcomed two new members recently at an Inauguration Ceremony. **Tracy Turnipseed Roberts** will now serve District One, replacing Randy McKinney, and **Jeff Newman** will serve District Seven, replacing Gary Warren.

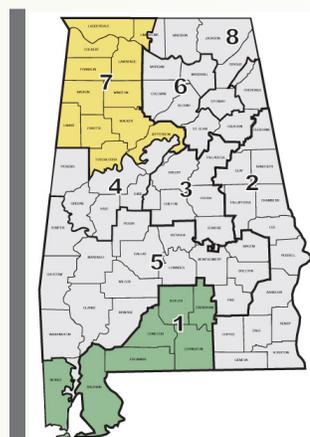
Tracy Roberts is a native of Montgomery and a 1977 graduate of Jefferson Davis High School. She received a BA in Communications from The University of Alabama in 1981. Following graduation, she worked in Washington, DC, for Congressman Bill Dickinson. Roberts began volunteering in Baldwin County schools in 1996. As a member of local PTAs, Alabama PTA and the National PTA, she served in various leadership roles.

In 2004, Roberts ran for the District 7 seat on the Baldwin County Board of Education and was elected to a six-year term. During that term she served two years as Vice-President and two years as President. She was unopposed and re-elected in 2010. In 2012 she received the All-State School Board Award from the Alabama Association of School Boards.

Roberts has been very active in The University of Alabama National Alumni Association, serving as Vice-President and President of the Baldwin County Chapter. In 2011 she was elected as District 11 Vice-President of the National Alumni Association. She also serves as a Board Member of The University of Alabama Parent's Association.

Roberts is married to Jim Roberts, an attorney and Municipal Judge for Spanish Fort, AL. They have two grandsons and five children: Robert (Brittany) Lightfoot, Steele (Sarah) Lightfoot, Jane Allen (Reed) Hotard, Mary Bourne and Caroline.

"Every consideration that I make will be the best for kids in the state of Alabama – pre-k all the way through postsecondary. This is a real honor for me. Thank you very much," said Roberts.



Jeff Newman is a graduate of Millport High School in Lamar County, and he received a Bachelor of Education degree in Agribusiness from Auburn University. He holds a Master's degree in Agribusiness and Extension Education from Mississippi State University and an additional Master's degree in Administration and Supervision from the University of West Alabama.

With over 32 years of experience in education, Newman recently retired as Superintendent of Lamar County Schools, having worked as principal, director, administrator of federal programs, and agribusiness teacher.



Gov. Bentley swears in Tracy Roberts (above) and Jeff Newman (below).

He has served as a member of the School Superintendents of Alabama, Alabama Farmers Federation, Alabama Education Association, Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools, Alabama Association of School Boards and various civic groups.

Newman is married to Brenda Newman, a National Board Certified, retired elementary teacher and reading coach. They have two daughters (Crystal and Lisa) who are both teachers and four grandchildren.

"My heart is in education. It's a privilege to represent the people. As long as our decisions are always about the young people, we will be alright," Newman said.

Also re-elected and sworn in at the event were **Ella Bell**, President Pro Tem of the Board, District 5, and **Stephanie Bell**, Vice President of the Board, District 3.

Twenty Alabama Schools Awarded Torchbearer Status

Twenty Alabama public schools have earned the prestigious title of Torchbearer School – a high-poverty public school that has overcome the odds to become a high-performing school.

State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tommy Bice said, "Since 2004, the Torchbearer Schools Program has recognized public schools in Alabama that show growth and success in the face of significant challenges. Torchbearer Schools do not allow those challenges to turn into excuses. Torchbearer Schools exhibit exemplary leadership, helping all students towards success."

A **Torchbearer School** must meet all of the following criteria, as applicable:

- Identified as Meeting the Challenge School.
- Identified as Advancing the Challenge School.
- Identified as Exceeding the Challenge School.
- Have at least 80% poverty rate (percent free/reduced meals).
- Have at least 80% of students score Level III or Level IV on the reading section of the Alabama Reading and Mathematics Test+.
- Have at least 80% of students score Level III or Level IV on the mathematics section of the Alabama Reading and Mathematics Test+.
- Have at least 95% of Grade 12 students pass all required subjects of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam.
- Have a graduation rate above state average.
- Be in existence at the time of the award.

Alabama's 2012-2013 Torchbearer Schools*:

Evergreen Elementary School (Conecuh County)
Bruce K. Craig Elementary School (Dallas County)
Hillview Elementary School (Jefferson County)
Phillips Elementary School (Marion County)
Anna F. Booth Elementary School (Mobile County)
Calcedaveer Elementary School (Mobile County)
Dixon Elementary School (Mobile County)
Indian Springs Elementary School (Mobile County)
Highland Avenue Elementary School (Montgomery County)
Sycamore School (Talladega County)
Westhills Elementary School (Bessemer City)
Frances Nungester Elementary School (Decatur City)
Woodmeade Elementary School (Decatur City)
Morris Slingluff Elementary School (Dothan City)
Harlan Elementary School (Florence City)
Weeden Elementary School (Florence City)
Cedar Park Elementary School (Selma City)
Sophia P. Kingston Elementary School (Selma City)
Edgewood Elementary School (Selma City)
Knox Elementary School (Selma City) **Based on 2011-2012 Test Results*

The Torchbearer School Award Ceremony will take place on **February 19, 2013**. For more information on the Torchbearer Schools Program, contact Dr. Angela Mangum at 334-353-9251 or amangum@alsde.edu.

Stop. Walk. Talk.



Eufaula City Schools has partnered with Stop.Walk.Talk., a national bullying reporting and alert system, to help prevent bullying in the community. With this new system, anyone (student, parent, community member) that learns of a current or future act of bullying can make a report 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from anywhere, using a computer or smart phone with an Internet connection. To do this, a person would simply log onto www.stopwalktalk.org and click the "REPORT BULLYING HERE" button in the upper left corner of the page to submit a report. When a report is submitted, an email and text message alert will automatically be sent to the appropriate school representatives to take action. When reporting, a person can include contact information or choose to remain anonymous. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).



Submit your artwork for a chance to see it on the Google homepage. The competition is open to students K-12 nationwide from January 15th through March 22nd.

This year's theme: "My Best Day Ever..."

For more information visit:
www.google.com/doodle4google



State Implements Principal Candidate Semester Residency

In an effort to provide students with the best possible education, Alabama has implemented an innovative initiative to help grow and develop future instructional leaders supported by university/LEA partnerships. Research indicates that although the level and quality of student learning is directly tied to the effectiveness, preparation, and capability of the classroom teacher, the effectiveness of a classroom teacher is directly related to the preparation, understanding, and capability of the instructional leader of the school. The **Principal Candidate Semester Residency** is designed to give aspiring leaders the opportunity for clinical learning under the guidance and supervision of trained mentors who have a proven record as instructional leaders. The Residency was initiated second semester of this school year.

The legislature (with specific support from Senator Trip Pittman, 32nd District, Baldwin County) approved funding to support the Principal Candidate Semester Residency. Additionally, the Alabama State Board of Education also approved funding to support the initiative.

The State Board of Education adopted PLAN 2020 that states “every school is led by a well-prepared, resourced, supported, and effective leader.” The purpose of the Principal Candidate Semester Residency is to improve schools and increase student achievement as a result of effective school leadership as supported by **PLAN 2020** by:

1. Continuing and strengthening the development of partnerships between LEAs and universities in the preparation of school leaders.
2. Ensuring that principal candidates’ practice is aligned to the Alabama Standards for Instructional Leaders and is result-oriented.
3. Maintaining and strengthening redesigned instructional leadership preparation programs.

The Residency signifies a significant “shift” in philosophy underpinning the preparation of instructional leaders. The Semester Residency Program provides funding for local school districts to hire a certified teacher to take the place of the Resident during the semester of the Residency. The Resident then spends the entire semester learning and serving in a leadership capacity with an effective instructional leader in the actual school setting.

After a comprehensive application/review process, 14 candidates for the Spring 2013 Residency were selected representing six school systems (Jefferson County, Mobile County, Demopolis City, Baldwin County, Walker County, & Tuscaloosa County)

and five universities (The University of Alabama, University of South Alabama, Samford University, University of West Alabama, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham). Applications were developed with collaboration from the University/LEA

“The Principal Candidate Semester Residency is a wonderful opportunity for building the foundation to foster, support, and enhance learning for the students of Alabama.”

– Dr. Tommy Bice,
State Superintendent of Education

partnership and the Residency candidate. No applications were received from the other eight University/LEA partners. This inaugural group will provide invaluable feedback as the Alabama State Department of Education is

partnering with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) to collect the data and complete research/analysis on the effectiveness of the residencies. Because of the commitment of the legislature, the State Board of Education, Governor Bentley, and Dr. Bice, additional residency opportunities will be available for Fall 2013.

About this opportunity Dr. Tommy Bice, State Superintendent of Education, said, “It is our hope that with more time to plan, all 13 universities with Instructional Leadership programs and their LEA partners will take advantage of the semester residency opportunity to be offered again in fall 2013. The Principal Candidate Semester Residency is a wonderful opportunity for building the foundation to foster, support, and enhance learning for the students of Alabama by developing visionary instructional leaders. We also hope that LEAs not currently partnering with a university to prepare future instructional leaders will develop a university partnership to accomplish the important work of leadership development.”

Alabama Council of Teachers of English

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Hewitt-Trussville High School
Trussville, AL
Saturday, February 2, 2013

Cost: \$45
Includes lunch and
6 hours of STI-PD credit

Register [HERE](#).

Alabama Students Selected for U.S. Senate Youth Program

Students Headed to Washington, D.C., and to Receive \$5,000 Scholarship

Senators **Richard C. Shelby** and **Jeff Sessions** announced the names of the two students who have been selected as delegates to the 51st Annual United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) that will be held March 9-16, 2013, in Washington, D.C. **Kyle Campbell of Madison** and **Peyton Hicks of New Hope** were chosen from across the state to be part of the group of 104 student delegates who will attend the program's 51st annual Washington Week.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 and has been sponsored by the Senate and fully funded by The Hearst Foundation since inception. Originally proposed by Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen, and Humphrey, the impetus for the program as stated in Senate testimony was "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

Each year this extremely competitive merit-based program brings 104 of the most outstanding high school students —

The Hearst Foundation provides each of the 104 student delegates with a \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs.

two from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity — to Washington, D.C., for an intensive week-long study of the federal government and the people who lead it. The overall mission of the program is to help instill within each class of USSYP student delegates more profound knowledge of the American political process and a lifelong commitment to public service. In addition to the program week, The Hearst Foundation provides each of the 104 student delegates with a \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs.

Kyle Campbell attends Bob Jones High School and serves as president of the Young Politicians Organization. Kyle also is president of the debate team and was a state finalist in public speaking. Kyle is seeking a career in politics and hopes to one day become a United States Senator.

John (Peyton) Hicks attends New Hope High School and serves as senior class vice president. In addition, Peyton serves as the president of Future Business Leaders of America, and vice president of his school's chapter of the National Honors Society. He represented his school at Alabama Boy's State this past summer, where he was elected as a senator. Peyton has a



Kyle Campbell



Peyton Hicks

passion for government and is interested in pursuing an education in leadership and public service.

The chief educational officer in each state selects the delegates after nomination by teachers and principals. This year's delegates were designated by **Dr. Thomas R. Bice, State Superintendent of Education.**

While in Washington the student delegates will attend meetings and briefings with Senators and Congressional staff, the President, a Justice of the Supreme Court, leaders of cabinet agencies, an Ambassador to the United States and top members of the national media. The students will also tour many of the national monuments and several museums and they will stay at the historic Mayflower Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C.

Members of the USSYP 2013 51st Annual Senate Advisory Committee are: Co-Chairs — Senator Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and Senator Richard Burr of North Carolina. Advisory Committee — Senator Christopher A. Coons of Delaware, Senator Tim Johnson of South Dakota, Senator Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana, Senator Frank R. Lautenberg of New Jersey, Senator John Boozman of Arkansas, Senator Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, Senator Jerry Moran of Kansas and Senator Marco Rubio of Florida.



Each year, the Honorary Co-Chairs of the program are the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders and the Vice President of the United States.

eLearning Courses

Elearning offers 45 different courses this coming semester (beginning February 6th) ... several new courses and several old favorites with a new twist:

EDU4432 - Digital Storytelling in the Classroom
EDU4433 - A Virtual Quest for Adventure
EDU4437 - Visual Strategies to Improve Student Thinking
EDU4443 - Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
EDU4462 - Using Google Docs
EDU4471 - Using Promethean Boards
EDU4472 - Using Smart Boards

As always, there are some courses in math, science, ELA, and reading for elementary as well as middle/high school teachers along with a dozen or more courses centered on different aspects of the 21st century classroom.

For those who have, **within the last 18 months**, successfully completed one of the eight EDU55xx courses that are pre-requisites to earning a PLU, elearning is running the three-week follow-on courses this coming April:

PLUACL099 - PLUASIL 1 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5501E
PLUACL0200 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5502E
PLUACL0201 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5503E
PLUACL0202 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5504E
PLUACL0203 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5505E
PLUACL0204 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5506E
PLUACL0205 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5507E
PLUACL0206 - PLUASIL 6 ACLD, e-Learning for Educators, EDU5508E

Courses are entirely online and are entirely free. Please register using STIPD. For complete information, contact Tom Dreiling, State Project Director, e-Learning for Educators-Alabama, Technology in Motion, ALSDE, <http://elearning.alsde.edu>
<http://elearning.atim.cc>
334-670-1884.

Summer Food Service Program Sponsor Sign Up Begins

Many families depend on school meals to provide nourishment to their children during the school year. When school is out, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) help to fill the "nutrition gap" at feeding sites operated by approved sponsors.

WHAT IS THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)?

- The ALSDE looks for organizations interested in becoming a sponsor to provide, at no cost, meals for needy children during the 2013 summer. Participating organizations may be reimbursed for meals and snacks that meet USDA guidelines.
- The ALSDE encourages schools, parks and recreation programs, faith-based organizations, and other nonprofit organizations to offer meals through the Summer Food Service Program.



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

All children 18 years of age and under who come to an approved open site or to an eligible enrolled site may receive meals provided by SFSP Sponsors.

WHO CAN SPONSOR A SFSP?

- A public or nonprofit private school
- A public or nonprofit private residential summer camp
- A unit of local, municipal, county, or state government
- A public or nonprofit college or university participating in the National Youth Sports Program
- A private nonprofit organization

Returning and Potential Sponsors must attend a workshop. Workshop information can be obtained by contacting Alabama State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, at 334-242-8249. Or [CLICK HERE](#).

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Announcing a Scholarship Opportunity for Alabama High School Seniors



Stonewall Jackson Memorial Fund Repayable Scholarship Program

Deadline for receiving applications is April 1, 2013

Click here for [more information and the application](#).

Requests For Student Records From Disability Determination Service (DDS)

The **Disability Determination Service (DDS)** is a division in the Alabama State Department of Education. The DDS makes disability determinations based on the law and regulations issued by the Social Security Administration (SSA). SSA is responsible for establishing disability criteria, issuing national instructions, and developing policies and procedures regarding the processing of disability claims. The disability program, which is part of the national Social Security program, is federally administered.

The DDS is responsible for processing Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claims for the SSA in a timely and accurate manner. In processing these claims, the DDS requests records from medical treatment sources, schools, and other sources.

The requests for records specify the following.

- For the student **not receiving** special student services – The DDS is requesting the cumulative records, including achievement and other related test results.
- For the student **receiving** special student services, including any accommodations – The DDS is requesting copies of any of the following: the most recent evaluations for initial or continued services; the IEP; a 504 Plan; any student accommodation plans; or other medical and/or speech evaluations.

The DDS pays \$20 per completed request for school records or function questionnaires. The State Comptroller's office mandates that the DDS issue payments to only one vendor number for each school system. While the DDS addresses and requests records from a school, the vendor number directs payment to the school system and not the individual school.

For the last fiscal year, July 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012, the DDS paid \$320,440 to school systems for copies of records and completed questionnaires. Had the DDS received a response to each records request or questionnaire, the DDS would have paid an additional \$320,900. The total amount paid could have been \$641,340 if all requests had been answered. The response rate for all requests was 49.9%.

For this current year, beginning July 2012, the response rate has been only 43.6% with \$138,020 being paid and \$178,260 left unpaid to the systems.

If you receive a DDS request for school records for one of your students, please take the time to comply. School records are only part of the records obtained in processing disability claims and are, in almost all cases, considered with other information in determining one's eligibility for benefits or SSI payments. However, the records and questionnaires are very important as supportive documentation.

If DDS staff members can provide any assistance to your school system or school, please contact DDS Director [Mr. Norman Ippolito](#) at 205-989-2200, or [Mr. Jim Methvin](#) at 205-989-2203.



ALSDE Announces New High School Diploma



The new **high school diploma** was approved at the Alabama State Board of Education meeting recently. The draft of the new diploma was shared in many venues

over the last few months, and many superintendents provided feedback that resulted in positive adjustments.

Alabama currently has six high school diplomas students can graduate with, but incoming freshmen in the 2013-2014 school year will all work toward the same diploma. The new diploma gives more options for students, with the flexibility to pursue career interests while in school.

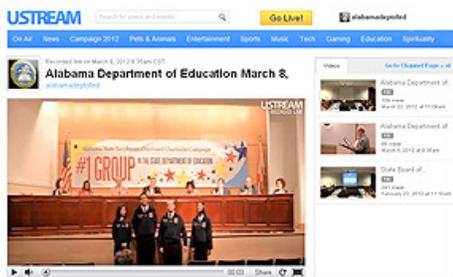
“Having just one diploma won’t lock students into a one-size-fits-all educational program, however. Students will have multiple options for gaining their diploma.”

– Julie Hannah, Director of the Alabama State Department of Education's Office of Student Learning.

Visit Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to learn more about the new diploma. The FAQs will remain on the ALSDE Web site and will be updated as more questions are asked. To access the FAQs [CLICK HERE](#).

Excerpts taken from [Dothan Eagle.com](#).

State Board of Education Meetings on Ustream.tv!



See your State Board of Education in action - Online at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/alabama-department-of-education>. See LIVE video every second and fourth Thursday of the month or watch the archived videos anytime you want (different days in July, November, and December).

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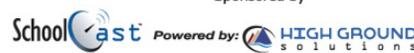
No person shall be denied employment, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of disability, gender, race, religion, national origin, color, age or genetics.

Ref. Sec. 1983, Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.; Title VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Sec. 504; Age Discrimination in Employment Act; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; Equal Pay Act of 1963; Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972; Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; Title IX Coordinator, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101 or call (334) 242-8165.

Alabama School Communicator Association Annual Conference

School Safety in Uneasy Times

Sponsored by



March 1st 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Shelby County Instructional Services Center, 601 1st Street South (Hwy. 31), Alabaster, AL 35007

9 a.m.- 12 p.m.: Footprints of Disaster: How Schools Prepare and Respond to Crisis with Keynote Speaker Rick J. Kaufman, APR, Executive Director of Community Relations and Emergency Management for Bloomington (MN) Public Schools, and a nationally respected crisis management consultant, trainer and author



>The threats facing schools today are broader than ever before – from natural disasters to infectious disease to misguided students and adults who commit random acts of violence. Knowing what to do when faced with a tragic event can be the difference between chaos and calm, or even life or death. This powerful workshop will help participants understand their role in responding to a crisis and what steps are critical to restoring a “normal” setting. The interactive session will prepare school leaders to develop strategies to prevent and respond to emergencies using table-top exercises and simulations.

12-1 p.m.: School Safety Education Policy & Legislation Preview With Alabama State Senator Cam Ward and Alabama Association of School Boards Director of Governmental Relations Lissa Tucker

1-3 p.m.: Safe and Secure Schools Panel Discussion With Alabama State Department of Education Prevention and Support Services Education Specialist Thomas Mock; Homeland Security, Virtual Alabama Project Leader Lamar Davis; and National Association of School Resource Officers Training Director Kerri Williamson

3-4 p.m.: Managing Your Message in a Manic Media – Joey Kennedy, Community Engagement Specialist, AL.com and Birmingham News

Details:

- > Cost is \$40 for ASCA members and \$80 for non-members (includes a one-year membership to ASCA).
- >Cost includes snacks, drinks and lunch.
- >Alabaster area [Hotels](#)

> > > [Register Now!](#)



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