



FOR YOUR *information*

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

November 13, 2020



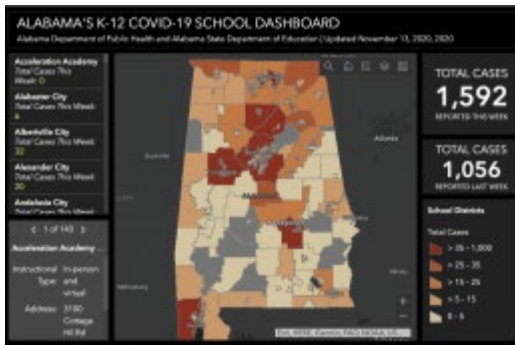
SBOE Discusses COVID-19 Impact on Student Enrollment, Assessment Plans

A discussion of critical K-12 issues took center stage at Thursday's State Board of Education meeting and work session. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey updated board members about student enrollment, budgets, state assessments and the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on schools.

To date, public school enrollment in the state has dropped by 5,000 students for the school year. Mackey said he cannot predict whether students now being homeschooled or enrolled in private school will re-enter public schools next fall. Kindergarten suffered the largest drop in enrollment, and because Alabama law does not require mandatory kindergarten, parents may choose to enroll their child in either kindergarten or first grade next year. The numbers and unknowns are problematic because school funding is based on student enrollment or average daily membership (ADM).

Other meeting and work session highlights included updates on mathematics textbook committee recommendations and the latest AMSTI developments.

[Read More](#)



ALSDE, ADPH Launch K-12 COVID-19 Dashboard

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), in collaboration with the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), has developed an online tool to track occurrences of COVID-19 cases within Alabama's school districts.

The Alabama K-12 COVID-19 Dashboard, which launched Friday, Oct. 30, allows school nurses the ability to update the number of reported COVID-19 cases within the school system on a weekly basis. The total number of COVID-19 cases posted includes any individual within the school system but does not differentiate between students, teachers, or staff.

State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey said the ability to work with the professionals at ADPH has been invaluable as the state continues to grapple with the most safe and effective ways to move forward to some form of normalcy.

“We are hoping that this dashboard will serve two primary purposes: keeping our parents and communities aware of what is happening in their schools so they can make informed decisions about their children; as well as make sure we are doing everything we can within the school building and school system to mitigate the instances of COVID-19 exposure,” Mackey said.

[View Dashboard](#)

There's Still Time to Register for These AASB Events



WEBINAR



Virtual Option: AASB Convention

Drawing the Line: School Boards and 2020 Redistricting

Join us Thursday, Nov. 19 from noon to 1 p.m. for AASB's next webinar, "Drawing the Line: School Boards and Redistricting."

School board attorney and redistricting expert Dorman Walker will provide insight on the work elected boards will have to do now that the 2020 Census has drawn to a close, factors impacting how redistricting will take place and where the lines fall.

[Register Now](#)

AASB's Annual Convention & Delegate Assembly will take place Thursday, Dec. 3 through Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel. Although we've reached maximum capacity for in-person attendance, members still can enjoy engaging general sessions, mini-clinic sessions and more via livestream. To make this event more convenient for our virtual participants, we've compressed the Convention schedule to feature all the major speakers and sessions on Friday.

[Register Now](#)



Has Your Board Scheduled Its Whole Board Training?

It's hard to believe we are fast approaching the halfway mark of the 2020-21 training year! If your board has not yet scheduled its annual Whole Board Training, now is a great time to get it on your calendar.

Although the state-mandated Whole Board Training requirement was waived last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, **all school board members will be required to fulfill the two-hour Whole Board Training requirement for 2020-21.**

[Browse our Whole Board Training catalog](#) to choose from more than 40 interactive courses created to meet your board's unique needs. Then, [use our convenient online form](#) to request your training session, or contact AASB Executive Assistant for Leadership Development Stephanie Bell at sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org or 800-562-0601.



Just Ask Jayne

Tenure/probationary Status of Newly Certified Teacher's Aide

Dear Jayne: We have a longtime aide who has finally earned her teaching certificate. We're

excited to hire her as a teacher, but what will her status be once she becomes a teacher?

[View Answer](#)



Cauley Named AASB President-Elect, District Director Election Results Announced

The Alabama Association of School Boards Board of Directors has named Baldwin County Board of Education member Shannon Cauley as the association's president-elect effective Nov. 2, 2020.

Cauley will complete the balance of the term vacated by Bibb County Board of Education member Mike Oakley, who stepped down from the position of president-elect to begin his term as the newly elected mayor of Centreville. Cauley's term as president-elect will end Dec. 5, 2020, when she is formally installed as president during AASB's Annual Convention at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham.

District Director Election Results

District 5 Director **Renna Soles Scott** of Bessemer, District 7 Director **Brad Ingle** of Walker County and District 9 Director **Beth Wilder** of Huntsville are returning to the AASB Board of Directors for second terms.

Russell Clausell of the Geneva Board of Education is the incoming District 3 Director. He will assume the position from current District 3 Director **Dr. Greg Price** of Pike County who has completed his second term on the board.

The District 1 Director seat, which is vacant, will be decided at Convention after the election resulted in a tie between **Leslie Weaver-Martin** of Chickasaw and the **Rev. Gary Shockley** of Saraland.

Owens Nominated as Incoming President-Elect

District 8 Director **Ronnie Owens** of Lauderdale County has been nominated as President-Elect. Owens will be presented to Delegate Assembly and installed during the AASB Convention, as current President-Elect Shannon Cauley takes the helm as AASB President.



Student Entertainment Contest Winners Announced

Congratulations to the winners of AASB's annual student entertainment contest! **Admiral Moor Middle School (Eufaula City Schools)** and **Baldwin Arts and Academics Magnet School (Montgomery Public Schools)** earned the most votes in this year's social media contest and will perform virtually at the AASB Convention.



Computer Programming Competition Open to All Alabama K-12 Students

The Governor's App Challenge is a statewide, computer programming competition for Alabama students in grades K–12, with the goal of giving more students the opportunity to gain recognition for their mastery and application of computer programming and design.

Students will create an application either individually or in a team of up to three members. The app will be judged in three grade bands: Elementary (K – 5), Middle School (6 – 8), High School (9 – 12). Responsible teachers will submit the app from each student team by providing links to a video of the app running and written responses to questions about the app and its development, by January 15, 2021.

[Learn More](#)



Celebrate American Education Week 2020

Join the National Education Association in celebrating American Education Week Nov. 16 - 20. 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.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16: KICKOFF DAY

Across the country, schools will celebrate excellence in education by hosting kickoff events and activities.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17: PARENTS DAY

On this day, schools across the nation invite parents into the classroom to experience what the day is like for their child.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18: EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY

Education Support Professionals Day was first celebrated in 1987 after NEA's Representative Assembly, the Association's decision-making body of nearly 8,000 member delegates, called on the organization to honor the contributions of all school support staff. National ESP Day is observed on Wednesday of American Education Week.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19: EDUCATOR FOR A DAY

Normally community leaders would be invited to experience the day as educators and experience the challenges of teaching and the needs of students, with the guidance of school employees.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20: SUBSTITUTE EDUCATORS DAY

Substitute educators play a vital role in the maintenance and continuity of daily education.

[Learn More](#)



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