

FOR YOUR *information*

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



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Whole Board Training: Plan ahead and save!
Get 10% off the regular whole board training fee when you schedule and complete your AASB-provided training for July, August or September.

It's a Date!

July 19 (1 hour)
Webinar: The Key Work of School Boards

July 20 (8 hours)
[Roles & Responsibilities Orientation](#)
Montgomery, Ala.

July 21 (6 hours)
[Effective Boards & Relationships Orientation](#)
Montgomery, Ala.

July 26
[Policy Pipeline](#) Subscribers Maintenance Call

Aug. 30-Sept. 24 (1.5 hrs)
District Meetings

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 (6 hours)
Fall Academy Core Conference

Oct. 1 (2 hours)
Post-Conference Workshop

Sept. 6 (1 hour)
Webinar: What Every School Board Member Should Know About Special Education

Nov. 15 (1 hour)
Webinar

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

Mackey Announces Personnel Hires, Assessment Timeline, Sentry Program Implementation

The State Board of Education Thursday held its first regular board meeting since Dr. Eric Mackey assumed the helm as Alabama's new State Superintendent of Education on May 14. Gov. Kay Ivey, who serves as president of the State Board by virtue of her office, chaired the meeting and welcomed the former Jacksonville City Schools superintendent and former executive director of School Superintendents of Alabama. Mackey replaces Dr. Ed Richardson, who had served as interim state superintendent since last September.

Mackey opened the meeting with a personnel recommendation to hire current Lowndes County Superintendent Dr. David Boyd as the Deputy State Superintendent of Instruction. The board, which unanimously approved Boyd's hire, was provided an updated Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) organizational chart. The new chart reflects the addition of Boyd as well as the department's new General Counsel Jason Swann, new Chief of Staff Dr. Jeff Langham and new Chief Administrative Officer for the state's intervention in Montgomery Public Schools, Dr. Terry Roller.

As part of his superintendent report, Mackey outlined the timeframe for the selection of a new state assessment. The deadline for [assessment proposals](#) is June 15. A team from the ALSDE is charged with reviewing and recommending three assessments, and the Assessment Advisory Council will meet June 27 to hear presentations on each. The State Board of Education is then expected to hold a special-called meeting to receive the committee's three recommendations and ask questions about the three assessments. The board will vote to select the new state assessment during its regular July meeting.

At the board work session immediately following Thursday's meeting, Mackey outlined the ten recommendations from the [Governor's SAFE Council report](#). The recommendations are divided into three sections, which include three recommendations addressing physical security, four addressing mental health and the final three dealing with coordi-

nated training and planning. Mackey told the board he would be putting forth a funding proposal for School Resource Officers (SROs) that would distribute the funds on a per-student basis. He said he does not anticipate the funding being sufficient to fully cover an SRO, and additional funds from other sources will need to be identified.

For schools currently without an SRO, Gov. Ivey's newly announced [Alabama Sentry Program](#) would allow acting school administrators to become a reserve deputy and be allowed to keep a secured weapon on a school's premise in order to be prepared to respond to an active shooter. The program has been met with mixed reactions by school officials and educational advocacy organizations, including AASB, that overwhelmingly believe SROs are the preferred preventative measure against school violence.

Mackey explained to the board that the Sentry Program is voluntary and the local superintendent, board of education and sheriff all must agree to participate. There are multiple certifications that can be considered an administrator; however, local boards of education ultimately will define who is an administrator and thus eligible to participate in the program. Participants would have their fitness for duty determined by the local sheriff and would be required to participate in training by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA). Mackey told the board ALEA, the Governor's office, the Attorney General's office and the ALSDE all are working together on the program's implementation.

The board also was briefed on the Governor's Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Mackey told the board the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) will be strengthened, and that the Alabama Summer Achievement Program currently is being piloted in Montgomery schools. Other initiatives for the campaign include improving students' school readiness and combatting chronic absenteeism.

The board reviewed two proposed technical changes to the Alabama Administrative Code. A proposed change to high school physical



education exemptions would allow each local school to exempt students from a physical education course, rather than requiring them to submit the request for exemptions to the State Superintendent for approval. A proposed change to the length of dual enrollment courses would increase the allowable length from three hours to four.

Next State Board Meeting

The State Board will hold its next board meeting in Montgomery on July 10 at 10 a.m., with a work session to follow at 11 a.m.

New Board Member Orientation: Register Now for July Courses

The School Board Governance Improvement Act of 2012 requires school board members in Alabama to complete orientation covering a variety of important topics. Registration is now open for New Board Member Orientation Courses next month at the AASB office in Montgomery.

Friday, July 20, AASB will present **Roles & Responsibilities**, an eight-hour academy core course that covers board basics such as ethics, legal issues, finance and more. [REGISTER NOW](#).

Saturday, July 21, the **Effective Boards and Relationships** course will be held. This six-hour Academy core course goes further in depth on learning effective board leadership, engaging your community and advocating for your school system. [REGISTER NOW](#).

Showcase Your Students at AASB's Convention



Do you know of a talented vocal, instrumental, performing arts or ROTC group in your school system? Don't miss out on a great opportunity to showcase the outstanding talent of your students and their instructors before an audience of hundreds at AASB's Annual

Convention in December! The application deadline is **August 31, 2018**.

New this year: Entertainment finalists will be entered into a social media contest in which local schools and communities will be able to vote for their favorite group. The lucky group with the most votes will earn bragging rights as this year's "fan favorite" and will be invited to perform at AASB's Convention.

For more info: [Download the Entertainment Application and Criteria/Guidelines](#).

Convention Clinic Proposals Due June 29

Do you have a governance best practice or innovative program you'd like to share with school board peers? Present a clinic session during the December 7 AASB Convention at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham -The Wynfrey Hotel. Topics may include effective board leadership and governance practices, navigating legal issues, technology that engages students, programs proven to improve student achievement and more! Proposals must be submitted by June 29.

[Download the Clinic Session Proposal Form and Criteria](#).

Submit Your Proposed Bylaws and Resolutions Changes

School board members are asked to submit proposed resolutions or changes to AASB Bylaws by **Aug. 13**. Pro-

posals, which must be submitted in writing, will be considered by AASB's Delegate Assembly during the annual AASB Convention in December. Visit our website to review current [Bylaws](#) and [Resolutions](#).

Send submissions via:

- **Email** to twright@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org;
- **Mail** to P.O. Box 4980, Montgomery, AL 36103-4980; or
- **Fax** to 334/270-0000.

July Webinar: 'The Key Work of School Boards'



The first webinar of the 2018-19 training year will feature AASB Director of Leadership Development Susan Salter with vital insight on *The Key Work of School Boards*. Grab your lunch and call or log on for the one-hour webinar to learn more about the impressive results that can be achieved when school boards make student achievement a primary focus. Registration will open soon at

www.AlabamaSchoolBoards.org/events.

Who Will be AASB's 2018 All-State School Board Award Honorees?



Help select the next group of recipients to receive one of AASB's highest honors, the All-State School Board Member Award. The annual recognition program celebrates the work of up to five current or former Alabama school board members who have exhibited exemplary boardmanship.

Nominations may be submitted following a majority vote of the school board. An individual board member may nominate another member provided the nomination is endorsed by a majority vote of the nominee's board. This year's deadline for nominations is **Sept. 7**. Instructions and nomination materials were mailed to board presidents and superintendents on June 1. [Learn more](#).



Is Strategic Planning Part of Your Summer Agenda? AASB Can Help!

Flexible. Customizable. Driven by you.

AASB's [Strategic Planning service](#) includes the right mix of board training, stakeholder involvement and guidance for your planning and action teams. Receive facilitator feedback throughout the process. Not ready to launch into planning? No problem. AASB offers whole board trainings in strategic planning, facilitated goal setting and data (at the basic and advanced levels).

For details, contact training@alabamaschoolboards.org or call 800/562/0601.