



FOR YOUR *information*

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

Oct. 13, 2023



Alabama Literacy Act: 2023 Summer Reading Camps Impact

The State Board Thursday received data about some 29,000 K-3 students that participated in Summer Reading Camp after being identified as not reading on grade-level. The results this year come with high stakes. After years of delay, the third-grade retention provision under the Alabama Literacy Act will apply to the first cohort of third-grade students this school year.

The data included the number of enrolled students, average percentage of growth and attendance rate for each grade level. However, it does not include the number of students who remain reading below grade level.

The board also received an update on the 2023 Educator Preparation Institution report cards (not yet available online). The data tracks students who pass the Praxis and EdTPA exams and earn teaching certificates. It delineates for each program the number of students that passed in their first, second or three or more attempts.

Board meeting action included approval of the Department's FY25 ETF budget request and adoption of amendments to reflect the Legislature's changes to the

2013 AAA. “Priority schools” replace the verbiage “failing schools” with criteria to identify schools with D and F grades on the state report card instead of schools in the bottom 6% of assessments.

[Read Full Story](#)



The Countdown is on to #AASBConvention!

You still have time to register for the annual AASB Convention & Delegate Assembly which will be held Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 at The Sheraton Birmingham Hotel in downtown Birmingham.

Earn up to 8 training hours and enjoy an exciting speaker lineup, including Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey who will release new details on recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Teaching & Learning. We'll also hear from viral comedian and educator Gerry Brooks and renowned motivational speaker and author Jess Ekstrom. [Register Now.](#)

Pre-Convention Workshop | Nov. 30 | 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Arrive early and join us Thursday, Nov. 30 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the Comprehensive Support & Improvement Workshop offering helpful information about leadership and supports from the ALSDE to improve student achievement in systems with underperforming schools. Workshop registration is \$60; Lunch is included. 3.5 training hours. [Register Now.](#)

Delegate Assembly | Nov. 30 | 6:30 p.m.

Delegate Assembly, AASB's annual business meeting, will be held in conjunction with Winter Convention. Delegates will vote on AASB's president-elect as well as changes to our bylaws and resolutions that will govern the Association in 2024. Members are welcome to join Delegate Assembly at no cost. Delegate Assembly will begin on Thursday, Nov. 30 at 6:30 p.m. at The Sheraton Birmingham Hotel.

Convention Toy Drive

AASB will be collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys for our third annual Convention Toy Drive! Each district has been assigned a specific age range to supply donations for.

- **Districts 1-3:** Please bring new, unwrapped toys for ages 0-3
- **Districts 4-6:** Please bring new, unwrapped toys for ages 4-6.
- **Districts 7-9:** Please bring new, unwrapped toys for ages 7-10.

Please bring your donations with you to Convention. Donations will go to the City of Birmingham Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services (DYS) Holiday Toy Giveaway campaign.

[Learn More](#)

**State Board of Education
Advocacy Day 2023**
NOV. 8 & 9

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8 | 6 - 8 P.M. | AASB OFFICE
Program & Dinner

THURSDAY, NOV. 9 | 8 A.M. to 1 P.M. | AASB OFFICE, SBOE
Program, SBOE Meeting & Optional Work Session

Jackie Ziegler, District 1
Tracie Wood, District 2
Vice President
Stephanie Bell, District 3
Dr. Purita Richardson, District 4
Dr. Tampa Chestnut, District 5
President Pro Tem
Marie Manning, District 6
Belinda Mollan, District 7
Dr. Wayne Reynolds, District 8

Join AASB, State Board Members for One or Both SBOE Advocacy Days

Join us in Montgomery Nov. 8 & 9 for AASB's State Board of Education Advocacy Day. Get an up-close look as the board conducts its business, discusses K-12 priorities and shapes public education policy.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6 - 8 p.m.** Learn more about the role of the state board of education and its impact on public education policy as state board members participate in a panel discussion highlighting key education issues. Dinner to follow panel discussion.
- **Thursday, Nov. 9,** start the day at AASB's office with a light breakfast and training session at 8 a.m., followed by a visit to the Gordon Persons Building to watch the State BOE meeting and work session in action. Lunch will be provided for those attending the work session.

Training Hours: You will receive 2 hours of credit for attending AASB's two-part State Board of Education Advocacy Day on Nov. 8 and 9. Partial credit (1 hour) will be given if you are only able to attend one of the dates.

[Register Now](#)



COSSBA Annual Conference

Mark your calendar now for the COSSBA Annual Conference, Feb. 22-25, 2024, in Dallas, Texas! This exciting event will include ample learning opportunities, inspiring keynote speakers, and dedicated times for member networking.

[Register Now](#)

Upcoming Webinars



Wednesday, Oct.18 | 3 p.m.

Don't miss the next installment of COSSBA's UBA webinar series, addressing challenges faced by over 9.3



Thursday, Nov. 2 | Noon

Join us Thursday, Nov. 2 from noon to 1 p.m. for our next webinar, "Career Tech Education: Credentialing 101." Career

million public school students in rural environments and the key work to ensure their consistent access to high-quality education. The webinar will feature Dr. Donya Ball, author and charter school superintendent from California, and Yolanda Valdez, experienced district administrative leader and superintendent of a rural school district in California.

[Register Now](#)

Tech and Workforce Development Education Administrator Ken Sealy will discuss the ins and outs of credentialing in Alabama and what school boards need to understand about the process. Attendees will take away key pointers on how your school systems can expand offerings with CTE programs and credentials. Earn one training hour.

[Register Now](#)



Whole Board Training: Exciting Promotions for Early Birds!

AASB's exemplary training team is prepared to help you improve your skills via [32 interactive courses](#) created to meet your board's needs and fulfill the state-mandated two-hour whole board training requirement.

And it pays to book early! [Browse this year's Whole Board Training brochure](#) for several exciting promotions, including a **chance for your board secretary to win a \$50 gift card** and a special **drawing for boards to win priority registrations for Summer Conference 2024!**

For more information, contact AASB Executive Assistant **Stephanie B. Bell** at sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org or call 800-562-0601.

[Request Your Training](#)



District Director Elections

Congratulations to District 4 Director **Matilda Woodyard-Hamilton** and District 6 Director **Scott Suttle** who ran unopposed for second terms on the AASB Board of Directors.

Ballots have been mailed listing the following director nominees for Districts 2 and 8:

- **District 2 - Ola Ford** (Linden); and **Camille Gibson** (Bibb County)
- **District 8 - Jimmy Dobbs** (incumbent, Morgan County); and **Amy Carter** (Cullman)

Board presidents must certify the board voted at a meeting to choose a candidate, and ballots must be received or postmarked to AASB by Oct. 31.

[Learn More](#)



'Get in the Game' with AASB Membership Card

Did you know your AASB membership card (non-transferable) entitles you to free admission to AHSAA state championship playoff games if a school in your system is competing?

To request your membership card, call AASB at 800-562-0601 or send us an email at membership@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org.



Raising County Board Compensation

Is your county school board considering a member compensation raise? Boards can only act to raise their compensation at the Annual Meeting which must be held each November.

Board members can receive compensation of up to \$600 a month unless a higher figure is set by a local act. [Learn more.](#)

BOARD MEMBER *Spotlight*

Meet Ruqayyah Abdullah

“ I've learned the importance of having persistence, resilience and patience in the pursuit of impactful change. Progress in education can be slow and challenging, but it's worth the effort to ensure that every child has access to opportunity and achievement. ”

Legacy Prep

ALABAMA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Board Member Spotlight: Ruqayyah Abdullah

Ruqayyah Abdullah became a member of the Legacy Prep board in November 2021 because she wanted to be part of an organization whose mission centered on making impacts in the lives of students and families that leave a legacy of positive impact for the community.

Since becoming a board member, she has learned the importance of having persistence, resilience and patience. Progress in education can be slow and

challenging, but it's worth the effort to ensure that every child has access to opportunity and achievement, she said.

Ruqayyah is the third of nine children who all graduated from public schools in the Greater Birmingham area.

[Read More](#)



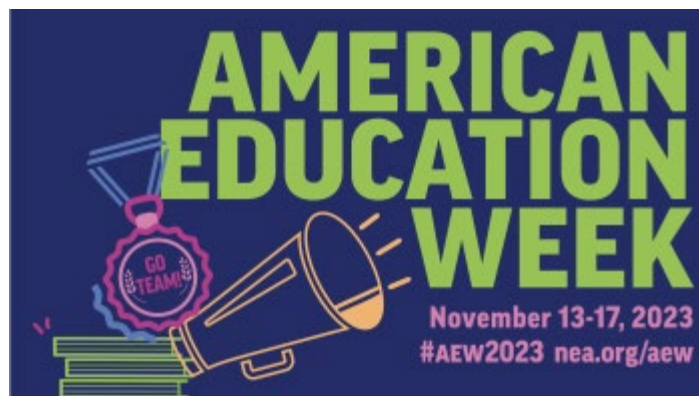
Just Ask Jayne

Employee Overpayments, TRS Underpayments: Who Pays?

Dear Jayne:

Our HR Department recently discovered that several employees were accidentally placed on the wrong tier for purposes of retirement. As a result, the employees took home more money than they should have and TRS did not receive the full amounts due. Are the employees responsible for paying this money back even though the mistake wasn't their fault?

[View Answer](#)



Celebrate American Education Week 2023

Join the National Education Association in celebrating American Education Week Nov. 13-17, 2023. 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.

[Learn More](#)



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