



FOR YOUR *information*

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

May 15, 2020



SBOE Discusses PCG Report, FY21 Budget

The State Board of Education discussed findings from an operational review of the Alabama State Department of Education during its virtual work session Thursday. The review was commissioned last year by the Alabama Legislature, which provided \$750,000 from the FY20 Education Trust Fund (ETF) budget to the State Examiners of Public Accounts along with a charge to launch an RFP for the work. Through the RFP process, the Public Consulting Group (PCG) was engaged to conduct the review.

PCG project leaders provided the board with an overview of the work they conducted between October 2019 and March 2020, including stakeholder interviews and document reviews. PCG's final report outlines a host of recommendations to improve ALSDE policies, functions, programs, funding and organizational structure. The work session overview focused on five key recommendations included in PCG's executive summary.

Also during the work session, board members reviewed a spreadsheet for the FY21 budget request which includes increases for key ALSDE priorities.

[Read more ...](#)



Announcing AASB's 2020 Virtual Summer Law Clinic

Join AASB in June for our four-part [Virtual Summer Law Clinic](#), and earn up to four training hours. Each Wednesday of the month, we'll host a different webinar featuring school board attorneys and education law experts providing the latest guidance and analysis on key school law topics.

Student Discipline & Bullying | JUNE 3 | Noon to 1 p.m.

- **Christopher M. Pape**, shareholder at Lanier Ford Attorneys at Law, will address the real-world, legal implications of student codes of conduct and student discipline policies. **Sarah Young** of Stone Crosby, P.C., Attorneys at Law will cover responsibilities and liabilities when dealing with bullying.

Politics on Campus | JUNE 10 | Noon to 1 p.m.

- **Teresa Petelos**, former circuit court judge and current shareholder at Boardman, Carr, Petelos, Watkins & Ogle, P.C., will explore Politics on Campus. This session will offer guidance on balancing free speech and political expression in an increasingly polarized environment.

ADA & FMLA Issues | JUNE 17 | Noon to 1 p.m.

- **Anne Yuengert** and **Anne Knox Averitt**, both partners with the Birmingham-based Bradley law firm, will share key considerations for local boards of education regarding the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), with specific guidance on issues related to COVID-19.

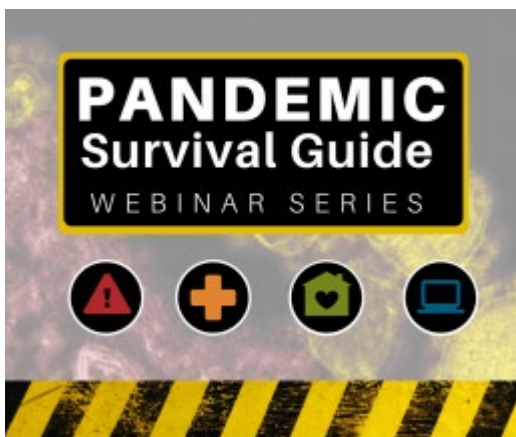
Title IX & Athletics | JUNE 24 | Noon to 1 p.m.

- **Dave Ryan** of Tuscaloosa-based Ryan Law, LLC will discuss important considerations regarding the federal Title IX civil rights law and school athletics programs. This session will explore Title IX and its applications to the school environment, from intramural sports to physical education classes and more.

COST: \$150*

NOTE: *This cost covers the entire webinar series, and you will receive 1 hour of training credit for each webinar you complete.*

[Register Now](#)



Pandemic Survival Guide Webinar Series: Leveraging Social Media During COVID-19

Social media is one of many communication platforms that allows us to stay connected with family, friends and colleagues -- even when social distancing keeps us apart physically. For school systems, social media serves as the perfect tool to share information with stakeholders, celebrate teachers and students and foster a sense of community.

Join AASB on **Wednesday, May 20** for part two of our Pandemic Survival Guide webinar series, ["Leveraging Social Media during COVID-19."](#)

AASB Director of Public Relations Dana Vandiver will share helpful social media tips for both beginning and advanced users as well as practical strategies school systems can employ to better communicate during the pandemic. *(Earn 1 training hour)*

[Register Now](#)



Student Entertainment Applications

Showcase your school system's talented students by [submitting a student entertainment application](#) for AASB's Annual Convention. We're accepting submissions from vocal, instrumental, performing arts, and JROTC groups! Musical group finalists selected from the pool of submitted applications will be featured in a social media contest in September, and your schools and communities will be able to vote for their favorite group. The deadline to submit a student entertainment application deadline is **Friday, August 28**.



AASB Convention Clinic Proposals Due June 26

Do you have a governance best practice or innovative program you'd like to share with school board peers? [Submit a proposal](#) to present a clinic session during the annual AASB Convention at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey Hotel, Dec. 3-5. Topics may cover a variety of areas, including effective board leadership and governance practices, navigating legal issues, technology that engages students, programs proven to boost achievement and more. The deadline to submit a clinic proposal is **Friday, June 26**.



School Board U: Earn Training Hours at Your Convenience

Short of your state-mandated individual training hours for the 2019-2020 training year? AASB's online learning portal, School Board U, may be the perfect solution. Take courses at your pace and convenience, all from the comfort of your home. School Board U features all eight of AASB's core courses in the School Board Member Academy, including new board member orientation courses. Archived webinars as well as informational and elective courses also are available, and several courses are free.

[Learn More](#)

What Do Relaxed COVID-19 Restrictions Mean for Summer School?



Just Ask Jayne

Dear Jayne,

Before COVID-19, our system planned to start summer school after Memorial Day. Now that the Governor has relaxed many of the restrictions on the state and the State Superintendent is allowing us to hold graduation, can we move forward with our plans for summer school if we can ensure social distancing?

[View Answer](#)



Let AASB Help Your Board Craft Its Strategic Plan

Summer is fast approaching, and it's the perfect season to take the next step in visionary leadership by creating or updating your school system's strategic plan. AASB's Strategic Planning service is a fair, flexible, customizable approach that engages the community and all stakeholders to create buy-in and support for the system and school improvement.

In addition to providing this assistance as an AASB fee-based member service, the association also is available to provide board-superintendent training on the topic of effective strategic planning. This training qualifies for whole board training credit under the School Board Governance Improvement Act. Contact AASB Director of Leadership Development Susan Salter at ssalter@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org for additional information about the service or training.

[Download Brochure](#)



SAVE THE DATE: All-State School Board Awards Deadline

Board presidents and superintendents should be on the lookout soon for eligibility and selection criteria for AASB's All-State School Board Member recognition program. The award, one of the association's highest honors, celebrates the work of up to five past or present Alabama school board members who have exhibited exemplary boardmanship. This year's nomination deadline will be **Sept. 4, 2020**.

[Learn more about this prestigious honor and other AASB awards.](#)



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