



FOR YOUR *information*

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

November 12, 2021



Ivey Recommends Delay of Alabama Literacy Act Retention Component

Gov. Kay Ivey told State Board of Education (SBOE) members Wednesday she is recommending to the legislature a one-year delay of the Alabama Literacy Act's promotion policy which requires retention for third graders who are not proficient in reading.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was the first to make this recommendation to delay retention at last month's board work session, citing data quality and reliability as significant concerns. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey also has recommended the delay.

The SBOE also acted on another provision of the Alabama Literacy Act which requires it to set a cut score, approving Mackey's recommendation for a cut score of 452. Third grade students falling below this score in reading will be at risk of retention if the legislation is not amended.

The work session following the SBOE meeting included discussion about progress the state has made in implementing computer science policies recommended by Code.org. Board members also discussed the newly drawn redistricting lines Ivey signed last week following the special session dealing with reapportionment.

[Read Full Story](#)



Join AASB's Inaugural Convention Toy Drive

The countdown is on to the annual AASB Convention & Delegate Assembly Dec. 2-4 at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey Hotel. We're asking all attendees to join us in AASB's first-ever Convention Toy Drive to benefit low-income youth in the Birmingham area.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Simply bring your donations of **new, unwrapped toys for ages 10 and under** with you to Convention, or take advantage of the event venue inside the Riverchase Galleria and do your shopping while there!

Donations will go to the City of Birmingham Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services (DYS) Holiday Toy Giveaway campaign.

Not Registered? Afternoon Slots Still Available!

This year's Convention will feature two schedule tracks for attendees -- a morning track or an afternoon track. Both tracks will feature the same speaker lineup and session topics. While we've reached capacity for the morning track, there are still some slots available for the afternoon track. To register or for more details about speakers, agendas and more, visit AlabamaSchoolBoards.org/Convention.

Delegate Assembly

[Handbooks have been mailed](#) for Delegate Assembly, AASB's annual business meeting which will be held Thursday, Dec. 2. Times are as follows:

- **5 p.m.** - Bylaws & Resolutions Hearing
- **6:15 p.m.** - Delegates Convene
- **6:30 p.m.** - Delegate Assembly Begins



Reserve Your Spot for New Board Member Orientation

AASB will hold New Board Member Orientation courses **Friday, Jan. 7** and **Saturday, Jan. 8** at the AASB office in Montgomery.

AASB's Orientation courses provide a wealth of information to help new school board members gain a sound understanding of the nuts and bolts of school board service and strengthen leadership and boardmanship skills. The state requires all local school board members to complete orientation at least once. By taking both parts of AASB's orientation, members not only meet this requirement, but also the state ethics training requirement.

In addition, orientation provides an excellent team-building experience for new school board members and superintendents who attend together. The courses also serve as an excellent refresher for veteran school board members.

AASB's two-part Orientation includes:

- **Roles & Responsibilities | Friday, Jan. 7 | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
This course covers the nuts and bolts of education law, ethics, finance, effective board meetings and more. [REGISTER](#)
- **Effective Boards & Relationships | Saturday, Jan. 8 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
This course focuses on how members of the board relate with one another and how the board establishes and maintains relationships with the board attorney, community, policymakers and others to improve student learning. [REGISTER](#)



Board Member Spotlight: Scott Suttle

Scott Suttle has served on the St. Clair County Board of Education since 2001. When he's not busy with school board business, you can find Scott in the friendly skies, serving as a helicopter pilot for the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department!

Read this month's Board Member Spotlight to learn more about Scott and his unexpected path to two decades of school board service.

[Read More](#)



Just Ask Jayne

Drawn Out of Current District After Redistricting: Now What?

Dear Jayne: Following redistricting, it appears I will be drawn out my current district. I have 2 years left on my term. Will I lose my seat once the new lines are drawn or will I complete my term?

[View Answer](#)



Student Entertainment Contest Winners Announced

Congratulations to the winners of AASB's annual Student Entertainment Contest! **The Arab High School Jazz Band (Arab City Schools)** and the **Hoover High School Symphonic Winds (Hoover City Schools)** garnered the most votes in this year's social media contest and will join us to perform at the 2021 AASB Convention!



Governor's App Challenge

Student entry forms are due Jan. 14, 2022, for the Alabama Governor's App Challenge. The statewide computer programming competition is open to students in grades K-12. Cash prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each grade band (Elementary: K-5; Middle School: 6-8; High School: 9-12).

[Learn More](#)



Join the National Education Association in celebrating American Education Week **Nov. 15-19**. This annual observance is an excellent opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring every student receives a quality education. View daily activities below:

Monday, Nov. 15: Kickoff Day - Schools across the country will celebrate excellence in education by hosting kickoff events and activities.

Tuesday, Nov. 16: Family Day - Schools across the nation will invite parents into the classroom to experience a day in the life of a student.

Wednesday, Nov. 17: Education Support Professionals Day - Join NEA in honoring and advocating for the ESPs who continue keeping students safe, healthy and ready to learn.

Thursday, Nov. 18: Educator for a Day - The nation's schools will invite members of the community into classrooms virtually to engage with students.

Friday, Nov. 19: Substitute Educators Day - Celebrate the vital role substitute educators play in the maintenance and continuity of daily education.

[Learn More](#)



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