MINUTES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2007, 9:38 A.M.

The Alabama State Board of Education met for a regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, February 8, 2007, at 9:38 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 §16-3-7 (1975), as amended.

PRESIDING: MRS. SANDRA RAY, VICE PRESIDENT
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Following the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Ray called the meeting to order. On roll call, the following members were present:

Mrs. Ella Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mr. David Byers, Jr.
Dr. Mary Jane Caylor
Dr. Ethel Hall, Vice President Emerita
Mrs. Betty Peters
Mrs. Sandra Ray, Vice President
Absent: Mr. Randy McKinney, President Pro Tem
and Governor Bob Riley

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2007

On motion by Mrs. Ella Bell and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the meeting of January 11, 2007, as distributed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Caylor, the agenda was approved with any combinations that might take place. (This was in response to Dr. Morton's request to take two items as one and required no changes.)

On motion by Mrs. Ella Bell and seconded by Dr. Hall, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF HUXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ESCAMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, NATIONAL TITLE I DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the National Title I Distinguished Schools Program is a project of the National Association of State Title I Directors and provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be publicly recognized for their positive educational achievements; and

WHEREAS, schools nominated for the National Title I Distinguished Schools Program demonstrate high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years, meet or exceed state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years, and demonstrate a poverty rate of thirty-five percent or higher for the nominated year; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection process, Huxford Elementary School, in the Escambia County School System, was selected for Category 1 of the Distinguished Schools Program that is awarded for exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years based on the school's academic performance in exceeding its AYP more than two consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, Huxford Elementary School received recognition for being an Alabama Torchbearer School in 2005 and 2006; and

WHEREAS, Huxford Elementary School Principal, Betty Warren, and select school staff represented Alabama at the National Title I Conference in Long Beach, California, in January 2006:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Huxford Elementary School upon the honor of being selected to receive recognition as a National Title I Distinguished School.

Done this 8th day of February 2007
RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CONECHU COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, NATIONAL TITLE I DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the National Title I Distinguished Schools Program is a project of the National Association of State Title I Directors and provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be publicly recognized for their positive educational achievements; and

WHEREAS, schools nominated for the National Title I Distinguished Schools Program demonstrate high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years, meet or exceed state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years, and demonstrate a poverty rate of thirty-five percent or higher for the nominated year; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection process, Evergreen Elementary School, in the Conecuh County School System, was selected for Category 2 of the Distinguished Schools Program that is awarded for closing the achievement gap between student groups whereby Evergreen Elementary School closed gaps in four categories; and

WHEREAS, Evergreen Elementary School Principal, Joey Varner, and select school staff represented Alabama at the National Title I Conference in Long Beach, California, in January 2006:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Evergreen Elementary School upon the honor of being selected to receive recognition as a National Title I Distinguished School.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Hall and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MICHELLE GAY AS A 2006 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the twenty-first century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established in 1983 by the White House, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than two hundred science teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, two 2006 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Gay has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for ten years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Gay of Foley Intermediate School, Baldwin County School System, was chosen as a 2006 finalist in Alabama to receive an award for excellence in science teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Michelle Gay upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama’s truly outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Hall and seconded by Mr. Byers, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF HOPE SAWYER AS A 2006 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the twenty-first century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established in 1983 by the White House, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and
WHEREAS, fewer than two hundred mathematics teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, two 2006 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Hope Sawyer has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for eleven years; and

WHEREAS, Hope Sawyer of Fairhope K-1 Center, Baldwin County School System, was chosen as a 2006 finalist in Alabama to receive an award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Hope Sawyer upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's truly outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF KATHY ANN SELF AS A 2006 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the twenty-first century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established in 1983 by the White House, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than two hundred science teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, two 2006 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Ann Self has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for eleven years; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Ann Self of Trace Crossings Elementary School, Hoover City School System, was chosen as a 2006 finalist in Alabama to receive an award for excellence in science teaching:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Kathy Ann Self upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's truly outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF SHANE CALLANS AS A 2006 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST

WHEREAS, now that we have entered the twenty-first century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established in 1983 by the White House, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

WHEREAS, fewer than two hundred mathematics teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

WHEREAS, through the state selection committee, two 2006 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Shane Callans has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Shane Callans of Greystone Elementary School, Hoover City School System, was chosen as a 2006 finalist in Alabama to receive an award for excellence in mathematics teaching:
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Shane Callans upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama’s truly outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Hall and seconded by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION COMMENDING BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE AND BIRMINGHAM CULTURAL ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP RECIPIENTS OF 2006 COMING UP TALLER AWARD

WHEREAS, at a White House ceremony on January 22, 2007, First Lady Laura Bush presented the prestigious $10,000 Coming Up Taller Award for 2006 to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute’s Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership; and

WHEREAS, the Coming Up Taller Awards recognize and support outstanding community arts and humanities programs that celebrate the creativity of America’s youth, and provide them with new learning opportunities and the chance to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Coming Up Taller Awards also highlight the contributions that historians, scholars, librarians, and visual and performing artists make to families and communities by mentoring children; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1998, Coming Up Taller is an initiative of the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Arts, and National Endowment for the Humanities; and

WHEREAS, developed in 2000 by the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute with a National Leadership Grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership, was one of only 17 youth arts and humanities programs to receive the 2006 Coming Up Taller Award and the accompanying $10,000 prize; and

WHEREAS, awarded 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants from the Alabama Department of Education in 2002, the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership, which offers unique experiences for educational and personal growth, has been the most rewarding and widely recognized program administered by the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute; and

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership annually connects 200 inner-city youth and their families with the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute’s community partners in a program that uses the arts and humanities to reinforce classroom learning, promote student achievement, nurture personal development, and increase parental involvement in education; and

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute’s Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership 21st Century Community Learning Centers is a collaborative venture between the Birmingham City Schools, Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham Public Library, McWane Science Center, Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark, Southern Museum of Flight, Banks Middle School, Bush Middle School, and Hudson K-8 School; and

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership also receives support from the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama State Council on the Arts, Bruno’s Foundation, The History Channel, and Alabama Power Company:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership for earning the prestigious Coming Up Taller Award in recognition of their successful enrichment of cultural and educational opportunities for students, families, and educators in the Birmingham City Schools.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Caylor and seconded by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF AEROSPACE WEEK IN ALABAMA

MARCH 9-11, 2007

WHEREAS, the Alabama Aerospace Celebration has been sponsored by the Alabama Education Association since 1992; and

WHEREAS, the program has been co-sponsored by NASA, U.S. Space Camp, U. S. Space and Rocket Center, Civil Air Patrol, Southern Museum of Flight, the Tallahassee Challenger Center, Delta Airlines, and the Alabama Aerospace Teachers’ Association; and
WHEREAS, the 21st Century demands a scientifically and technologically literate populace that can qualify for tomorrow's jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Aerospace Celebration has celebrated the achievements of Alabama natives, Astronauts Mae Jemison of Decatur; Joe Edwards of Lineville; Jan Davis of Huntsville; Hank Hartsfield of Birmingham; Kay Hire of Mobile; Kathy Thornton of Montgomery; Jim Voss of Opelika, Alabama; and other astronauts who have lived in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Aerospace Celebration promotes active involvement of schools, businesses, industry, and government at the local level to make classroom learning more relevant, exciting, and career-oriented; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Aerospace Celebration promotes an appreciation for Alabama's unique heritage in aerospace, which continues today in the U.S. Space Program and its related technology; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 300 aerospace-related companies in Alabama contributing billions of dollars to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Aerospace Celebration inspires students' interest in aerospace, helps them develop positive attitudes toward education, and focuses community interest on education and technology; and

WHEREAS, Astronaut Henry (Hank) Hartsfield (Retired), astronaut for the 2007 Celebration, born in Birmingham, Alabama, was on the support crew for Apollo 16 and Skylab 2, 3, 4 missions and is a three-flight veteran having served as spacecraft commander on STS-41D and STS 61-A; and

WHEREAS, Astronaut Colonel James Voss (Retired), astronaut for the 2007 Celebration, from Opelika, Alabama; a veteran of five space flights on Atlantis, Discovery, and Endeavour and was a member of the second crew to live on the ISS has logged 201 days in space, including four space walks; and

WHEREAS, Astronaut Colonel Douglas Wheelock, astronaut for the 2007 Celebration, who has touched the lives of so many Alabama children and teachers, is assigned to Space Shuttle mission STS-120 to deliver the Italian-built Node 2 connecting module to the ISS, as well as relocate the P-6 truss segment to allow for future ISS expansion and increased power generation; and

WHEREAS, thousands of students and teachers across the state have participated in the Alabama Aerospace Celebration annually since its inception:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim March 9-11, 2007, as the liftoff of the Alabama Aerospace Celebration.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Hall, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 11-17, 2007, AS ALABAMA CAREER/TECHNICAL EDUCATION WEEK

WHEREAS, the Association for Career and Technical Education and other national educational organizations have proclaimed the month of February as Career/Technical Education Month; and

WHEREAS, profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career/technical education programs have become a rigorous, progressive, and vital part of the total educational system, which is committed to providing Alabama's students with rewarding opportunities to learn valuable career and life skills; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career/technical education programs are successfully partnering with domestic and international business and industry to ensure that Alabama's students are equipped with the advanced communication, time management, and leadership skills required for lifelong career success; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career/technical education programs are continually providing Alabama's students with opportunities to gain invaluable hands-on experience through apprenticeships, internships, and cooperative education programs; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career/technical education programs have shown a genuine commitment to preparing students for "life after high school" by providing them opportunities to earn advanced diplomas, explore career options in more than 300 courses offered statewide, and receive college credit while still in high school; and
WHEREAS, one out of every two high school students in Alabama currently participates in a career/technical education program; and

WHEREAS, the Career/Technical Education Section of the Alabama Department of Education has formed an alliance with the U. S. Department of Education’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to develop additional workplace and safety education programs for Alabama’s students; and

WHEREAS, Alabama’s career/technical education programs are committed to recruiting highly qualified and focused educators who are dedicated to ensuring that no child will be left behind; and

WHEREAS, Alabama’s career/technical education program is committed to institutionalizing our core values of Integrity First, Striving for Excellence, Always Professional, Loyalty in Service, and Success Through Teamwork; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Education is the only state-level education agency in the United States to be awarded certification from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for its Business/Industry Certification (BIC) process used to certify one hundred percent of career/technical education programs to industry standards:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 11-17, 2007, as Career/Technical Education Week and encourages local boards of education, schools, business and industry professionals, and local educational organizations to participate in this celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of Alabama’s career/technical education programs and the realization of students achieving their lifelong aspirations of academic excellence, personal achievement, and future career success.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Hall, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 5-9, 2007, AS “GROWING OUR OWN” WEEK IN ALABAMA -- A SPECIAL STATEWIDE CELEBRATION FOR ALABAMA’S TEACHERS

WHEREAS, the Alabama Education Association (AEA) and the Alabama Department of Education have formed a new partnership dedicated to encouraging Alabama’s students to pursue a career in the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 2.5 million new teachers will be needed in the United States by the year 2008; and

WHEREAS, an even greater demand for highly qualified teachers is expected in the next decade; and

WHEREAS, the Future Teachers of Alabama organization and the TEACH Alabama program are innovative approaches focused on attracting more talented students to careers in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, the Future Teachers of Alabama organization and TEACH Alabama programs are rigorous, progressive, and vital parts of Alabama’s total education system; and

WHEREAS, these programs are committed to providing students with opportunities to gain valuable hands-on experiences through internships, classroom observations, and project-based learning; and

WHEREAS, Future Teachers of Alabama and TEACH Alabama initiated the “Growing Our Own” Week in Alabama to give local school systems statewide the opportunity to promote activities that focus on teaching as a career, highlight the important role of teachers, and encourage students to consider the field of education as a future career choice; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Education Association and the Alabama Department of Education will celebrate the service, dedication, and professionalism of Alabama’s current teachers during this special event:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 5-9, 2007, as “Growing Our Own” Week and encourages Alabama’s local boards of education, schools, and local educational organizations to support this special celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of the teaching profession and the opportunities it provides for students to achieve their aspirations of academic excellence, personal achievement, and future career success.

Done this 8th day of February 2007
On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Peters, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. PATRICIA MCSPADDEN RECIPIENT OF THE 2006 SOUTHERN BUSINESS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SUPERVISOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education supports individuals who pursue activities that enhance leadership growth and promote challenging curricula; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patricia McSpadden, Education Administrator for Business/Marketing Education in the Alabama Department of Education's Career/Technical Education Section, combines teamwork and networking abilities that have placed Alabama’s business/marketing education far ahead of many other states; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden has served as Chairperson of the National Future Business Leaders of America/Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA/PBL) Board of Directors and the Administration and Supervision Program Coordinator for the National Business Education Association Convention; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden currently serves as an Executive board member of the National Association of Supervisors of Business Education; a member of the Career Cluster Advisory Committee for Finance, Business Management and Administration, and Marketing; and a member of MarkED Career Cluster National Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden serves as the FBLA/PBL State Chairperson, Vice President for the Alabama Jump$tart Coalition for Financial Literacy Board of Directors, and a member of the Alabama Speaker’s Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden heads the statewide campaign for Alabama’s business/marketing education partnership development that has resulted in recognition and board endorsements from the Business Council of Alabama, the Association of Alabama Chambers of Commerce, and the Alabama Securities Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden initiated, facilitated, and coordinated management of career/technical education programs to business/industry standards (BIC), making Alabama the only state department to hold an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 registration; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden has led Career/Technical Education through two ISO 9001 quality audit reviews with unconditional approval for recertification; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McSpadden served as a secondary and postsecondary business education teacher for 17 years in Tennessee and Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Business Education Association (SBEA) has recognized the efforts and accomplishments of Mrs. McSpadden in stating that she is an enthusiastic leader and supervisor who ensures that the future of business education is a vital part of school life in our country; and

WHEREAS, the SBEA has further acknowledged Mrs. McSpadden’s contributions to the field of business/marketing education by naming her the recipient of the 2006 Southern Business Education Association Supervisor Distinguished Service Award:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Patricia McSpadden for her enthusiastic and outstanding leadership contributions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Mrs. Patricia McSpadden for this most prestigious recognition.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Peters, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 24 – MARCH 3, 2007, AS ALABAMA ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK**

WHEREAS, our state’s entrepreneurs are an important source of economic innovation – enhancing productivity, improving efficiency, and generating inventive methods for marketing new ideas; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Labor, most of the new jobs created in the United States over the past decade are a direct result of the efforts of our nation’s entrepreneurs; and
WHEREAS, Alabama’s entrepreneurs are dedicated individuals who work hard to improve their communities by creating professional business environments, which promote advances in technology and the sharing of new ideas; and

WHEREAS, more than 70 percent of our nation’s young people now envision themselves starting a business of their own; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurial education and awareness are helping students to fully understand the many benefits of business ownership; and

WHEREAS, the recent increase in the amount of young people interested in business ownership makes it more important than ever before to encourage Alabama’s students to seriously explore their entrepreneurial potential; and

WHEREAS, through a national initiative to observe Entrepreneurship Week, national organizations such as the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, New York Times, Inc. Magazine, and hundreds of other organizations are partnering to promote the many laudable contributions of America’s entrepreneurs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 24-March 3, 2007, as "Entrepreneurship Week" and encourages Alabama’s local boards of education, schools, and local educational organizations to support this special celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of entrepreneurship opportunities and the benefits they provide for students to explore their dreams of academic excellence, personal achievement, and future career success.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Caylor and seconded by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2007 ANNUAL STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama Department of Education recognize that visual arts are a vital and enriching segment of children’s education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent’s Visual Arts Exhibit provides an opportunity for K-12 students in every school system to participate; and

WHEREAS, the criteria set for judging are sanctioned by recognized and prestigious organizations—the National Art Education Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, and the Alabama Alliance for Arts Education; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to visual arts programs and their teachers as they attempt to strengthen and strive for educational excellence for their students; and

WHEREAS, the visual arts contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students including enhancing cognitive capacities and motivating students to learn; promoting sophisticated reading skills and interpretation of text through visualization training; promoting content and organization writing skills through drawing skills; and establishing essential connections between the art itself and other curricula experiences:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate the 2007 State Superintendent’s Visual Arts award-winning students and their teachers upon the honor of being selected as Alabama’s outstanding young artists and visual arts educators.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH 2007 AS "ARTS EDUCATION MONTH" IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama Department of Education recognize the arts as a vital and enriching segment of children’s education; and

WHEREAS, the National Art Education Association has designated March as “Youth Art Month,” the National Association for Music has designated March as “Music in Our Schools Month,” the American Alliance for Theatre Education has designated March as “Theatre in Our Schools Month,” and the National Dance Association has designated March as “Dance in Our Schools Month;” and
WHEREAS, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, the Alabama Music Educators Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Alliance for Arts Education, the Alabama Chapter of the Educational Theatre Association, and the Alabama Dance Council have voiced their support for designating March 2007 as “Arts Education Month” in Alabama schools; and

WHEREAS, the arts education teachers in the public schools of Alabama continue to strive for educational excellence for their students; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to arts teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education programs in their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, arts education contributes powerful education benefits to all elementary and secondary students including the following: arts education develops students’ creative problem-solving and critical-thinking abilities; arts education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities; arts education gives students a deeper understanding of multicultural values and beliefs; arts education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and arts education interrelates students’ learning in arts production, arts history, arts criticism, and aesthetics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That support should be given to arts education teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education in their schools and communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That education in the arts, including dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, is an essential component of K-12 public education in Alabama; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to arts educators, classroom teachers, and administrators for their efforts to improve arts education in Alabama public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does designate March 2007 as “Arts Education Month” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Caylor and seconded by Dr. Hall, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND DRIVER AND TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION STATE COURSES OF STUDY

WHEREAS, Title 16, Chapter 35, Section 3, of the Code of Alabama, 1975, requires the State Courses of Study Committees to prepare the contents of the courses of study for each grade of the elementary and secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, the reports of the committees’ recommendations with respect to the compulsory minimum content of courses of study and of recommended revisions of courses, materials, subject content, and treatment in specific courses in such areas are required; and

WHEREAS, said law requires that the reports be submitted to the State Superintendent of Education and to members of the State Textbook Committee for separate written recommendations to the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has reviewed the State Course of Study Committee’s report on English Language Arts and recommends its adoption; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has reviewed the State Course of Study Committee’s report on Driver and Traffic Safety Education and recommends its adoption:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached reports by the State Courses of Study Committees on English Language Arts and Driver and Traffic Safety Education are approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on February 8, 2007.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Peters, the Board unanimously approved the following:
MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION TO
APPOINT THE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION AND THE CAREER/TECHNICAL EDUCATION
STATE COURSES OF STUDY COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, Alabama Code, §16-35-1 through 5 (1975), provides that the Alabama State Board of Education shall constitute Courses of Study Committees for the purposes and functions as provided within the statute; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education appoints Ms. Esther Smith Hicks, listed on the attached sheet, as a member of the Technology Education and the Career/Technical Education State Courses of Study Committees for a period of one year or until her successor is appointed.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Peters, the Board unanimously approved the following:

APPOINTMENT, 2007-08 STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE
READING/LITERATURE AND
DRIVER AND TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Code of Alabama 1975, §16-36-60, provides for the appointment of a State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that four elementary teachers and four high school teachers are to be selected to serve on the State Textbook Committee and are to come from each of the seven congressional districts of Alabama and one statewide; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that four people who shall be teachers, principals, supervisors, or superintendents are to be selected from the state-at-large; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that two members of said State Textbook Committee are to be selected from the institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, said law provides that the above fourteen people are to be nominated to the State Board of Education by the State Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the people on the attached list are hereby appointed to the 2007-08 State Textbook Committee for a term beginning May 1, 2007, and ending on April 30, 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board recognizes that said law provides that the Governor of Alabama is to appoint nine people not in the field of education to serve on this State Textbook Committee and welcomes them to full membership:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That State Superintendent of Education Joseph B. Morton is hereby authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur on this State Textbook Committee until the next meeting of this State Board of Education after such vacancy occurs and same to be added as ad interim business.

Done this 8th day of February 2007

On motion by Dr. Caylor and seconded by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

SUBSTITUTION OF LATER EDITIONS OF TEXTBOOKS

WHEREAS, the Alabama Administrative Code, Rule 290-2-3-.05, Textbook Substitution, permits publishing companies to substitute a later edition of a textbook for the edition presently under contract with the state of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the textbooks listed below have been submitted for substitution in accordance with the regulations set forth in said code:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the following books for substitution at no increase in price:

MATH TO LEARN, 2006, Great Source Education Group
MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MATH TO KNOW, 2006, Great Source Education Group
MATH AT HAND, 2008, Great Source Education Group
SUMMER SUCCESS: MATH, GRADES K-8, Great Source Education Group
FITNESS FOR LIFE, 2007, Hardback, Human Kinetics
FITNESS FOR LIFE, 2007, Softback, Human Kinetics
FUNDAMENTALS OF ATHLETIC TRAINING, 2005, Human Kinetics
PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS, 2007, Thomson Learning, South-Western

Done this 8th day of February 2007

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Morton reported that on February 23, 2007, at 10 a.m., there will be a meeting of all school superintendents. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a bond issue that everyone is really excited about. This will be an attempt to ensure that everybody is on the same page. He advised that February 22, the day of our State Board Work Session, staff will go over and share information on how those K-12 needs are built. After a number of years in the making, the Department now has a database that will verify facility needs. This new system will confirm the Department’s 4.3 billion dollars of facility needs. An invitation was extended to the Board members to attend the February 23 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the regular meeting of the State Board of Education for elementary/secondary education matters adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

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Vice President

________________________________________
Secretary