MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA
March 13, 2008

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, March 13, 2008, at 9:38 a.m. in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called by the Vice President of the Board in accordance with Alabama Code (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: MR. DAVID F. BYERS JR., VICE PRESIDENT
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Following the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. David F. Byers, Jr., called the meeting to order. On roll call, the following members were present:

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mr. David F. Byers, Jr., Vice President
Dr. Mary Jane Caylor
Dr. Ethel H. Hall, Vice President Emerita
Mr. Randy McKinney, President Pro Tem
Mrs. Betty Peters
Mrs. Sandra Ray

Absent
Governor Bob Riley

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2008

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Ethel H. Hall, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the meeting of February 14, 2008, as distributed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Ethel H. Hall, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT - NONE

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING
THE ALABAMA STATE PLAN FOR
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

WHEREAS, technological advances and global competition have transformed the nature of work and tomorrow’s careers will require more knowledge, better skills, and more flexible workers than ever before; and

WHEREAS, research shows that career and technical education engages and motivates students by offering them real-world learning opportunities, leading to lower dropout rates and greater earnings for high school graduates; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Plan for Career and Technical Education provides for coherent and rigorous content, aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant career and technical content in a coordinated, non-duplicative progression of courses that align secondary education with postsecondary education and lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate in both secondary and postsecondary education and to a degree at the postsecondary level; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Plan for Career and Technical Education includes articulation, dual enrollment, early college enrollment, and Tech Prep opportunities for all Alabama students; and

WHEREAS, secondary and postsecondary education have adopted the programs of study (career clusters and industry sectors) required by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Final Agreed Upon Performance Levels (FAUPL) for secondary and postsecondary education have been negotiated with the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, and implementation strategies are reflected in the Alabama State Plan for Career and Technical Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby approve and adopt the Alabama State Plan for Career and Technical Education.
RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSE 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 Alabama State Board of Education; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached report by the State Course of Study Committee on Career and Technical Education is approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on March 13, 2008.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSE 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 Alabama State Board of Education; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached report by the State Course of Study Committee on Technology Education is approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on March 13, 2008.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSE 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 Alabama State Board of Education; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached report by the State Course of Study Committee on Technology Education is approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on March 13, 2008.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

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 Miles College a written request for a review team to visit the institution; 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 such a 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 General Science (6-12)

Done this 13th day of March 2008

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

EXTEND APPROVAL OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
Florence, Alabama

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education (ASBE) approves programs, including the time frame for approved program status; and

WHEREAS, the University of North Alabama’s current approval period ends on May 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is a partner with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) in conducting reviews at NCATE-accredited institutions and institutions seeking initial NCATE accreditation; and

WHEREAS, the University of North Alabama was granted Continuing Accreditation with Conditions by NCATE and given additional time to document the existence of a comprehensive evaluation system; and

WHEREAS, the University of North Alabama will host an NCATE visit in April 2008; and

WHEREAS, NCATE will not render a decision concerning the University of North Alabama’s continuing accreditation status until October 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama-NCATE Partnership Agreement links ASBE program approval and NCATE unit accreditation; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education concurs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby extends approval of all teacher education programs at the University of North Alabama until December 31, 2008.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

On motion by Mrs. Sandra Ray and seconded by Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, the Board unanimously adopted the following:

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF DR. RUTH ASH
DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash, who was appointed Deputy State Superintendent of Education for Instructional Services on October 15, 2004, will retire effective April 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, as Deputy State Superintendent, she rendered invaluable service through her work with the Alabama Reading Initiative, Federal Programs, Special Education, Educator Evaluations, Classroom Improvement, Assessments, and Prevention and Support Services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash has served as Dean of the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies at Samford University and in public school systems in Alabama as a teacher, assistant principal, director of curriculum and staff development, assistant superintendent, and superintendent; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Samford School of Education was honored by the U. S. Department of Education as one of the four top teacher preparation programs in the nation and declared a “national model for effective teacher preparation” by the U. S. Secretary of Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash is a former Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Judge and is a Baldrige Examiner, serves as a member of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners, the Alabama State Department of Education Board of Examiners, and the NCATE and Center for Quality Assurance in International Education Board of International Reviewers, and has served on accreditation visiting committees for NCATE, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the American Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash served as chair of the Alabama Committee on Teacher Enhancement and is past president of the Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash received the 2002 Truman Pierce Award for “educational leadership and outstanding contributions that significantly advance the direction of education in Alabama,” has been honored by the Birmingham Business Journal as one of its Top Ten Women in Business, and participated in Leadership Birmingham and Leadership Alabama; and
WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash has presented keynote addresses at national and international conferences, served as a consultant to numerous school systems and to the Governors of several states, and also serves on the International Journal of Learning and Intellectual Capital Editorial Board; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash has served as president of the Tarrant-Pinson Valley Chamber of Commerce, Historian and Treasurer of the Birmingham Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, and is also an arbitrator with the Birmingham Better Business Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ruth Ash received her B.S. degree from Auburn University, her M.S. degree from the University of South Alabama, her AA Certificate from the University of Alabama in Birmingham and her doctorate from Auburn University – where she has been honored as a distinguished alumnus:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its gratitude to Dr. Ruth Ash for a lifetime of dedicated and distinguished service to the state of Alabama and its children, and does hereby commend Dr. Ruth Ash for a life’s work in support of excellence in education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby extend its best wishes to Dr. Ruth Ash for a happy and enjoyable retirement.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT REVISED ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF STONE MIDDLE SCHOOL, HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education seeks to encourage and honor excellence in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, a group of advanced math sixth-graders at Huntsville’s Stone Middle School earned First Place in the nation in NASA’s Habitat Moon Challenge; and

WHEREAS, NASA sponsors educational challenges to inspire an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

WHEREAS, out of 34 schools from across the nation in the competition, only 13 – including Stone Middle School – made the finals, and Stone Middle School was selected as number one in the middle school division; and

WHEREAS, the students designed their own experiment, obtained valid data, and applied it as to how it could relate to humans living on the moon; and

WHEREAS, for their project, the students researched the environment of the moon and how plants can grow there, and four students – Liliana Meza, Sally Saiyasith, Antione Wright and Brittany Lusk – recently presented their research to Dr. Marci Delaney, project manager for NASA’s Exploring Space Challenges, which holds several competitions each year in which students do scientific and engineering research; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend these outstanding students from Stone Middle School: Liliana Meza, Sally Saiyasith, Antione Wright, Brittany Lusk, Diana Martinez, Hazel Posada, Leslie Jeronimo, Gerrod Abram, Dustyn Davis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend their parents; sixth-grade teachers Mary Bording, Patricia Hayden, Sidney Baker, and Stephanie Caspers; Gifted Specialist Barbara Murphy; Principal Peggy Harris; and Dr. Ann Roy Moore, Superintendent.

Done this 13th day of March 2008

NOMINEES FOR THE ALABAMA SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS BOARD OF TRUSTEES. (THIS INFORMATION IS FILED IN THE BOARD FOLDER.)

ISSUANCE OF ALABAMA ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL TEACHER’S CERTIFICATE (THIS INFORMATION IS FILED IN THE BOARD FOLDER)
Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Joseph B. Morton informed the Board of the positive information published in the booklet entitled *Statewide Systems of Support.* (A copy will be given to each Board member.) Alabama was listed as one of four states described as beacons of change. Members were directed to page 87 where Alabama’s Roundtable was referenced. With so much negative information reported in the past, Dr. Morton advised the Board members of the Department’s efforts to share the good news of what is happening in Alabama’s schools. A meeting is planned whereas key spokespersons within the private sector will be asked to assist the Department in its efforts to raise awareness to the good news of Alabama’s public schools. Dr. Ethel H. Hall suggested contacting Ms. Sarah Verser with Channel 6 in Birmingham to further raise this awareness in doing a feature on what is right with Alabama Schools.

On motion by Dr. Mary Jane Caylor and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

David F. Byers, Jr.
Vice President

Joseph B. Morton
Secretary and Executive Officer