



FOR YOUR *information*

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

April 18, 2022



Full Steam Ahead for Numeracy Act Implementation

State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey outlined preliminary implementation plans for the newly passed Numeracy Act in the Thursday, April 15 State Board of Education work session. The law is designed to address math proficiency deficits in grades K-5.

As the Act requires, the ALSDE will establish a new Office of Mathematics Improvement and hire a director to lead it within 90 days. Prior to hiring a director, an Elementary Mathematics Task Force, also required by the Act, will be convened to advise and collaborate with the department.

The [job posting for the director of the Office of Mathematics Improvement job](#) was listed this week, and a national search is being performed.

Mackey emphasized the importance of finding the right person to lead the office.

"The ideal person is one who was a great math teacher, elementary school principal and maybe a superintendent who understands how it all works together," Mackey said.

Other work session discussion covered a range of topics, including the new "Transgender Bathroom Bill," ALSDE Reorganization chart, course of study standards and textbook adoption cycles, a report on struggling readers in upper grades and more.

Board action in the meeting preceding the work session included approval of a resolution to adopt passing score for Foundations of Reading 190, passage of a resolution

approving an addendum to recommendations of the state textbook committee for English Language Arts, Grades 4-12, and a presentation on the Academy for Craft Training.

[Read Full Story](#)

AASB Officials, Staff Attend Bill Signing Ceremony

AASB officials and staff joined Gov. Kay Wednesday, April 6 for a ceremonial bill signing event for bills passed during the 2022 legislative session. AASB worked with Chair of Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee Sen. Arthur Orr on S.175 to provide local boards more flexibility in funding new school facility needs, allowing capital outlay as a qualified expenditure.



School board members have long identified new construction projects and improved facilities as a high priority for funding. Prior to the new bill, dollars allocated for the Education Advancement & Technology (EAT) Fund did not allow capital outlay – or new construction – as a qualified expenditure. Adding capital outlay as an expenditure of EAT funds helps combat rising renovation and construction costs and allows school systems to introduce new projects that fit their individual school needs.

Kudos to members who made their voices heard during the legislative session regarding this and other important education-related legislation!



WHOLE BOARD TRAINING: June 30 Training Year Deadline Fast Approaching

The 2021-2022 training year ends June 30. If your board has not yet completed or scheduled its state-mandated Whole Board Training session, time is of the essence. Slots are filling quickly, so contact us today to book your training.

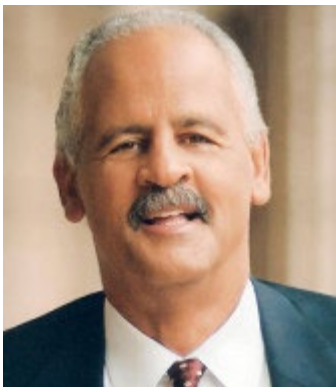
Step 1: [Browse AASB's Whole Board Training Catalog](#) to choose from more than 40 available training topics.

Step 2: Poll your board for date options between now and June 30 that work for the whole board-superintendent team.

Step 3: Contact AASB Executive Assistant for Leadership Development **Stephanie Bell** [via email](#) or at 334-277-9700 to request your training, or [complete the online training request form](#).



Stedman Graham Among Exciting AASB Summer Conference Speaker Lineup



New York Times bestselling author, educator and business and leadership adviser **Stedman Graham** is one of several engaging, thought-provoking speakers for AASB's upcoming Summer Conference June 17-19 at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Ala.

Graham's session on "Identity Leadership" will inspire attendees to practice passionate, purposeful and meaningful leadership by identifying who they are at their core and honing in on their unique strengths and skills.

Other speakers for this exciting event include **Senate Pro Tem Greg Reed** and **State Rep. Danny Garrett**; and Leadership and Diversity Expert **Dr. Helen Fagan**. Sunday's bonus session will feature an inspirational message from licensed therapist, advocate and motivational speaker, **Ce Anderson**.

There are still slots available for the following Summer Conference functions:

- **Afternoon Sessions:** Although the Friday and Saturday morning sessions are full, there's still space in the afternoon schedule track (includes lunch) which features the same speakers and session topics as the morning track. [REGISTER NOW](#)
- **Bonus Sunday Session:** This session is open to all attendees (registration required). Breakfast is included. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[Learn More](#)



Deadline Extended to May 6 for AASB's 'Passport to the Future' Student Video Contest

AASB has extended the submission deadline for its 11th annual statewide student video contest, open to Alabama public school students in grades 4-12. **The new submission deadline is Friday, May 6.**

This year's theme, "Passport to the Future," will showcase the myriad ways Alabama's public schools are helping students on their destination to career, military and/or college success.

Four lucky schools earn bragging rights and share in prize money totaling more than \$3,000! Don't be left out; share this opportunity with your schools today!

[Learn More](#)



Upcoming Workshop Will Highlight State Resources for Helping Low Performing Schools

AASB will host a special workshop **Wednesday, April 27** from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at our office in Montgomery to provide vital information about state-level assistance available for schools that have landed on the state CSI (Continuous School Improvement) and/or Failing Schools Lists.

Whether or not your school system has schools on these lists, this workshop will offer helpful information for all school board members about proactive leadership for improving student achievement.

ALSDE Office of School Improvement Coordinator **Dr. Melissa Shields** and Assistant State Superintendent of Education **Terry Roller** will answer your questions and provide key insights into school improvement plans, ways school boards can support staff's work to get schools off CSI/Failing Schools lists, what conversations should be happening between the board and superintendent regarding low performing schools and much more.

The cost to attend the workshop is \$25 (lunch is included), and attendees will earn 3.5 training hours for participating.

[Register Now](#)



April 21 Webinar Highlights End-of-Year Planning for Summer Literacy Programs

Join us on **Thursday, April 21** from **noon to 1 p.m.** for AASB's next webinar, *Improving Literacy: Planning for Success*. Literacy experts **Julia Wall**, Limestone County K-5 elementary curriculum coordinator and director of OSR Pre-K, and **Amy Harrison**, Elmore County director of professional learning and testing, will share evidence-based strategies school systems can incorporate into end-of-year or summer planning to increase reading achievement and literacy rates.

[Register Now](#)

Board Member Spotlight: Wendell Saxon

Wendell Saxon began serving on the Elmore County Board of Education in 2018 to help students succeed and find lifelong careers. One of Wendell's proudest accomplishments during his tenure on the board has been forming a Black History Month poster and essay contest. His hobbies include basketball, football, music and traveling, and he once worked as a radio station DJ!

Read this month's Board Member Spotlight to learn more about Wendell!



[Read More](#)



Just Ask Jayne

What Procedures Can Boards Use to Vote on a New Superintendent?

Dear Jayne: Next month, we will be hiring a new superintendent. We have 5 finalists that we'll interview. One of the questions I've been asked as board president is what procedure we'll use to actually selecting someone. Any ideas?

[View Answer](#)



REMINDER: Ethics Forms Due April 30

It's time for school board members and superintendents to file annual financial disclosure forms with the state Ethics Commission.

The forms are available on the State of Alabama Ethics Commission's website. The deadline to submit is April 30.

[Get Form](#)

AASB Job Board

Escambia County Schools
CSFO SEARCH

Apply By: 4.23.22

LEARN MORE: <http://bit.ly/escambia-csfo>

CSFO: Escambia County Schools

The Escambia County Board of Education is seeking a skilled, goal-oriented CSFO to work with the superintendent and board to build upon the strengths of this well-performing school system. [Learn more/apply](#)

Jacksonville City Schools
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Apply by May 8

LEARN MORE: <http://bit.ly/jacksonville-supt>

Superintendent: Jacksonville City Schools

The Jacksonville Board of Education is seeking a leader with a demonstrated ability to raise student achievement to serve as the board's next superintendent. [Learn more/apply](#)

Other Current Job Postings

[Superintendent of Sheffield City Schools](#) - Deadline April 18

[Superintendent of Orange Beach City Schools](#) - Deadline May 20



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