



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

September 26, 2018

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Assessment Development Opportunities for Alabama Educators

As you know, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) has partnered with the Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) to develop new, Alabama-owned, summative assessments for Grades 2-8 and new assessments for students on the alternate curriculum. Items for the new assessments will be piloted in the spring of 2019 with operational versions to be administered in the spring 2020. You should also know that we are committed to including Alabama educators in the development of the assessments at every step along the way.

In an effort to ensure the highest quality summative assessments in math and English Language Arts (ELA) (Grades 2-8) and science (Grades 4, 6, and 8), we are offering three opportunities in the 2018-2019 school year for Alabama educators to contribute to their development. Additional opportunities to contribute to the development of the *Alabama Alternate Assessment* (Grades 2-8 and high school) will also become available soon. **We are counting on your support in this endeavor.**

Please note the committee types and dates of committee meetings for the summative assessments and submit your recommendations for committee members to us by clicking here: [Superintendent Nomination Link](#). You may use this same link to recommend educators for committee work on the alternate assessment. The committee types and dates of the committee meetings are as follows:

1. **ELA Passage Review Committee – October 24-25, 2018**
2. **Item Writing Committee – November 12-16, 2018**
3. **Item, Content, and Bias Review Committee – February 4-8, 2019**

Due to the condensed timeline for development of our new assessments, we need your immediate attention to this important component. **The deadline for submission of nominees for the first summative assessment committee—ELA Passage Review—is October 10, 2018.** However, we will gratefully accept nominations throughout the school year and keep you informed of future committee work on the alternate assessment.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation. Should you have any questions or concerns about the process of selection or the committee meetings, please contact Mrs. Maggie Hicks, Interim Coordinator of Student Assessment, at mhicks@alsde.edu or at **334-694-4817**.

EGM:MH:KP

cc: System Test Coordinators
System Curriculum Directors

FY19-2001

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