



FOR YOUR *information*

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

March 11, 2022



Work Group Recommends Key Changes for Teacher Certification Testing

The Praxis content knowledge assessment could be suspended for teacher candidates completing an Alabama educator preparation program in a teaching field should the State Board of Education accept the recommendation of a teacher certification work group.

College of education students seeking initial certification in secondary education would instead be required to take the Educator Teacher Performance Assessment (EdTPA), with the Praxis content knowledge assessment only being offered in areas where the EdTPA is unavailable. Those seeking certification in early childhood, elementary education and collaborate special education (K-6) would be required to take the EdTPA and the Pearson Foundations of Reading 190 assessment, a test aligned to the science of reading and required by the Alabama Literacy Act.

The work group also recommended suspending the EdTPA or PLT performance assessments for those completing alternative certification routes requiring at least one year of teaching experience. Those teacher candidates would be required to demonstrate content knowledge through the Praxis assessment or official transcript confirming an academic major or equivalent in the specific teaching field.

Department staff also updated the board on setting cut scores for the Foundations of Reading 190 assessment at 233 out of 300, one standard deviation below the national benchmark of 240.

Other work session topics of discussion included:

- ELL Students and School Report Cards
- Online Certification Portal
- Teacher Observation Tool
- Ed Prep Program Evaluations

[Read Full Story](#)



Time is Running Out to Schedule Your Whole Board Training

Only three months remain in the 2021-2022 training year which ends June 30. If your board has not yet completed or scheduled its state-mandated Whole Board Training session, now is the time to get on the calendar! Slots will begin filling quickly this spring, so contact us today to book your training.

First, [browse AASB's Whole Board Training Catalog](#) to choose from more than 40 available training topics, or contact us to discuss a custom option. Once you've selected a topic, [contact us to request your training](#). Both in-person and remote sessions are available to meet your needs.



Countdown to AASB Summer Conference

The countdown is on to AASB's 2022 Summer Conference June 17-19 at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Ala. Join roughly 600 of your school board peers from across the state for learning and networking. Hear from exciting general session

speakers, including Stedman Graham, author, educator, entrepreneur and longtime partner of the media mogul, producer, actress and philanthropist, Oprah Winfrey.

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](#)



2022 AASB STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST: Showcase How Your Schools Offer 'Passport to the Future'

We're still accepting submissions for AASB's 11th annual statewide student video contest, open to Alabama public school students in grades 4-12.

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](#)



Join AASB, State Finance Director Bill Poole for Legislative Webinar

Join us **Monday, April 4 from noon to 1 p.m.** to hear State Finance Director and former State Rep. Bill Poole discuss the state's financial outlook and fiscal implications for K-12 education.

This webinar is a free member benefit; no training hours will be awarded for participation.

[Register Now](#)

Board Member Spotlight: Yadira Chavez

Yadira Chavez began serving on the Eufaula City Board of Education in 2019 as part of a desire to help her community. She is driven by a vision to provide a better school system for all of Eufaula's children. Originally from Cuba, Yadira has lived in the United States for 21 years.

Read this month's Board Member Spotlight to learn more about Yadira.

[Read More](#)



Share Your School System's Policy Links with AASB

AASB's free online Policy Links provide direct access to school systems' online policy manuals. Curious about what other boards have in policy? Want to know what format other school systems are



using to share their policies with their community? Just browse through the links.

Please help us keep the Policy Links service up to date. Submit the link to your school system's policies using our online Policy Links form.

To learn more about any of AASB's Policy Links or any of its policy services – Policy Pipeline, Policy Review & Analysis or Policy Listserv, call 334-277-9700, or email us at policy@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org.

[Share Your Policy Links](#)



**Just
Ask
Jayne**

Unhappy Teacher Wants Board to 'Fix' Decision Made By Superintendent

Dear Jayne: I'm board president and a teacher has contacted me asking to address the board. He's unhappy with a decision that the superintendent has made and wants us to fix it. Is that even allowed?

[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](#)



Literacy: Research Study for Elementary Educators

The University of South Alabama research project, "Project Reading Education in the Era of Literacy Legislation," aims to examine the impacts of state-sponsored professional development efforts on teachers' knowledge of language and literacy.

School systems are asked to share the survey link with elementary teachers in grades Pre-K - 5.

[Get Survey Link](#)

AASB Job Board

Legacy Prep
Executive Director Search
Apply by March 24
LEARN MORE: <http://bit.ly/legacy-ed>

[Legacy Prep](#)

THOMASVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Superintendent SEARCH
Apply by March 24
LEARN MORE: <http://bit.ly/thomasville-supt>

[Thomasville City Schools](#)

Legacy Prep (Birmingham, AL) is seeking a Head of School/Executive Director to provide innovative leadership in alignment with the school's vision, mission and values. [Learn more/apply](#)

The Thomasville Board of Education is seeking a skilled, experienced leader with a proven track record of improving success to serve as the system's next superintendent. [Learn more/apply](#)



WE'RE HIRING!

Coordinator of Finance & Operations

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
March 27, 2022

APPLY: <https://bit.ly/CoordFinanceOps>

AASB: Coordinator of Finance & Operations

The Alabama Association of School Boards is looking for a Coordinator of Finance & Operations to join our high-energy, hardworking team. This position is responsible for assisting the Director of Finance & Operations with maintaining financial records for AASB and affiliates. The deadline to apply is **March 27**. [Learn more/apply](#)



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