MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2011
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Monday, August 1, 2011, at 9:35 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called by the President of the Board in accordance with Alabama Code (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY, PRESIDENT
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Governor Robert Bentley called the meeting to order. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were held. On roll call, the following members were present.

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Governor Robert Bentley, President
Dr. Charles E. Elliott
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Dr. Yvette Richardson
Mr. Randy McKinney, Vice President
Mrs. Betty Peters
Absent
Mr. Gary Warren, President Pro Tem

Dr. Joseph B. Morton, State Superintendent of Education and Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board, was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Randy McKinney requested that an additional item, G.2.k., be added to the agenda, Resolution in Honor of Dr. Joseph B. Morton, State Superintendent of Education, Upon His Retirement August 31, 2011. On motion by Mr. McKinney and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 12, 2011, ANNUAL MEETING AND JULY 12, 2011, SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING

Motion was made by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Betty Peters to approve the minutes of the Annual meeting of July 12, 2011, and the July 12, 2011, Special-Called meeting. At this time, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter requested that the Special-Called meeting minutes be amended. With the requested changes, Board members Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Governor Robert Bentley, Dr. Charles Elliott, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, Mr. Randy McKinney, Mrs. Betty Peters, and Dr. Yvette Richardson, with Mrs. Ella B. Bell abstaining, voted to approve the July 12, 2011, Special-Called meeting minutes as amended. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Annual meeting minutes as presented.

DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION (NASBE) CONTRACT WITH NASBE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MS. BRENDA WELBURN

Governor Robert Bentley introduced Ms. Brenda Welburn, Executive Director of NASBE. Ms. Welburn thanked Governor Bentley and Board members for their confidence. She presented a PowerPoint presentation on the process NASBE will use in the Superintendent’s Search. Ms. Welburn stated that NASBE’s job is to assist the Board in developing the criteria for getting the best candidate. She informed Board members that the criteria submitted by the Board was a bit narrow and advised Board members of the benefits of having the broadest set of criteria at the beginning of the search. Based on this information, Questions 9 and 10 of the criteria were discussed. Motion was made by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mr. Randy McKinney to add the wording, “Preferred but not required.” Board members voted unanimously to approve the Criteria with the added wording. (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is filed in the Board folder dated August 1, 2011.)

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Knowledge of educational policy development and implementation in a large scale system
2. Proven skills in working effectively with political leaders at the state level
3. Experience in working with elected or appointed educational boards
4. Practice in working with educational professionals, organizations and other stakeholders
5. Familiarity with the implementation of federal and state educational legislation
6. Experience in leadership and management of a large institution
7. Demonstrated commitment to serving a diverse student population and employing a diverse staff
8. Experience in administering large budgets
9. Earned doctorate, preferred but not required, from an accredited academic institution
10. Hold or be eligible to hold an Alabama certificate in administration or supervision – preferred but not required

Ms. Welburn invited Board members to send questions as well as promotional materials pertaining to Alabama to NASBE. Interested applicants must call NASBE and submit information. Once information is received from the applicants, contact is made with the individuals by NASBE. Ms. Welburn stated that this is a totally confidential process.

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

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2011 NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE ALL AMERICAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER, SHANI FORBES, HUFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL, BIRMINGHAM CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the State Department of Education recognize the importance of increasing student participation and success in Advanced Placement (AP) courses; and

WHEREAS, Alabama was honored as one of only six states to receive a grant from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) as a means of implementing a proven Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) in public schools throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, AP math, science, and English teachers participating in the program have been asked to commit hours beyond those called for by their already-demanding schedules; and

WHEREAS, their efforts have produced increased successful participation in math, science, and English AP courses in their schools; and

WHEREAS, the National Math and Science Initiative annually gives an award for All American Teacher of the Year that recognizes the remarkable contributions of outstanding AP teachers in math, science, and English; and

WHEREAS, candidates of All American Teacher of the Year must be current AP math, science, or English classroom teachers in a public high school participating in a NMSI APTIP, demonstrate positive results in APTIP, and demonstrate commitment to teaching as a career, while serving as an inspiring model of excellence in others; and

WHEREAS, those awarded also acted as Lead Teachers, mentoring peer teachers using the skills for which they were honored:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED. That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Shani Forbes, AP Biology Teacher at Huffman High School in the Birmingham City School System, for being named a 2011 All American Teacher of the Year.

Done this 1st day of August 2011

On motion by Dr. Charles Elliott and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:
RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE
2011 NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE
ALL AMERICAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER, SUSAN CARAWAY, CLAY CHALKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the State Department of Education recognize the importance of increasing student participation and success in Advanced Placement (AP) courses; and

WHEREAS, Alabama was honored as one of only six states to receive a grant from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) as a means of implementing a proven Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) in public schools throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, AP math, science, and English teachers participating in the program have been asked to commit hours beyond those called for by their already-demanding schedules; and

WHEREAS, their efforts have produced increased successful participation in math, science, and English AP courses in their schools; and

WHEREAS, the National Math and Science Initiative annually gives an award for All American Teacher of the Year that recognizes the remarkable contributions of outstanding AP teachers in math, science, and English; and

WHEREAS, candidates of All American Teacher of the Year must be current AP math, science, or English classroom teachers in a public high school participating in a NMSI APTIP, demonstrate positive results in APTIP, and demonstrate commitment to teaching as a career while serving as an inspiring model of excellence in others; and

WHEREAS, those awarded also acted as Lead Teachers, mentoring peer teachers using the skills for which they were honored:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Susan Caraway, AP English Literature Teacher at Clay Chalkville High School in the Jefferson County School System, for being named a 2011 All American Teacher of the Year.

Done this 1st day of August 2011

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

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE
2011 NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE
ALL AMERICAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER,
MATTHEW MASSEY, BUCKHORN HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the State Department of Education recognize the importance of increasing student participation and success in Advanced Placement (AP) courses; and

WHEREAS, Alabama was honored as one of only six states to receive a grant from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) as a means of implementing a proven Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) in public schools throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, AP math, science, and English teachers participating in the program have been asked to commit hours beyond those called for by their already-demanding schedules; and

WHEREAS, their efforts have produced increased successful participation in math, science, and English AP courses in their schools; and

WHEREAS, the National Math and Science Initiative annually gives an award for All American Teacher of the Year that recognizes the remarkable contributions of outstanding AP teachers in math, science, and English; and
WHEREAS, candidates of All American Teacher of the Year must be current AP math, science, or English classroom teachers in a public high school participating in a NMSI APTIP, demonstrate positive results in APTIP, and demonstrate commitment to teaching as a career while serving as an inspiring model of excellence in others; and

WHEREAS, those awarded also acted as Lead Teachers, mentoring peer teachers using the skills for which they were honored:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Matthew Massey, AP Calculus Teacher at Buckhorn High School in the Madison County School System, for being named a 2011 All American Teacher of the Year.

Done this 1st day of August 2011

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

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED VERSION OF CURRENT PRAXIS II TESTS AND TO ADOPT ADDITIONAL PRAXIS II TESTS AS A PRECONDITION FOR INITIAL CERTIFICATION

WHEREAS, by Resolutions of April 14, 2005, February 9, 2006, October 12, 2006, December 14, 2006, March 8, 2007, and others from time to time, the State Board of Education has adopted certain Praxis II content knowledge assessments and minimum passing scores as conditions for initial teacher certification in the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, all elementary, middle, and secondary teachers of core academic subjects in Alabama must be “highly qualified” to teach the grade levels and subjects they teach; and

WHEREAS, the Praxis II subject-area tests are suitable means by which teachers may demonstrate their “highly qualified” status through the means of a “rigorous test” of content knowledge; and

WHEREAS, certain Praxis II content knowledge assessments previously approved by the State Board of Education have recently been updated and revised; and

WHEREAS, certain additional Praxis II tests are needed in non-academic core areas to be used for prospective teachers to demonstrate subject-matter competency; and

WHEREAS, additional validation studies have been performed under the supervision of the State Superintendent of Education in accordance with accepted psychometric principles; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such studies, such tests and recommended passing scores have been found to be appropriate for use in the State of Alabama:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby adopts the following Praxis II tests as a precondition for initial teacher certification in the State of Alabama:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Name</th>
<th>Test Code</th>
<th>Proposed Passing Score</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art: Content Knowledge</td>
<td>0134</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Education</td>
<td>0101</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Education</td>
<td>0051</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French: World Language</td>
<td>5174</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>German: World Language</td>
<td>5183</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish: World Language</td>
<td>5195</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>September 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Reading</td>
<td>0204/5204</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>September 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpEd Core Knowledge &amp; Application</td>
<td>0354/5354</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>September 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpEd Core Knowledge &amp; Mild to Moderate Application</td>
<td>0543/5543</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>September 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SpEd Core Knowledge &amp; Severe to Profound</td>
<td>0545/5545</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>September 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Superintendent of Education is hereby directed to take any and all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

Done this 1st day of August 2011

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of University of North Alabama a written request for a review team to visit the institution; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed program for which Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for such program; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following program:

Class B Collaborative Teacher (K-6)

Done this 1st day of August 2011

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of Jacksonville State University a written request for a review team to visit the institution; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed program for which Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for such program; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following program:

Class AA Library Media (P-12)

Done this 1st day of August 2011

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program
is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of Alabama State University a written request to develop new programs and submit them for review; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed programs for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for the programs; and

WHEREAS, Alabama State University personnel have been advised that the proposed programs may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the programs be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following programs:

Class AA Teacher Leader
Class AA Instructional Leadership

Done this 1st day of August 2011

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Troy University
Troy, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(i) and Rule 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of Troy University a written request for a review team to visit the institution; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed programs for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for such programs; and

WHEREAS, Troy University personnel have been advised that the proposed programs may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the programs be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following programs:

Class AA Instructional Leader
Class AA Teacher Leader

Done this 1st day of August 2011

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program
is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of the University of Alabama at Birmingham a written request to develop new programs and submit them for review; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed programs for which the State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for such programs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alabama at Birmingham personnel have been advised that the proposed programs may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the programs be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following programs:

Class AA English as a Second Language
Class B Innovative Program Certification Sequence for STEM Majors

Done this 1st day of August 2011

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Alabama A&M University
Normal, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama Administrative Code, Rule No. 290-3-3-.56(2)(b)2.(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of Alabama A&M University a written request to develop a new program and submit it for review; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed program for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for the program; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama A&M University personnel have been advised that the proposed program may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program be reviewed by the Teacher Education and Certification Section of the State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following program:

Class AA Instructional Leadership

Done this 1st day of August 2011
On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING MR. LARRY CRAVEN AS INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, State Superintendent of Education Joseph B. Morton has announced his retirement effective August 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education has determined that the appointment of a person to serve as Interim State Superintendent of Education effective September 1, 2011, is required; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education hereby appoints Mr. Larry Craven as Interim State Superintendent of Education effective September 1, 2011, with all of the powers and authority vested in the State Superintendent of Education by the Constitution of Alabama and laws of the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of Mr. Larry Craven that he will not be an active candidate for the position of State Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Alabama State Board of Education in the period of time between now and September 1, 2011, that Dr. Morton will make every effort to acquaint Mr. Craven with all of the duties and responsibilities of the office as well as to provide any and all information necessary for Mr. Craven to assume the office on September 1, 2011:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. Larry Craven is appointed Interim State Superintendent of Education effective September 1, 2011, at the annualized salary of $150,000.

Done this 1st day of August 2011

On motion by Mr. Randy McKinney and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF DR. JOSEPH B. MORTON, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, UPON HIS RETIREMENT AUGUST 31, 2011**

WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph B. Morton has served the education community, school and school system administrators, teachers, students, and parents of Alabama as the 39th State Superintendent of Education from July 13, 2004, until August 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton earned his B.S. degree in Secondary Education from Auburn University and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Educational Administration from The University of Alabama and rose through the ranks of public education as a teacher, graduate research assistant, local school system superintendent, Deputy State Superintendent of Education for Instructional Services, Interim State Superintendent of Education, and State Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 27, Dr. Morton is noted as the youngest person to become a local school system superintendent of education in Alabama’s history, serving as the Sumter County Board of Education Superintendent from 1974-1978; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton served as Superintendent of the Sylacauga City School System for more than 17 years and, in 1988, founded the Sylacauga City Schools Foundation—the first in Alabama and a prototype for all K-12 education foundations that followed; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton, by virtue of his office as State Superintendent of Education, served as Secretary and Executive Officer of the Alabama State Board of Education, Chief Executive Officer of the Alabama Department of Education, Member of the Board of Control of the Teachers’ Retirement System of Alabama, Vice Chairman of the Alabama Public School and College Authority, Member of the Building Commission of the State of Alabama, Member of the Board of Trustees of eight public universities in Alabama, and Member of the Board of Trustees of Tuskegee University; and
WHEREAS, during his tenure at the Alabama Department of Education, Dr. Morton has been instrumental and, in many cases, conceptualized initiatives that have reshaped Alabama’s national standing in the education arena; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton led the development and implementation of the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI); the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI); and the Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators and Students Statewide (ACCESS) Distance Learning Initiative, which have all become national models; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Morton’s leadership, FIRST CHOICE—a new graduation plan for Alabama high school students—was implemented and in its first full year, delivered more and better prepared high school graduates than ever before in Alabama’s history, and in 2010, Alabama had the fourth largest increase in the nation in students graduating from high school as documented by the national organization America’s Promise; and

WHEREAS, over the last four years, Dr. Morton’s legislative efforts have enabled Alabama’s public school systems to endure the worst decline in financial support in the state’s history due to three consecutive years of proration; and

WHEREAS, from 2009 to 2010, according to the College Board, Alabama students’ AP participation and performance outpaced the nation; Alabama was the number one state in AP gains and Alabama’s AP success was a model for the United States, with Alabama students excelling in AP participation and performance and showing more growth than anywhere in the nation; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Morton’s tenure opportunities have expanded for teachers to gain certification through the rigorous National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and Alabama ranks 13th in the nation in the total number of National Board Certified Teachers, and the number of Alabama National Board Certified Teachers increased 12.6 percent from 2009 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, through Dr. Morton’s leadership, the Alabama Department of Education introduced “Every Child a Graduate,” a Dropout Prevention Awareness Campaign, which is a collaboration of community, legislative, and educational groups including the department, local school systems, the Alabama Select Commission on High School Graduation and Student Dropouts, America’s Promise Alliance, The David C. Matthews Center for Civic Life, and The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation working together to focus efforts to graduate every student in Alabama’s public schools; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton’s many notable honors and distinctions include selection by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) to represent all 50 states in the United States Senate Hearing on Federal Education Legislation in 2010; serving as co-chair of the Committee to Rewrite/Reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind) in 2010; receiving the Auburn University Outstanding Alumni Award in 2009; receiving the National State Policymaker Award by the State Education Technology Directors Association in 2008; receiving the Department of Children’s Affairs Friend of Children Award in 2010, and being founding board member of A+ Education Foundation; and

WHEREAS, higher standards of accountability, more access to quality education for all Alabama students, and progress toward an educational system that is comparable to any other in the nation are just some of the hallmarks of Dr. Morton’s incredible career and the indelible mark that Dr. Morton has made on Alabama’s education system that will affect students for generations to come; and
WHEREAS, Dr. Morton submitted his notice of retirement to the Alabama State Board of Education on June 9, 2011, effective August 31, 2011, after more than seven years as State Superintendent of Education and 42 years of dedicated service to public education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morton’s many years of distinguished public service are a characteristic of exceptional commitment and dedication to public education and to the children of Alabama, and his years of service as State Superintendent of Education afforded him countless opportunities to impact public education—preschool through college:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to Dr. Joseph B. Morton for a lifetime of service and accomplishments in the field of education and for some of the most effective education reform ever implemented in the state of Alabama, and does hereby extend its best wishes to Dr. Morton upon his retirement as State Superintendent of Education.

Done this the 1st day of August 2011.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Thomas E. Bice, Deputy State Superintendent, reviewed the Immigration Guidelines referenced in the Board members’ notebook. A copy of this information is filed in the Board folder dated August 1, 2011.

Dr. Bice also presented the Average Yearly Progress report, a requirement of No Child Left Behind. He acknowledged the success of the students, teachers, and school leaders. A copy of the report is filed in the Board folder dated August 1, 2011.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

________________________________________
Vice President

________________________________________
Secretary and Executive Officer