



# FOR YOUR *information*

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

**September 11, 2020**



## **SBOE Discusses Student Assessments, Previews FY22 Budget Request**

The Alabama State Board of Education's Sept. 10 work session featured a lengthy discussion regarding student assessments for the current academic year. State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey told board members he received a letter from U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos saying she does not anticipate waiving federal assessments for this school year. Mackey added that no decisions have been made about whether this year's assessments will be used for accountability purposes. ALSDE staff also explained scaled down plans for administering the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) test to roughly 1,700 fourth and eighth-grade students in more than 50 Alabama school systems.

The SBOE also received a preview of the FY22 budget proposal, which includes requests for \$411 million in increased funding over FY21. While the funding request overlaps with the boards' vision and strategic plan priorities, Mackey assured board members changes can be made moving forward through the process, especially because of the many unknown circumstances related to COVID-19. Board members emphasized that local school systems must have state funding support for any mandated programs. The FY22 budget proposal must be voted on at the board's October meeting and submitted to Gov. Kay Ivey by Nov. 1.

[Read More](#)

---



## AASB Convention Registration Opens Monday!

Registration for AASB's Annual Convention opens Monday, Sept. 14. Due to health and safety guidelines such as social distancing, this year's Convention will have a limited in-person capacity. But we're excited to announce an all-new livestream option and several changes that will make this an even better experience for both our in-person and virtual attendees!

### Video/More Information

Watch AASB Executive Director Sally Smith explain some of these changes and health and safety precautions in our new video, ["Upcoming AASB Events: What You Should Know."](#)

Full Convention details will be available Monday on the [AASB Convention webpage](#).



## Delegate/Alternate Names Due Oct. 30

Make your voice heard and choose your delegates and alternate delegates soon for the association's annual Delegate Assembly, held at the AASB Convention. At Delegate Assembly, AASB conducts association business, makes adjustments to its bylaws and votes on resolutions that guide the association's legislative agenda.

Delegate/alternate forms will be mailed to all school systems, and school boards must provide AASB with their delegate and alternate names by Friday, Oct. 30. Delegate/alternate names may be mailed to P.O. Box 4980, Montgomery, AL 36103-4980 or faxed to 334-270-0000. You may also [submit the names online](#).

The Annual AASB Convention & Delegate Assembly will be Dec. 3-5, 2020, at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey Hotel. There will be a New Delegate Orientation at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3, followed by the annual assembly of delegates at 6 p.m. Delegates and alternates are asked to be prompt for sign-in. Seating for guests will be designated.



## New ALSDE Tool Tracks School System Reopening Plans

ALSDE staff have developed an interactive dashboard that provides reopening plans and related information for each Alabama school system, including starting date, instructional delivery methods and more. The online resource is being utilized by a variety of state agencies amid ongoing planning and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The online tool is available on the ALSDE website as well as on AASB's [COVID-19 resource page](#).

[View Dashboard](#)



## ANNOUNCEMENT: SBOE Advocacy Day Cancelled

The AASB State Board of Education Advocacy Day scheduled for Oct. 7 & 8 has been cancelled. Due to limited space in the auditorium in which SBOE meetings are held, Advocacy Day participants would not be able to attend the meeting as a group, which is a highlight of the experience. We hope to offer the SBOE Advocacy Day as part of the AASB calendar in fall 2021.



## Virtual Option Now Available for AASB's Fall Conference

While registration still is open for those interested in attending AASB's Fall Conference in person, we've also added a virtual option for those who are unable to attend or uncomfortable attending live events due to COVID-19 concerns.

Fall Academy Core Conference, *Leadership for Community Engagement*, will take place Sunday, Oct. 4 and Monday, Oct. 5 at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa and online via livestream. Attendees will earn up to 6 training hours and learn how community engagement brings together public relations, media relations and internal and external communication to enhance relationships between schools and those they serve.

## Post-Conference Workshop

Extend your learning and earn an additional 2 training hours by taking part in the post-

conference workshop on *Countering Biases Hidden in Your Policies & Practices*.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The post-conference workshop is only available for in-person participants.

[Learn More or Register](#)

---



### District Meetings: Still Time to Register for Districts 4, 7, 8 & 9!

Members in Districts 4, 7, 8 & 9 still have time to register for AASB's 2020 Virtual Fall District Meetings. This year's program features Executive Director of [Alabama Leaders in Educational Technology \(ALET\)](#) Susan Poling, who will highlight the role of the school board in addressing cybersecurity risks and discuss specific steps school systems should take to protect their data.

[View Dates & Register](#)

---



## Just Ask Jayne

### Board Approval for Expanded FMLA Leave?

**Dear Jayne:** We have had several employees request emergency paid sick leave or expanded FMLA leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Does that leave have to be board approved?

[View Answer](#)

---



## Time is Running Out to Save on Whole Board Training

AASB's exemplary training team is prepared to help you improve your skills via [43 interactive courses](#) created to meet your boards' needs and fulfill the state-mandated two-hour whole board training requirement. And it pays to plan ahead! **Save 10%** off AASB's regular whole board training fee when you schedule and complete your AASB-provided training for **September!**

For more information, contact AASB Executive Assistant for Leadership Development, Stephanie Bell, at [sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org](mailto:sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org) or call 800-562-0601.

[Request Training](#)



## AASB Job Board: Superintendent of Autauga County Schools

The Autauga County Board of Education is seeking a leader with experience raising student achievement and building relationships to lead this growing school system. The deadline for applications is **Sept. 22, 2020**. [View job brochure](#) or [apply online](#).

This search is being conducted by the Alabama Association of School Boards. Learn more about AASB's [superintendent search service](#).



Alabama Association of School Boards  
43 South Jackson Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
800-562-0601

