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Contact: Communication
(334) 694-4688
comm@alsde.edu

6th Annual Thank Alabama Teachers Month Launches Statewide

*Alabama State Department of Education recognizes teachers for helping
Alabama Achieve and rolls out new logo reflecting student success*

Montgomery, Ala. – Teachers are integral to molding Alabama’s future, and today, the Alabama State Department of Education recognized their important work by launching the 2025 Thank Alabama Teachers Month. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey, Alabama Teacher of the Year Katie Collins, Alabama Superintendent of the Year Dr. Todd Freeman, and other dignitaries officially kicked off the 6th annual Thank Alabama Teachers Month, as proclaimed by Governor Kay Ivey, and celebrated with teachers and students at Vestavia Hills Elementary Liberty Park.

“Our teachers ensure that every child gets every chance, every day to grow and achieve,” Dr. Mackey told the assembly. He touted the rising performance indicators that show Alabama students are making dramatic improvements in reading and math scores, placing third in the nation for reading recovery scores and first in math recovery since 2019. The state’s graduation rate is 92%, well above the national average of 86%.

“I am so proud of our teachers, who provide impactful instruction in a nurturing environment, that enable our students to make such great progress,” Dr. Mackey continued. “We are here today to say thank you, and to encourage all Alabamians to find a way this month to show their appreciation for the extraordinary work our educators do.”

Dr. Mackey also expressed gratitude to Governor Kay Ivey, the Alabama State Board of Education, and members of the Alabama Legislature for their continued leadership and commitment to improving education statewide. Their ongoing support has helped create new opportunities for both students and educators, helping Alabama continue to achieve new milestones in learning and success.

During the program, Dr. Mackey took the opportunity to unveil a new logo for the Alabama State Department of Education. The logo proclaims “Alabama Achieves” and features a stylized image of a student in a graduation cap reaching for a star over the state’s outline.

6th Annual Thank Alabama Teachers Month Statewide Celebration

The concept is student-focused and illustrates that student achievement is at the center of the State Department of Education's work.

Students at the rally saw the new logo for the first time in a brand video for the State Department of Education. Dr. Mackey, who narrates the video, proclaims that "all of our schools are headed in the right direction, and that's upward." A trend that he attributes to Alabama teachers who aren't "just shaping lessons, they are shaping lives."

Governor Kay Ivey also shared a special video message to express her gratitude for teachers in Alabama, sharing words of support and inspiration.

"I was proud to proclaim this month as Thank Alabama Teachers Month to recognize the incredible educators who shape Alabama's future one classroom at a time," states Governor Kay Ivey. "Our teachers inspire, challenge and believe in our students every single day. As a former teacher myself, I know there's no greater reward than seeing you students succeed – and no greater gift than a simple, heartfelt 'thank you.'"

State Teacher of the Year Katie Collins, who is spending this year touring Alabama in support of her fellow teachers, joined in the recognition of her colleagues.

"As teachers, we choose to be in the classroom every day because we know that our investment in our students makes an impact," said Collins. "That is both our purpose and our passion. I am so excited to help honor Alabama educators and their contributions during Thank Alabama Teachers Month because they have a tremendous impact on the future of each child individually and our state collectively."

To find out more about the 6th annual Thank Alabama Teachers Month, follow [ALSDE | We Teach Alabama](#). Join the Alabama State Department of Education in thanking our teachers by posting and sharing on social media using the graphics linked [We Teach Alabama | Media Resources](#).

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Watch the Alabama Achieves new brand video [YouTube | ALSDE](#).

Find the new logo [DropBox | ALSDE](#).

Preview pictures from the event [DropBox | ALSDE](#).