MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
NOVEMBER 14, 2019
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its Annual meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 10:06 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Board in accordance with Alabama Code (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: GOVERNOR KAY IVEY, PRESIDENT

The invocation was done by Pastor Richard Williams, Metropolitan United Methodist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Governor Kay Ivey
Dr. Cynthia Mccarty
Mr. Jeff Newman
Dr. Yvette Richardson
Mrs. Tracie West
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler
Dr. Wayne Reynolds

Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 10, 2019, MEETING

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of October 10, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Cynthia Mccarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

RESOLUTION IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF MRS. ELLA B. BELL,
MEMBER, ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT FIVE
JANUARY 2001 – OCTOBER 2019

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the education community lost a valued member and leader on November 3, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ella B. Bell received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Tuskegee Institute in 1969, a Master's Degree in Education Administration from Alabama State University in 1974, and pursued doctoral coursework (with the exception of her dissertation) from The University of Alabama from 1974-1977; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Mrs. Ella B. Bell was a tireless advocate in pursuit of a quality education for all students; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2001 Mrs. Ella B. Bell was sworn in as Alabama State Board of Education Member for State School Board District Five, the largest board district in the state; and
WHEREAS, during her tenure on the Board, Mrs. Ella B. Bell served dutifully as a committed Board member and served two terms as President Pro-Tem from 2012-2014 and Vice President from 2014-2016; and

WHEREAS, during Mrs. Bell’s notable tenure on the Alabama State Board of Education, she supported the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) and significant education initiatives including, but not limited to, Alabama’s PLAN 2020, Alabama College- and Career-Ready Standards, Career and Technical Education Programs, state intervention in school systems with financial and academic deficits, Torchbearer Schools, Alabama Reading Initiative, Character Education, Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide (ACCESS), Alabama Learning Exchange (ALEX), Educational Ruler, and Principal and Superintendent Leadership Academies; and

WHEREAS, her many leadership roles, community involvements, and honors included Tuskegee University Alumni Association; Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., Sorority; SISTAS, a support group for women surviving breast cancer; the Montgomery County Democratic Conference; Vice-Chairperson for Women Affairs for the Alabama Democratic Conference; the Spirit of Freedom Award from the City of Mosse, Alabama; three citations from the governor for State Combined United Way Campaign; Montgomery Area United Way Record-Setting Fundraiser for the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; and recipient of numerous awards and honors:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education and State Superintendent of Education pay tribute to Mrs. Ella B. Bell’s leadership and dedicated service and further express our condolences and deepest sympathy to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we do hereby honor the memory of Mrs. Ella B. Bell for her service to the schools, students, educators, and parents in the state of Alabama and for her advocacy of high standards, accountability, and overall elevation of improving public education.

Done this 14th day of November 2019

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF ERIN HOWARD, MOUNTAIN GAP SCHOOL, HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, AS CO-CHAMPION OF THE 2019 SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

WHEREAS, Erin Howard, a student at Mountain Gap School, Huntsville City School System, was selected as one of eight co-champions of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee; and

WHEREAS, in an unprecedented display of academic achievement, the octochamps made history as the first group to share the Scripps National Spelling Bee title in the 92 years of its inception; and

WHEREAS, the Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation’s largest and longest-running educational program created in 1925 with the purpose of helping students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives; and

WHEREAS, each year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee reaches more than 11 million students around the country and in other parts of the world with 562 spellers competing in this year’s national spelling bee; and

WHEREAS, Erin Howard as a co-champion of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee received a cash prize, her own personal Scripps Cup, and other prizes as well as an opportunity to tour numerous national networks, entertainment programs, and digital platforms including “Good Morning America,” “Today Show,” “New Day,” “CBS This Morning,” “Live with Kelly and Ryan,” and “Jimmy Kimmel Live!”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Erin Howard upon the honor of being selected as co-champion of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Done this 14th day of November 2019
On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2019 ALABAMA BICENTENNIAL STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and the Alabama Bicentennial Commission recognize the vital need for student voices in assisting in the celebration of Alabama's 200th birthday; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Bicentennial Student Advisory Council is a group of 42 secondary school students from across Alabama chaired by John W. "Jack" Orr, Decatur High School, Decatur City School System; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Bicentennial Student Advisory Council convened in the fall of 2019, and has interviewed local and state officials about the importance of the celebration of Alabama's Bicentennial; and

WHEREAS, the council members gathered input from their communities on students' needs and opinions on the future of Alabama, bringing community issues and celebrations to the attention of the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and to the general public; and

WHEREAS, the council's interviews and presentations have been presented locally and on social media to bring attention to the unique characteristics of the communities of Alabama:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and thank the 2019 Alabama Bicentennial Student Advisory Council for their hard work, research, and dedication to improving the lives of Alabamians and in engaging Alabama youth in the celebration of the state's bicentennial.

Done this 14th day of November 2019

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE ALABAMA TEACHER SHORTAGE TASK FORCE REPORT OF STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education appointed an Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force to review the current and future need for teachers in our state; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force developed and adopted the mission statement as follows: To develop short-term and long-term recommendations to increase the quantity and quality of teacher applicants in our state; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force was representative of K-12 education, every Alabama State School Board District, education associations, and other educational professionals who met to develop short-term and long-term recommendations to increase the quantity and quality of teacher applicants in our state; and

WHEREAS, the issue of teacher shortage is both a national and state concern; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama teacher shortage is most critical in math, science, and special education; and

WHEREAS, enrollment in Alabama educator preparation programs has declined steadily since 2008; and

WHEREAS, teacher shortages are being broadly experienced throughout the state, particularly in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019-2020 school year, 123 of 138 school districts have hired teachers on emergency or provisional certificates; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019-2020 school year, 30% of all classrooms are being taught by teachers teaching out of field, having neither a major nor a minor in the field; and
WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force recognizes that addressing Alabama’s teacher shortage will require thoughtful, multi-faceted, long-term commitment focused on both recruitment and retention; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force has identified strategies, tools, and recommendations to monitor the shortage and to assist in improving Alabama teacher recruitment and retention:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby accept the report of recommendations by the Alabama Teacher Shortage Task Force to increase the quantity and quality of teacher applicants in Alabama.

Done this 14th day of November 2019

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS FOR HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Law provides for the adoption of textbooks by the Alabama State Board of Education, the same to be adopted from recommendations made by the State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Committee has made its recommendations in keeping with said law; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Committee has worked long and hard hours in making such recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with said law, the Alabama State Board of Education received the recommendations at its September 12, 2019, meeting and 30 days prior notice of the date of consideration by the Alabama State Board of Education was given to news media:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education extends thanks to the Alabama State Textbook Committee and to all those who have worked to prepare the attached recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the recommendations for the adoption of textbooks for Health are approved.

Done this 14th day of November 2019

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE 290-2-1-.01, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM FUNDS

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE 290-2-1-.05, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF THE AT-RISK FUNDS

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following.

ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, EMERGENCY RULE 290-3-2-.37-02 ER PERTAINING TO DYSLEXIA THERAPIST ENDORSEMENT AS AN EMERGENCY RULE

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

Announce Intent to Adopt New Alabama Administrative Code, Rule 290-3-2-.37, Pertaining to Dyslexia Therapist Endorsement as a Permanent Rule
EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Eric G. Mackey stated that there was no report necessary for the month of November.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Eric G. Mackey stated that nothing is more appropriate than honoring Mrs. Ella B. Bell and Ms. Erin Howard, the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee Co-Champion back to back today. Dr. Mackey stated that Mrs. Ella Bell would talk about spelling, handwriting, and grammar in almost every conversation. The Bicentennial will be discussed in December.

Dr. Mackey recognized Mrs. Sally Smith and the Alabama Association of School Boards, along with 38 others that included three Board members of the Huntsville City School System for their service. Dr. Mackey stated that on the evening of November 13, 2019, the group and State Board Members had a great panel discussion.

Dr. Mackey gave the Board a briefing of two documents they will be receiving for the Work Session. The first document is the LEAN Frog Report for the Educator Certification Processing-Assessment for the Department. Dr. Byron Headrick will be at the Work Session in December to talk about the LEAN Frog study. The second document is “Alabama’s Roadmap to STEM Success.” Dr. Mackey thanked the Governor for supporting the state STEM Advisory Council who did a great job. Dr. Mackey stated that this STEM Report is the road map going forward for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Dr. Neil Lamb will be at the Work Session in December to talk about the STEM Report.

Dr. Mackey informed the Board members that Mr. Tommy Glasscock, Assistant State Superintendent for Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development, will retire on January 1, 2020.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at 10 a.m. The Work Session was held immediately following the meeting.

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Vice President

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Secretary and Executive Officer