



## FOR YOUR *information*

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

Feb. 13, 2026

### **SBOE Celebrates Achievements, Tackles Delayed Approval of Social Studies Textbooks**



The February State Board of Education meeting was largely a celebration of educational excellence, with recognitions for the state's 50 Legislative School Performance Award winners, Mountain Brook City and Houston County as top-performing systems, Alabama School Counselor of the Year and five schools nominated as 2025 Blue Ribbon Schools before the federal program was

discontinued last fall.

State Superintendent Eric Mackey also highlighted Alabama's strong Career and Technical Education momentum, noting nearly 80% of high schoolers are now enrolled in CTE programs, with 20,000 industry credentials earned and \$100 million invested in facilities statewide.

The work session included discussion on several key topics, with a robust exchange about the long-delayed K-12 social studies textbook adoption. Mackey outlined four options to move forward and urged the board not to let the perfect be the enemy of the good, while board members weighed concerns about rigor, Alabama-specific values and the impact continued delays have on rural districts lacking local funds for alternatives. Mackey plans to bring the adoption to a vote at the March meeting. The board also previewed Alabama's first updated school counseling model since 2003 and a proposal to align AI and cybersecurity courses within the Business Management pathway.

[Read Full Story](#)

# 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

JUNE 19-21 | THE LODGE AT GULF STATE PARK | GULF SHORES, ALA.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Summer Conference Registration Opens Tuesday, March 10

Registration for AASB's annual Summer Conference opens **Tuesday, March 10**. This year's conference is June 19 - 21 at the Lodge at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores, Ala.

**NOTE ABOUT HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** All members registering on March 10 will receive an email the next day (March 11) with information to book reservations in AASB's group room block at the Lodge as well as details about other lodging accommodations.

Stay tuned for additional Summer Conference details!

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## 2026 School System Snapshots Available Online

AASB's 2026 School System Snapshots are now available on our website. This informative tool provides an individualized look at each Alabama school system's state and local resources -- funding and spending. The resource also serves as a great starting point in advocacy and funding discussions with elected officials and stakeholders.

[Download Your Snapshot](#)

## Leadership Lens: Love is a Verb



Do your actions as a board member match your words? This month's Leadership Lens explores why love isn't just a feeling — it's something we do. From the boardroom to the community, discover how leading with action can make all the difference for the educators and students you serve.

[Read More](#)

## Meet AASB's New Membership Coordinator



AASB is excited to introduce **Naomi James** as the association's new membership coordinator. Naomi officially began this week, taking on the role most recently held by Joy Brownell, who resigned to take on a new career pursuit. Naomi is responsible for managing the association's membership database, coordinate event registrations, provide exceptional service to members and serve as the liaison for AAAA, our affiliate organization for board secretaries. She has extensive database management experience and previously served in the administrative assistant role for superintendents in Montgomery Public Schools and Mobile County Public Schools.

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## **Mobile County Schools Putting Students on Path to Success with Early Access to CTE**

February is Career & Technical Education Month, and we are shining the spotlight on Mobile County Public Schools for showing what's possible when students get hands-on career experience early. Alabama's largest school system, MCPS offers programs across all nationally recognized CTE career clusters, from agribusiness to culinary art, connecting students with local industry partners, certifications and real-world skills before they graduate.

[Read More](#)

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## Don't Miss Out on March Conference in Auburn!

There's still time to register for AASB's [Spring Academy Core Conference, "Leadership for Developing a Highly Effective Staff,"](#) March 6 & 7 at The Hotel at Auburn University!

Earn 6 training hours and gain practical strategies to attract, support and retain talented educators.

Also, don't miss our pre-conference sessions on Friday, March 6:

- **Poverty Simulation:** 9 to 11:30 a.m. | 2.5 hours | \$59)
- **Communicating with the Media:** 1 to 3 p.m. | 2 hours | \$79)

**Contact your board secretary or AASB to register!**



## Two Advocacy Days Remain: Reserve Your Spot

Alabama's 2026 legislative session is well underway, and this year's first AASB Advocacy Day is in the books. But there still are two remaining Advocacy Days to join us in Montgomery and meet with your legislators to discuss key issues impacting public education.

- **Tuesday, Feb. 24** | Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and CSFOs | [Register](#)
- **Wednesday, March 18** | Committee Day (All Districts) | [Register](#)

[View map of AASB Districts](#)

Advocacy Days are a free member benefit. Earn up to 2 training hours and fulfill one criterion for Master Honor Roll.

## Board Officers Workshop



### Board Officers Workshop Series Starts Tuesday

Are you a current or aspiring board officer looking to sharpen your skills? Starting Tuesday, Feb. 17, AASB's Board Officers Workshop is back in a brand-new format designed with you in mind!

Join us on Zoom for four engaging 90-minute evening sessions:

- **February 17** – Welcome & The Power of the Presidency (earn 1.5 hours)
- **February 24** – Being the Leader Your System Needs & Building Relationships (earn 1.5 hours)
- **March 3** – Robert's Rules Refresh & Dealing with Difficult People (earn 1.5 hours)
- **March 10** – Accountability to Ensure Positive Governance & Roundtable Discussion (earn 1.5 hours)

You'll strengthen your leadership, communication, and facilitation skills while learning about running efficient meetings, parliamentary procedure, managing conflict, and more.

**REGISTRATION:** \$59 for the complete series. Earn up to 6 hours (1.5 hours awarded for each session attended).

**CONTACT YOUR BOARD SECRETARY OR AASB TO SIGN UP.**

## Reminders & Deadlines



### Committee Volunteers Wanted

Are you interested in growing your involvement with AASB? **Feb. 14** is the last day to volunteer to serve on an AASB committee. Incoming committee members will be appointed for one-year terms. Most committees meet once or twice a year.

We're currently seeking volunteers for the Board Training Advisory, Bylaws, Equity, Resolutions and Nominating Committees. [Learn more.](#)



### Whole Board Training Slots Filling Quickly

The June 30 deadline for the 2025-26 training year will be here before you know it. Has your board completed or scheduled its state-mandated Whole Board Training? Slots are filling quickly!

[Browse our Whole Board Training lineup](#) to choose from dozens of topics, or contact us to discuss a custom option.



## Celebrate Public Schools Week Feb. 23-27

Join the Learning First Alliance and millions of educators, parents and community members in celebrating public schools February 23 to 27. Each day highlights a pillar of student success, from teaching and learning to leadership and community partnerships. Share your stories, photos and shout-outs on social media using #PSW26 and #PublicSchoolProud. Every voice matters!

[Learn More / Download Social Media Toolkit](#)

[AASB Job Board](#)

**WE'RE HIRING!**



**Executive Director**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
The deadline to apply is Feb. 18, 2026

[bit.ly/AASB-executive-director](https://bit.ly/AASB-executive-director)

## AASB Executive Director

The Alabama Association of School Boards is seeking a visionary, progressive and collaborative leader to serve as its next executive director. The deadline to apply is **Feb. 18, 2026**. [Apply/Learn More.](#)



**Ozark City Schools**  
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH



**APPLY BY:**  
FEB. 18



**APPLY: [bit.ly/ozark-supt](https://bit.ly/ozark-supt)**

## Ozark City Schools Superintendent

The Ozark City Board of Education is seeking a skilled and visionary leader to build on the strengths of this well-performing school system. This search is being conducted by AASB. The deadline to apply is **Feb. 18, 2026**. [Apply/Learn More.](#)

## Additional Vacancies

- [CSFO of Coosa County Schools](#)
- [CSFO of Chickasaw City Schools](#)
- [Superintendent of Winfield City Schools](#)
- [Superintendent of Florence City Schools](#)



Alabama Association of School Boards | 43 South Jackson Street | Montgomery, AL 36104 US



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