

FOR YOUR *information*

A MONTHLY UPDATE ON
STATE BOARD PROCEEDINGS,
ASSOCIATION NEWS & K-12 TOPICS



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It's a Date!

Oct. 31
[Deadline for Magna Awards](#)

Nov. 2
Delegates/Alternates names due.

Nov. 12-16
[American Education Week](#)

Nov. 15
Noon - 1 p.m.
[School Finance Webinar](#)

Dec. 6
Delegate Assembly

Dec. 6- 8 (8 hours)
[AASB Annual Convention](#)
Birmingham, Ala.

Jan. 11 (8 hours)
[Roles & Responsibilities Orientation](#)
Montgomery, Ala.

Jan. 12 (6 hours)
[Effective Boards & Relationships](#)
Montgomery, Ala.

January 27-29
[NSBA Advocacy Institute](#)
Washington, D.C.

March 30 - April 1
[NSBA Annual Conference](#)
Philadelphia, Penn.

Budget Boost Calls for Celebration and Caution

The state's 2018 fiscal year ended Sep. 30, exceeding expectations and greatly surpassing revenues needed to meet \$6.47 billion in education budget appropriations. While the state had relied on a growth rate of some 3 percent, the year ended with more than double that growth at 6.7 percent, bringing in \$336 million more in revenue than expected and appropriated. That's a stark contrast to just one year ago when the education community collectively held its breath as revenues barely met appropriations.

State revenue growth is subject to the Rolling Reserve Act, and the state will deposit \$64.2 million to bring the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA) balance to \$242 million. The Rolling Reserve Act requires up to 1 percent of any additional revenues collected above the prior year's budget be deposited in the BSA until it reaches 7.5 percent of the previous year's ETF appropriations. Those dollars are intended to be used in the event of proration. Any dollars above that threshold flow to the Advancement and Technology Fund (ATF). Lawmakers may appropriate, through separate legislation, ATF funds to local school systems to use in the current budget. That means **an additional \$272 million** will be available to K-12 and higher education this fiscal year. Those monies may be spent on any of the following: repairs and deferred maintenance; classroom instructional support; insurance for facilities; transportation; the acquisition or purchase of technology; or school safety. Public education received a \$53 million bump through the ATF fund in the fiscal year that just ended.

These impressive numbers mean an unexpected boost this year and a strong projection for the FY20 ETF budget lawmakers will craft in the 2019 Regular Legislative Session beginning March 5. Reports indicate the FY20 education budget may crest to more than \$7 billion, a first for Alabama. This boost is cause for both celebration and caution, as the state's ability to sustain such revenue and growth in coming years is a concern. Lawmakers will be asked to consider that dollars spent on recurring expenses must be sustained. It is said that lawmakers have it hardest when there are more dollars available because so many will come forward with funding requests. It appears a minimum of

\$300 million — and likely a lot more — in new dollars will be available to spend. Expect the legislative quadrennium to start with a bang.

Simbli e-Governance Grants Available, Deadline Oct. 26



AASB, in collaboration with its strategic partner, [eBOARDsolutions](#), is pleased to offer up to 12 member boards an e-Governance Grant to implement the award-winning Simbli board governance software. The grant is available to first-time Simbli customers only. The deadline to apply is Oct. 26. [View the grant application](#) for more information, or contact AASB Director of PR Dana Vandiver at 334-386-9436 or dvandiver@alabamaschoolboards.org

Upcoming Webinars

Don't miss AASB's webinar on *School Finance* Thursday, Nov. 15 from noon to 1 p.m. Tune in to hear AASB Business & Operations Director **Amber Anderson** cover important guidelines and considerations your board should know about school finance. [Register now.](#)

Look for information soon on a free webinar featuring **Dr. Samantha Fuhrey** and **Shakila Henderson Baker**, who will share how the Newton County, Ga., school system has worked to form community partnerships to help battle poverty. Fuhrey and Henderson were scheduled to present on day one of AASB's Fall Conference, which ended early due to a fire at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel.

Are You Registered for AASB's Annual Convention?

Hundreds of members already have registered for AASB's Annual Convention at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham -The Wynfrey Hotel, December 6-8. The event will feature thought-provoking speakers, information-packed clinic sessions, the annual Awards Luncheon recognizing the 2018 All-State School Board Award winners and more! [Register now.](#)



ALABAMA
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL BOARDS

P.O. Box 4980 | Montgomery, AL 36103-4980 | 800/562-0601 | www.AlabamaSchoolBoards.org

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