



# School Board Member Recognition Month

*To be mailed by the superintendent*

\_\_\_\_\_ schools will join school systems throughout the state to salute their local education leaders during Alabama's 18th annual School Board Member Recognition Month in January.

The commemorative month is designed to recognize the contributions made by Alabama's more than 800 local school board members, including the members of the \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Education, who are charged with governing public education under state law.

Alabama school board members are chosen by their communities through election or appointment to manage local schools. They oversee multimillion-dollar budgets which fund education programs for more than 748,889 students in 1,518 schools. Their personnel decisions affect 48,165 teachers, 3,273 administrators and 37,257 support workers.

These volunteer leaders also are responsible for formulating school system policy, approving curricula, maintaining school facilities, and adhering to state and federal education law. Legal concerns and the complexities of school finance, including budgeting and taxation, require them to spend many hours in board training programs and personal study to enhance their understanding of these issues.

Our deepest appreciation is extended to the dedicated men and women who make it possible for local citizens to participate in education in our community. We salute the public servants of the \_\_\_\_\_ school system whose commitment and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible (*insert names of local board members*):

Please join us by saying "thanks" to our school board members during Alabama's 18th School Board Member Recognition Month.

**Sample Editorial**