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Department Name:	Leadership Development
Date Email Sent:	3/9/19
Email Subject Line:	2019 Financial Accountability Conference Follow-Up
Recipient Groups:	March Conference 2019 Attendees Executive Staff

Email body:

As a follow-up to AASB's March Conference 2019: Leadership for Financial Accountability, we are linking you to resources you might be interested in.

It's easy to let the great ideas you hear at conferences and other training slip away. Make time for conversations back home about what you've learned. We encourage you to share information and ideas from this conference with your board-superintendent team –**as a conversation starter**, not as a to-do list.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Save Energy and Money

Just a reminder of the resources shared by Elizabeth Grimes, ADECA Energy Division state energy program manager:

- ADECA has fleet renewal funds available through [the Volkswagen settlement](#).
- System personnel can earn a [building operator certification](#) that can save you up to \$20,000 a year by maximizing energy efficiency.
- ADECA offers funding for building retrofits through [Energy Financing Programs](#) (loans) and the [State Energy Program](#) (grants). Contact Grimes at elizabeth.grimes@adeca.alabama.gov to be added to ADECA's distribution list for the energy programs.

Protect Your School System from Cyber Threats

The #1 tip for school systems from Dr. Greg Price, Troy University's chief technology and security officer? Stay on top of software patches and updates. Without regular updates, systems are highly vulnerable to cyber attacks where data is seized and held for ransom.

Here are some questions the board can ask to monitor your school system's cyber security procedures:

- What is our data backup policy?
- How often do we update software or install patches?
- Do we have students who are allowed to work in systems with sensitive information?
- How do we manage log-in access to our systems, especially in case of termination or end of employment?

Remember, while security is the superintendent's responsibility, the board can and should ask such questions to ensure plans are in place.

Price cautioned us to be careful when opening emails and gave a few tips:

- Don't reveal personal or financial information in an email.
- Be cautious about following links in an email.
- Pay attention to the sender's email address – make sure it's real and not a duplicate designed to hijack your information.
- If you're not sure a request is legitimate, contact the sender directly in a NEW email or via phone. Use contact information on a statement or published on their website, not provided in the email you think might be fishy.
- Read more tips from the [National Cyber Security Alliance](#).

Poverty Simulation

We were thrilled to have a full house for the Poverty Simulation! This experience is a powerful one for all participants, and participating in **one** Poverty Simulation is a requirement for reaching [Master Honor Roll status](#).

If you're interested in bringing this experience to your school system or would like to host a regional Poverty Simulation for school boards or systems in your area, please contact us at povsim@alabamaschoolboards.org. Feel free to share our [Poverty Simulation brochure](#) with your superintendent.

You can view all presentations and handouts on our website at on our website at <http://bit.ly/MarchConference19> and in the AASB app (search "AASB" in your device's app store).

Best,

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Attachments (if any):

none