



FOR YOUR *information*

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

June 9, 2023



Report Indicates Slight Decline in Alabama Reading Scores

The State Board of Education reviewed a report Thursday on the spring 2023 ACAP Summative Reading Subtest for 2nd and 3rd graders. Alabama Department of Education (ALSDE) Assessment Coordinator Dr. Maggie Hicks explained Alabama students' reading skills slipped since the previous school year.

- The report revealed third graders' reading at grade level dropped from 78% to 76%.
- Similarly, second graders' reading at grade level saw a decrease of one percentage point, from 80% to 79%.

State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey identified factors contributing to the decline.

- This year's 3rd grade class, which missed over 2.5 months of school due to COVID, were in kindergarten when the pandemic hit, and there was an unusually high number of students with inconsistent attendance the following school year in 2020-21 due to COVID quarantine protocols.
- Mackey explained this year's reading assessment utilized 2021 ELA standards, a more rigorous framework than the 2016 standards used for the previous year's assessment. While last year's assessment concentrated on phonics, vocabulary and reading comprehension, this year's assessment expanded to also include phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, and fluency.

[Read Full Story](#)

Don't Forget Your Summer Conference Book Drive Donations!



We are now just days away from AASB's Summer Conference at the Lodge at Gulf State Park June 16-18! Please remember to bring your donations of new or like-new books to the annual Summer Conference Book Drive to help promote literacy and combat the "summer slide" for students at all grade levels. Donations will be given to the South Baldwin County Literacy Council in support of its summer reading program.

See below to find out what grade level books your district is asked to provide, and drop off your donation at the AASB Summer Conference registration desk.

**AASB Districts 1, 2 & 3:
Please donate books for grades K-5.**

**AASB Districts 4, 5 & 6:
Please donate books for grades 6-8.**

**AASB Districts 7, 8 & 9:
Please donate books for grades 9-12.**

[View More Summer Conference Info](#)

Nominate Your School Board's Shining Stars

AASB is seeking nominations for its 2023 All-State School Board Member Award. All school board presidents and superintendents have received [eligibility and selection guidelines](#) for this prestigious recognition program that celebrates exemplary boardmanship.



NOMINATION DEADLINE

This year's nomination deadline is Sept. 1, 2023.

[View Nomination Form](#)

Register Now for these Upcoming AASB Webinars



June 27 | Noon to 1 p.m.

Join AASB's Governmental Relations team **Tuesday, June 27 from noon to 1 p.m.** for a free webinar recapping the highs and lows of the 2023 Legislative session. The team will discuss education bills that did and did not pass, share the inside scoop on action from the final days of the session and answer your questions about bills that will impact your systems.

[Register Now](#)



July 20 | Noon to 1 p.m.

Log on **Thursday, July 20 from noon to 1 p.m.** for AASB's first webinar of the 2023-2024 training year, "Understanding Alabama's Performance on the NAEP." Ryan Hankins, executive director of the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA), will break down the numbers on how Alabama students performed on the Nation's Report Card.

[Register Now](#)

Governor's Commission on Teaching & Learning to Hold Public Involvement Session

The Governor's Commission on Teaching and Learning will hold a public



involvement session **Monday, June 26 from 1 to 3 p.m.** at the Council for Leaders in Alabama's School (CLAS) office in Montgomery.

Individuals or organizations interested in addressing the Commission may do so by registering to speak in advance by contacting marykate.hillis@governor.alabama.gov or by registering in person at the June 26 meeting.

[Learn More](#)



Navigate Board Service with AASB's New Board Member Orientation

Whether you are a new school board member eager to learn the nuts and bolts of school board service or a veteran member in need of a refresher, AASB's two-part orientation provides a wealth of information to strengthen leadership and boardmanship skills. In addition, orientation provides an excellent team-building opportunity for superintendents and new school board members to attend together.

Roles & Responsibilities - Friday, July 14

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 14 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 15

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 15 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.



Policy Pipeline
 Policy Pipeline is
 Maryland's Premier Publication for School Boards

2023/2024 EDITION
 JULY Issue, VOLUME 9 | ISSUE 1
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Policy Maintenance Webinar
 Each year, Policy Pipeline subscribers are invited to a free, exclusive webinar. Hear from policy experts. Ask questions. Share experiences.

**Thursday, July 20, 2023
 10:00 AM CDT**

Each registered subscriber will receive a registration link for the webinar by email. If you have not received it by **Wednesday, July 19, 2023**, email policy@schools.aasb.org

Missed the webinar? Get the recording. Email your request to policy@schools.aasb.org

Policy Pipeline
 Maryland's Premier Publication for School Boards

Policy Pipeline is Coming: Subscribe Starting July 6

Mark your calendars! If your school board isn't already receiving AASB's Policy Pipeline, **new subscriptions open Thursday, July 6, 2023.**

AASB's Policy Pipeline is an annual publication that helps local boards of education keep their 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.

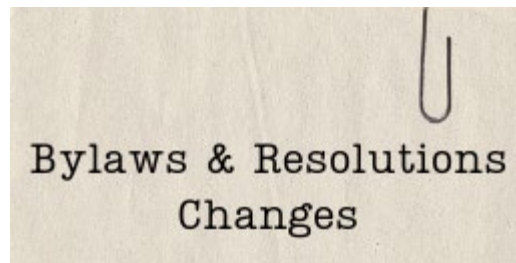
The 2023-2024 edition of the Policy Pipeline will be published and **mailed to subscribers July 20**, and the annual subscribers-only maintenance **webinar will be held Thursday, July 27 at 10 a.m.** Participants can read the issue and ask any questions during this convenient webinar.

Stay tuned for more information.



AASB President-Elect Nominations Due Sept. 1

Nominations are being accepted for AASB president-elect for 2023. Both the president and president-elect serve a one-year term. AASB bylaws call for president-elect candidates to have



Submit Proposed Bylaws & Resolutions by Sept. 1

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

Proposals, which must be submitted in writing, will be considered by AASB's

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 July and available online and must be sent to AASB on or before Sept. 1. Questions may be directed to Nominating Committee Chair and AASB Immediate Past Ronnie Owens (256-412-4005) or AASB Executive Assistant Tammy Wright (334-277-9700).

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

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



PUBLIC COMMENTS
TOPIC: Current issues pertaining to services for students with disabilities.

WHEN: Thursday, June 29, 2023, 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

WHERE: Jefferson County School Board Training Room located at 2100 18th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35209. Please enter through the main entrance and check in at the front desk.

Public written comments will be received by the ALSDE, Special Education Services Section either by email at speced@alsde.edu or by mail at:

Alabama State Department of Education
Special Education Services Section
ATTN: Dr. Ashley Cawley Post Office Box 302901
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101

The poster features a blue background with white and yellow text. A megaphone icon is positioned in the bottom right corner of the white text box.

The Special Education Advisory Panel and the Alabama State Department of Education encourage the public to offer written input regarding special education services during a public meeting **Thursday, June 29 from 9 a.m. to noon** at the Jefferson County School Board Training Room. Participation by concerned citizens at this meeting provides an opportunity to identify issues and unmet needs related to educational services for children with disabilities throughout the state.

[Learn More](#)



Need Hours by June 30 Deadline?

AASB's electronic learning platform, School Board U, is a self-paced, online leadership development portal that gives you access to board training materials, courses and resources to grow skills and improve school board effectiveness. All core courses within AASB's School Board Member Academy are available in School Board U, as well as a host of electives and archived webinars. Courses range from 30 minutes to 8 hours, and several options are free!

Questions about registering for online courses? [Email Ava Cranmore](#), AASB Assistant Director of Leadership Development, or call 800-562-0601.

[Learn More/Register for a Course](#)



Board Member Spotlight: Shannon Deloney

Dale County school board member **Shannon Deloney** began spending countless hours volunteering for school PTOs, athletic organizations and committees when her son started kindergarten. In 2016, she became a school board member and now is proud of the role she plays helping all students have what they need to follow their education paths.

The daughter of a military family, Shannon started pre-k and graduated high school in Germany.

Her favorite part about school board service is watching students learn and grown in and out of the classroom.

Read this month's spotlight to learn more about Shannon!

[Read More](#)



Just Ask Jayne

Principal as Highest Paid School Employee?

Dear Jayne:

Is it true that the principal has to be the highest paid person in the school?

[View Answer](#)



AASB Job Board

- [Superintendent of Albertville City Schools](#)
- [Superintendent of Autauga County Schools](#)
- [CSFO of Scottsboro City Schools](#)
- [Superintendent of Sumter County Schools](#)



Alabama Association of School Boards
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