



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

September 10, 2025

**MEMORANDUM**

Governor Kay Ivey  
President

**TO:** City and County Superintendents

Jackie Zeigler  
District I

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

Tracie West  
District II

**RE:** Local School Funds

Kelly Mooney  
District III  
President Pro Tem

As your school systems establish policies and procedures in compliance with the *Freeing Our Classrooms of Unnecessary Screens for Safety (FOCUS) Act*, Act 2025-386, I would like to take a moment to remind you of the attached memorandum (FY09-3069). The previous memorandum provides guidance regarding local school funds, specifically parking and locker fees:

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV

*Based on prior legal opinions, we have consistently provided guidance that locker rental fees charged to students cannot be used for other purposes. Allowable uses of locker rental fees include locker maintenance costs and amortizing the costs of locks and lockers purchased by the local school. Because many local schools have continued to charge locker rental fees that exceed the allowable uses of these funds, these schools have significant balances of unspent locker fees. Locker rental fee rates per student should be adjusted to an amount that would accumulate only the funds needed to pay for allowable locker expenses.*

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
District V

Marie Manning  
District VI  
Vice President

The *FOCUS Act* states that “beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, no student may possess a wireless communication device in any public elementary or secondary school building or on the grounds thereof during the instructional day unless the wireless communication device is turned off and stored off their person in a locker, car, or similar storage location.”

Allen Long, M.D.  
District VII

For school systems that decide to utilize “similar storage locations,” including locking devices or pouches, to comply with the *FOCUS Act*, locker fees can be used for that purpose.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
District VIII

EGM:TH:SP

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

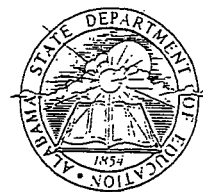
Attachment

cc: Chief School Financial Officers

**FY25-3047**



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Joseph B. Morton  
State Superintendent  
of Education

June 16, 2009

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

MEMORANDUM

Governor Bob Riley  
President

TO: City and County Superintendents  
Chief School Financial Officers

Randy McKinney  
District I  
Vice President

FROM: Warren Craig Pouncey  
Assistant State Superintendent

Betty Peters  
District II

RE: Local School Funds

Stephanie W. Bell  
District III

The elimination of classroom instructional support funds in the FY2010 Education Appropriations Act has many school officials and teachers concerned about funding sources to alleviate the loss of these funds. Although some school boards are providing local revenues to replace some or all of these allocations, others are turning to PTAs, parents and teachers for providing student instructional materials and supplies, as well as copiers. In reviewing local school fund sources we have determined two local school sources that may be available to assist in funding classroom instructional support.

Dr. Ethel H. Hall  
District IV  
Vice President  
Emerita

Although many high schools charge a parking fee for students to park on school property during the school day, we have previously provided guidance that the use of these funds is limited to the costs of providing the parking, i.e. parking decals and parking lot costs. In consultation with the State Examiners of Public Accounts, we have determined the student parking fees may be used for any public educational purpose and these funds may be used for classroom instructional support.

Ella B. Bell  
District V

David F. Byers, Jr.  
District VI

Based on prior legal opinions, we have consistently provided guidance that locker rental fees charged to students cannot be used for other purposes. Allowable uses of locker rental fees include locker maintenance costs and amortizing the costs of locks and lockers purchased by the local school. Because many local schools have continued to charge locker rental fees that exceed the allowable uses of these funds, these schools have significant balances of unspent locker fees. Locker rental fee rates per student should be adjusted to an amount that would accumulate only the funds needed to pay for allowable locker expenses. However, unobligated balances in locker rental fees as of June 30, 2009, may be transferred to public funds for classroom instructional support, provided these funds are not needed for any allowable locker expenses.

Gary Warren  
District VII

Dr. Mary Jane Caylor  
District VIII  
President Pro Tem

Joseph B. Morton  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

If you have questions regarding local school funds, contact Mr. Dennis Heard at (334) 242-9747 or Ms. Sonja Peaspanen at (334) 353-9886.

WCP:DW  
FY09-3069