



FOR YOUR *information*

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

Feb. 10, 2023



Alabama House Leaders Meet With SBOE, Discuss Improving Low- Performing Schools

In a step toward improving communications and building stronger relations with the state Legislature, the SBOE invited House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels and House Majority Leader Scott Stadthagen to Thursday's SBOE work session.

Vice-President Wayne Reynolds (District 08) stressed the board's commitment to working with the Legislature and the importance of maintaining and improving relations.

"Today's meeting is a big step in the right direction of working together to support our schools and students," Stadthagen said.

Daniels encouraged state board members to cultivate relationships with lawmakers throughout the year and not just before the session.

At times, the discussion between SBOE member Stephanie Bell (District 03) and Daniels became intense. According to Bell, the legislators do not seek the input of the SBOE and have passed laws that have overridden the SBOE's authority. In response, Daniels emphasized legislators are not trying to take over SBOE responsibilities, but he feels compelled to take action when the same schools continue to be on the failing schools list.

Other work session discussion included the UTeach program aimed at reducing teacher shortages in STEM areas, English Language Arts Textbook Adoption

(Grades K-3) and confusion among some educators about what can and cannot be taught during Black History Month.

[Read Full Story](#)

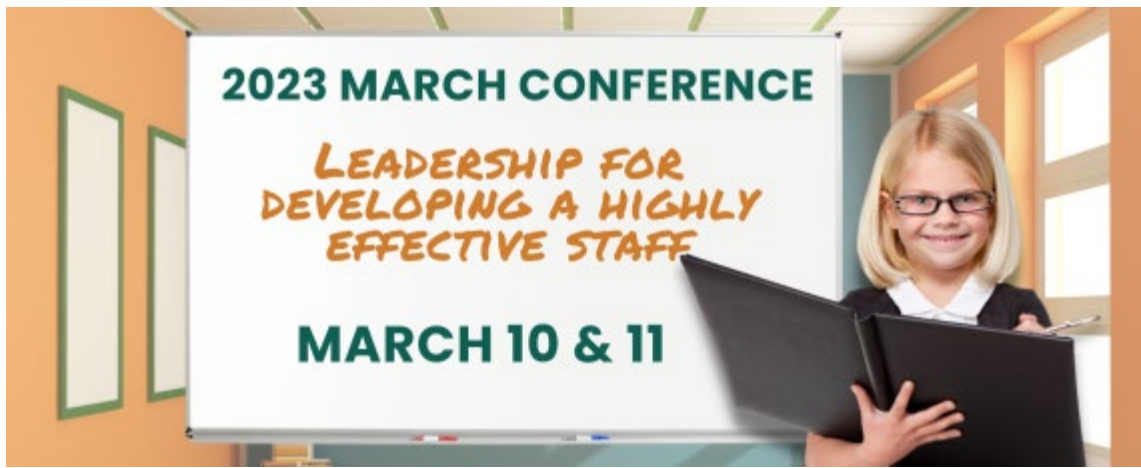
Get Ready: Summer Conference Registration Opens Thursday, Feb. 16!



Mark your calendars! Registration and hotel reservations for the AASB Summer Conference will open Thursday, Feb. 16. This year's event will take place June 16-18 at the Lodge at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores. Please note, members must first register for the conference before booking a room at the Lodge.

- **Early Bird | Thursday, June 15:** Head to the beach a day early for the pre-conference School Law Clinic. Lunch is included.
- **Dual Morning & Afternoon Schedule Tracks | June 16 & 17:** Friday and Saturday will feature two schedule tracks for attendees -- a morning track (breakfast is included) and an afternoon track (lunch is included). Both tracks feature the same speakers and session topics. Attendees will register for and attend ONE of the two schedule tracks. For example, if you select the morning track, you will attend the Friday and Saturday morning sessions only.
- **Bonus Sunday Session | June 18:** This session is open to all attendees (registration required). Breakfast is included.

[View Agenda, Speakers & More](#)



Leilani Scott, Ed.S.



Dr. Doris Santoro



Anthony Colannino



Dr. Andre Harrison



Bryan Goodwin

March Conference General Session Speakers

It's not too late to register for AASB's 2023 Spring Academy Core Conference, Leadership for Developing a Highly Effective Staff, which will take place **March 10 & 11** at the Sheraton Birmingham.

Earn up to 6 training hours and take a deep dive into how to use student achievement data to make effective staffing decisions. Our speakers will also explore employee recruitment, staff development and promoting staff health and wellness.

General session speakers include **Leilani Scott, Ed.S.**, Director of Office of Staff Development Curriculum and Instructional Support for Gwinnett County Public Schools; **Dr. Doris Santoro**, Author & Associate Professor of Education at Bowdoin College; **Anthony Colannino**, Curriculum and Professional Learning Specialist & International Center for Leadership in Education Senior Fellow; **Dr. Andre Harrison**, Vice President at Cognia; and **Bryan Goodwin**, President and CEO of McREL International.

The conference also will feature several informative breakout sessions packed with tips and tools to take back to your board table.

Extend Your Learning With Pre-Conference Sessions

You'll also have an opportunity to extend your learning and earn additional hours with these excellent pre-conference sessions (separate registration from the main conference required):

- **Poverty Simulation | Friday, March 10, 9 to 11:30 a.m.**
Get a sobering glimpse into the day-to-day realities of students and families living in poverty by participating in this interactive simulation. Earn 2.5 training hours.
- **Early Bird: "Bullies, Predators & Online Threats to Students" | Friday, March 10, 1 to 3 p.m.**
Dr. Greg Price, chief technology officer at Troy University and Pike County school board member, will discuss dangers students face online and what school leaders must know to keep students safe in our pre-conference workshop, Bullies & Predators: Online Threats to Students. Earn 2 training hours.

[View Agenda / Learn More & Register](#)



Last Call for Committee Volunteers

We're seeking volunteers to serve on AASB committees. Incoming committee members will be appointed for one-year terms. Committees include: Advocacy, Board Training Advisory, Bylaws, Equity, Nominating and Resolutions Committees. The deadline to volunteer is **Feb. 17, 2023**.

[Learn More](#)



Whole Board Training Reminder: Win a \$50 Gift Card for Your Hardworking Board Secretary

Has your board completed or scheduled its state-mandated Whole Board Training for the 2022-2023 training year?

Now is the time to get your training booked! Schedule and complete your Whole

Board Training **by March 31, 2023**, and your board secretary will be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$50 gift cards!

Slots will begin filling quickly this spring, so be sure to contact us soon to get on the calendar!

Browse our [Whole Board Training Catalog](#) for available topics, and [request your training today!](#)

If you have questions, please contact Executive Assistant for Leadership Development Stephanie B. Bell at sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org or **334-277-9700**.



Reserve Your Spot for AASB Advocacy Days

School board members, superintendents and CSFOs are invited to join us in Montgomery for AASB's 2023 Advocacy Days. Don't miss this opportunity to meet with local your legislators to discuss key public education issues and to share with and learn from school board colleagues from across the state.

NEW FOR 2023: Designated Date for New Board Members or First-Time Advocacy Attendees

We're excited to announce a designated date (May 2) for new board members (in office less than two years) or board members who have never attended an Advocacy Day. Our experienced staff will cover all the nuts and bolts of Alabama's legislative process as well as important grassroots advocacy tips and strategies.

- **APRIL 4** | Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 | [REGISTER](#)
- **APRIL 18** | Districts 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 | [REGISTER](#)
- **MAY 2** | New School Board Members / First-Time Attendees | [REGISTER](#)

NOTE: Although we've designated special dates for each district and for new school board members or first-time attendees, members may sign up to participate on any of

the above dates.

[Get Additional Details](#)

Get Involved at the National Level With Upcoming COSSBA Events



Inaugural National Conference in Tampa, FL

WHEN: March 30 - April 2

WHERE: Tampa, FL

COST: \$249 (UBA Early Bird); \$599 (Main Conference)

EARN: Up to 3 training hours

As a founding member of the non-partisan national Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), AASB encourages you to register for the Consortium's Inaugural National Conference: *Leading and Learning Together*, **March 30 - April 2, in Tampa, Florida**. It's not too late to register to join school board peers and education leaders from across the nation for this learning and networking experience.

[View speaker & session lineup.](#)

The event will open with an early bird session hosted by the Urban Boards Alliance **March 30**, where members from both rural and suburban school systems can engage in educational strategies and share best practices that address and improve the educational outcomes of students within challenging environments.

[Learn More / Register](#)



Free Webinar: Poverty & Public Education

WHEN: Weds., March 8 | 11 a.m. (CST)

COST: Free

COSSBA is hosting the first of a new four-part Urban Boards Alliance webinar series exploring "The Challenging Environments Impacting Today's Public Education System." The series will examine the impacts of poverty, learning loss and academic recovery, food insecurity, and socio-emotional and mental health concerns for students in America's public schools.

Slated for March 8, the first webinar, "Poverty & Public Education," will highlight the impact poverty has on students and their ability to succeed in the classroom.

Hear from two board members, one from Mississippi and the other from Missouri, as they discuss poverty's impact in their districts and states. A Georgia superintendent who has worked with partners to create a Poverty Informed Community also will weigh in.

[Learn More / Register](#)



School Board Members from Across State Attend AASB's New Leading for Equity Workshop

School board members and superintendents from across the state spent part of their weekend in Montgomery Feb. 3 & 4 to take part in AASB's new Leading for Equity Workshop. The powerful, two-day workshop engaged participants in thought-provoking activities and rich, facilitated discussion about the important work necessary to ensure every child they serve has the opportunity and access to succeed.

Contact us at training@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org today to find out how to bring this training to your school board!

BOARD MEMBER *Spotlight*

Meet Kevin Corcoran
Gulf Shores City Board of Education

“ I'm most proud of the innovations in education that we have implemented, thus exposing our young adults to as many opportunities as possible. Our goal is to help them discover their true passion! ”

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

Board Member Spotlight: Kevin Corcoran

Although **Kevin Corcoran** loves to make people laugh and dreams of being a stand-up comedian, he is extremely serious about helping to provide students in the Gulf Shores school system a high-quality education.

Kevin helped establish Gulf Shores City Schools in 2017, where he currently serves as board president. He was inspired to become a board member after serving on several education task forces to improve education in Gulf Shores.

In May of this year, Kevin and his wife will see their eighth child graduate from Gulf Shores High School!

[Read More](#)



Just Ask Jayne

Can I Change My Vote?

Dear Jayne:

At yesterday's meeting, I voted in support of hiring a new principal. I've now received information that makes me want to change my vote. It won't really change the outcome, but I don't want to be on record voting in support of her. Can I do that?

[View Answer](#)



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