



# FOR YOUR *information*

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

**July 13, 2022**



## **SBOE Approves New Teacher Certification Options to Address Shortage**

The Alabama State Board of Education (SBOE) approved significant changes to teacher certification requirements to help address the teacher shortage facing many Alabama school systems are facing in certain subject areas and geographical locations. The board also approved an amendment adding a sunset provision of two years, with the changes expiring June 30, 2024.

Currently, the state requires prospective teachers pass the Praxis teacher assessment in their subject area, maintain a 2.5 GPA and pass the edTPA assessment to receive a professional educator certificate. Now, students who are close to passing the Praxis will have additional options to pursue certification.

[Read Full Story](#)

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## Join Us Sept. 8 & 9 in Atlanta for Inaugural COSSBA Urban Boards Event!

As a founding member of the new 22-state, non-partisan national organization, the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA), AASB is excited to announce the Consortium's first event, the Urban Boards Alliance Inaugural Symposium: *Best Practices for Students and Schools in Challenging Environments*.

Slated for **Sept. 8 & 9, 2022 in Atlanta, Ga.**, this event will offer relevant and practical sessions for school systems of all sizes. Attendees will learn more about model programs and reforms that work in school systems with students and schools in challenging environments. Breakout sessions will cover a wide range of topics including school achievement, student discipline, school safety and much more.

We encourage you to register and help ensure Alabama boards are well represented at this exciting inaugural event!

[Learn More/Register](#)

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## 2022-2023 Training Year Underway: What's New?



AASB's diverse lineup of 2022-2023 learning opportunities are designed to help support your school board teams in governance and leadership.

From district meetings to timely webinars to information-packed workshops and conferences, you'll find a wealth of both individual and group training events to help build your knowledge and sharpen your boardmanship skills.

[View Training Calender/Catalog](#)

## Whole Board Training: Book for July, Aug. or Sept. and Save!

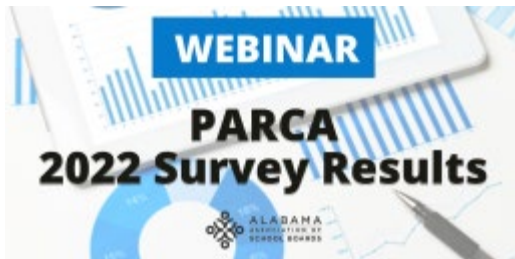
AASB's exemplary training team team is prepared to



help you improve your skills via [49 interactive courses](#) created to meet your boards' needs and fulfill the state-mandated two-hour whole board training requirement. And it pays to plan ahead! Save 10% off the regular whole board training fee when you schedule and complete your AASB-provided training for July, August or September!

For more information, contact AASB Executive Assistant for Leadership Development, **Stephanie Bell**, at [sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org](mailto:sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org) or call 800-562-0601.

[Request Your Training](#)



## What Do Alabamians Think About Education, State Services, Taxes & More?

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 21 | Noon - 1 p.m.

**COST:** Free | **EARN:** 1 training hour

Log-in and join us **Thursday, July 21** from noon to 1 p.m. for an inside peek at the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama's (PARCA) 2022 Public Opinion Survey. PARCA Executive Director Ryan Hankins will share key insights from this year's survey, including responses on important education issues.

Each year, AASB partners with PARCA to gauge Alabamians' opinions and attitudes on public education. Other PARCA survey topics include taxes, state government, current policy preferences are more.

[Register Now](#)

## Nominate a Candidate for All-State School Board at Your Next Meeting!



The deadline is **August 5** to nominate a school board member for the 2022 All-State School Board Member Award. Remember, nominations require a majority board vote, so be sure to get this item on your next meeting agenda!

All school board presidents and superintendents have received [eligibility and selection guidelines](#) for this prestigious recognition program celebrating exemplary boardmanship.

[View Nomination Form](#)



## Limited Spots Remaining for this Weekend's Board Member Orientation

There's still time to sign up for AASB's two-part New Board Member Orientation this weekend! This course gets new board members quickly up to speed and provides a great refresher for veteran school board members!

**Newly Elected?** Even recently elected board members who haven't yet taken office are eligible to attend at board expense, with approval of the board.

Superintendents also are invited to attend Orientation with their new board members for an excellent team-building and learning opportunity at a discounted rate. Space is limited, so register today!

### Roles & Responsibilities - Friday, July 15

Part I of AASB's school board member orientation, Roles & Responsibilities covers the role of the board and the superintendent, the Open Meetings Act, the ethics law, and much more. The course will be offered **Friday, July 15 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at

the AASB office in Montgomery. Attendees will earn 8 training hours. [> REGISTER](#)

## Effective Boards & Relationships - Saturday, July 16

Part II of AASB's school board member orientation, Effective Boards & Relationships takes an in-depth look at effective school board leadership, how your board should work with its superintendent and board attorney, and the art of advocacy. The course will be offered **Saturday, July 16 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the AASB office in Montgomery. Attendees will earn 6 training hours. [> REGISTER](#)

**NOTE:** The School Board Governance Improvement Act requires all new board members to take Orientation within one year of the July 1 after taking office.



## There's Still Time to Subscribe to the Pipeline

New subscriptions are open for [AASB's Policy Pipeline](#), an annual publication that helps local boards of education keep policy manuals up to date with a minimal investment of time and money.

The subscription-based service provides expert insight as well as relevant draft policies on legal and administrative developments.

The 2022-2023 edition of the Policy Pipeline will be published and mailed to subscribers **July 21**, and the annual subscribers-only maintenance webinar will be held **Thursday, July 28 at 10 a.m.** Participants can read the issue and ask any questions during this convenient webinar.

[Subscribe Today](#)

## Board Member Spotlight: Synauri Boykin

When **Synauri Boykin** joined the Wilcox County Board of Education in 2016, she made history, becoming the youngest woman ever to serve on the board!

From a background in African dance, to a career as an educator to owning a small business handcrafting natural hair and skincare products, this National STEM Certified Teacher is full of surprises!



A graduate of Wilcox County schools, Synauri joined the board to serve her community and offer a multifaceted perspective as a mother, educator and business owner.

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

[Read More](#)



# Just Ask Jayne

## Using Names in Open Board Meetings

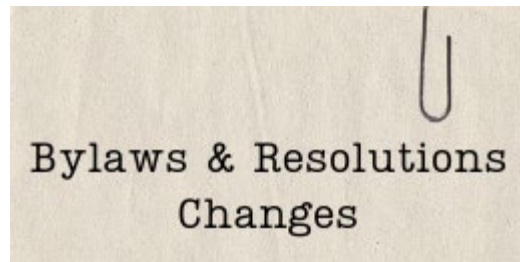
**Dear Jayne:** I've always been told we can't use anyone's name in open board meetings. Is that true?

[View Answer](#)



### AASB President-Elect Nominations Due Sept. 1

Nominations will soon be accepted for AASB president-elect for 2023. Both the president and president-elect serve a one-year term. AASB bylaws call for



### Submit Proposed Bylaws & Resolutions by Sept. 1

School board members are asked to submit proposed resolutions or changes to AASB bylaws by Sept. 1.

president-elect candidates to have served on the AASB Board of Directors; however, such service need not be consecutive to the individual's candidacy for or term of elective office.

Self-nomination forms will be sent in late July and available online and must be returned to AASB on or before Sept.

1. Questions may be directed to Nominating Committee Chair and AASB Immediate Past President **Shannon Cauley** (251-753-1029) or AASB Executive Assistant **Tammy Wright** (334-277-9700).

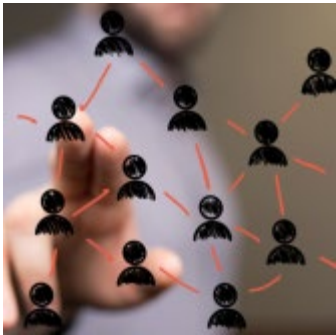
Proposals, which must be submitted in writing, will be considered by AASB's Delegate Assembly during the association's annual convention in December. Visit our website to review current [Bylaws](#) & [Resolutions](#).

Send submissions via:

**EMAIL:** [twright@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org](mailto:twright@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org)

**MAIL:**

P.O. Box 4980  
Montgomery, AL 36103-4980



## AASB Affiliate Groups Offer Meaningful Connections, Networking Opportunities

Learn more about AASB memberships and business affiliations opportunities:

### **AASB's Professional Sustaining Membership**

Program helps businesses build relationships with local school board members through exhibits and sponsorships. [Learn more.](#)

### **Alabama Association of Administrative Assistants**

**(AAAA)** helps school board assistants achieve excellence and provide professional services to school boards, superintendents and stakeholders. [Learn more.](#)

Another branch of membership that AASB offers is the **Alabama Council of School Board Attorneys (ACSBA)** which is exclusively for attorneys representing school boards in the state of Alabama. This group provides members with specialized information needed to keep up with the developments in education law.

[Learn more.](#)



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