

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Alabama State Board of Education

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Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D. Secretary and Executive Officer August 25, 2025

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey

State Superintendent of Education

RE: 2026 Energy and Natural Resources State Course of Study Committee

Nominations

In January 2026, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) will begin working to create a Course of Study for a new Career and Technical Education cluster, Energy and Natural Resources. To accomplish this task, a State Course of Study Committee will be appointed to write the 2026 *Alabama Course of Study: Energy and Natural Resources*.

As required by §16-35-1, *Code of Alabama*, 1975, the Alabama State Board of Education appoints 21 of the 28 members of a State Course of Study Committee, and members serve for one year. The law also states that local boards of education, through superintendents, shall nominate persons qualified to serve on a State Course of Study Committee. Your assistance is requested in the nomination of K-12 educators for consideration of appointment to this committee.

Once appointed, the committee will convene to prepare the 2026 *Alabama Course of Study: Energy and Natural Resources*. When this work is completed, the Energy and Natural Resources State Course of Study Committee recommends to the Alabama State Board of Education the standards in this content area for Alabama's K-12 public schools.

Membership on the Energy and Natural Resources State Course of Study Committee requires a commitment to attending meetings in Montgomery and collaborating with a diverse group of educational professionals and stakeholders. The ALSDE will reimburse travel and substitute expenses for members of the Energy and Natural Resources State Course of Study Committee.

In talking with potential appointees, it may be important to indicate the committee's meeting dates (**Enclosure A**) and the payment of per diem and mileage according to state rates (**Enclosure B**).

City and County Superintendents of Education Page 2 August 25, 2025

Nominations in the following categories are needed for this committee:

CATEGORIES FOR THE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION COURSE OF STUDY COMMITTEE

- 1. <u>Classroom Teachers</u>: Persons currently teaching CTE or in fields related to Energy and Natural Resources, such as Environmental Science.
- 2. <u>Supervisors and/or Administrators</u>: Persons having knowledge of or previous teaching experience in the field of CTE with overall curriculum responsibility for instruction in this content area, such as secondary principals, supervisors, and/or assistant superintendents of instruction.
- 3. <u>Special Populations Educators</u>: Persons having knowledge of or previous teaching experience in addressing the needs of special populations.

The Nominations Form is to be completed and signed by the LEA Superintendent using the <u>online DocuSign PowerForm linked here</u>. Before initiating this PowerForm, a best practice is to create a free DocuSign account (<u>DocuSign</u>). This will allow you (the originator) to track the envelope as it progresses through each assigned recipient. Account creation MUST occur prior to starting the PowerForm for the Alabama State Course of Study Committee Nomination Form.

First, enter the name and email address of each person who will be assigned one of the signing roles listed below. Then, click on the "Begin Signing" button. A window will appear with a message prompting you to enter the validation/access code. Please note that if you fail the authentication twice, the envelope will lock, and you will need to contact Dr. Blake Busbin (blake.busbin@alsde.edu) to unlock the envelope. If you copy and paste the code, ensure that no extra spaces are copied and pasted into the textbox. After the validation/access code has been verified, you will be prompted to continue to enter the information required to complete the form.

Once all the required fields have been completed, you will be prompted to click the "Finish" button. Upon clicking the "Finish" button, the envelope will automatically be sent to the next signer until all signatures have been collected. Please note that during the electronic signing process, all signers will receive an email inviting them to sign the document.

To track an envelope, you MUST have created a free DocuSign account PRIOR to the submission of the envelope. To check the status of an envelope, you will login to your DocuSign account. Access the "Manage" tab to track the envelope. It will show you the status of the envelope, such as whose signature has been collected and whose signature you may be waiting on.

City and County Superintendents of Education Page 3 August 25, 2025

For each person nominated, the law also requires that credentials and a summary of qualifications be submitted. Please provide the nominees with the weblink to the <u>2026 Energy and Natural Resources COS Committee Credentials Form</u> to complete information related to their education and work history. All forms are to be completed and submitted no later than **September 19, 2025**. Any questions regarding the nomination process may be addressed to Dr. Busbin via email at <u>blake.busbin@alsde.edu</u> or telephone at (334) 694-4768.

Course of Study development involves a commitment of both time and effort; therefore, attendance at all meetings is essential. Proposed meeting dates (**Enclosure A**) are enclosed for your information and for those whom you nominate.

EGM/BB/LCT

Enclosures

cc: Mrs. Angela Martin

Dr. Melissa Shields Mr. Dodd Hawthorne Mr. Sean J. Stevens Dr. Blake Busbin

FY25-2075

2026 ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES STATE COURSE OF STUDY COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE

PROPOSED MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Meetings will be held at the Alabama State Department of Education Offices in Montgomery or Birmingham.

Some meetings may be virtual.

January 13, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
January 14, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
February 10, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
February 11, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
March 3, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
March 4, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
April 7, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
April 8, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
May 5, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
May 6, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
June 16, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
June 17, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
July 8, 2026 (VIRTUAL MEETING)	9:00 a.m. – Noon
August 25, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
August 26, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
September 15, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
September 16, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
October 6, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
October 7, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
November 12, 2026 (TBA)	Board of Education Work Session
December 10, 2026 (TBA)	Board of Education Meeting

PER DIEM AND MILEAGE RATES

IF A PERSON LIVES	In Montgomery	Within a 100-Mile Radius of Montgomery	Outside a 100-Mile Radius of Montgomery
PER DIEM FOR 6 TO 12 HOURS		\$12.75	\$12.75
PER DIEM FOR OVER 12 HOURS		\$34.00	\$34.00
PER DIEM FOR OVERNIGHT			\$85.00 (1 night) \$100.00 (2 nights or more)
MILEAGE	Currently \$0.70 per mile for private car mileage from home to the meeting site (according to ALSDE mileage chart)		