

ALABAMA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
JUNE 1, 2015

THOMAS RAINS — Thomas Rains is Policy Director of A+ Education Partnership where he promotes education policies focused on ensuring that all students graduate from high school ready for college and careers. Thomas is a former teacher and holds a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University. Thomas resides in the 5th State Board of Education District.

SALLY HOWELL — Sally Howell is Executive Director of the Alabama Association of School Boards. In her current role, Howell oversees efforts to build public support for schools and expand learning opportunities for school board members. Howell received her law degree from Birmingham School of Law and was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 2003. Howell resides in the 3rd State Board of Education District.

ED RICHARDSON — Ed Richardson has over 40 years of experience in public education. Richardson served as Alabama State Superintendent of Education and President of Auburn University. Richardson has a deep knowledge and understanding of charter schools and will be a strong asset to the charter commission. Richardson resides in the 2nd State Board of Education District.

MAC BUTTRAM — Mac Buttram serves as an Associate Pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church in Huntsville, Alabama. While serving as an elected official in the Alabama House of Representatives, Buttram sat on both the Education Ways and Means Committee and the Education Policy Committee. Buttram currently serves on the Alabama Workforce Council and holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. Buttram resides in the 8th State Board of Education District.

MELINDA MCCLENDON — Melinda McClendon served as a Henry County Commissioner and is well respected in the Dothan area. McClendon is the mother of four children, one with special needs. McClendon resides in the 2nd State Board of Education District.

TERRI TOMLINSON — Terri Tomlinson retired from George Hall Elementary School where she served as Principal. Tomlinson is a proven educator and innovator in classroom and school administration. Under her leadership George Hall Elementary School became one of Alabama's Torchbearer Schools. Tomlinson resides in the 1st State Board of Education District.

GLORIA BATTS — Gloria Batts is Executive Director of Village of Promise, an after-school program for underserved students in the Huntsville area. Batts has been active in the Black Alliance for Educational Options as a parent leader and has been active in educational issues in her community. Her professional career over 35 years has been in the areas of human resources, social services, and as a business owner. Batts resides in the 8th State Board of Education District.

ALMA FREEMAN — Alma Freeman is a retired Professor and Dean of Alabama State University. Freeman served as Interim President of Trenholm Technical College in 2001. She currently serves on the Board of the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts. Freeman resides in the 5th State Board of Education District.

CHAD FINCHER — Chad Fincher is a former member of the Alabama House of Representatives. While serving in the Legislature, Fincher was the sponsor or co-sponsor of numerous educational reform bills. Fincher resides in the 1st State Board of Education District.

HENRY NELSON — Henry Nelson received his Ed.D. in Education Policy from Vanderbilt University. A native of Birmingham, Nelson also earned a master's degree of Theological Studies from Emory University, two masters of business administration degrees in Finance and Management, and a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Tuskegee University. Nelson has been published in scholarly journals regarding educational reform. Nelson resides in the 4th State Board of Education District.