



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

September 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
 State Superintendent of Education
RE: Dyslexia Awareness Month

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) has designated October as “Dyslexia Awareness Month” in Alabama. Dyslexia impacts between 10 and 20 percent of students in Alabama schools. Literacy skills—reading, writing, and spelling are essential to all learning in school and beyond. Students who do not develop these skills early on are at risk for school failure and limited-life opportunities.

In our on-going effort to prepare all students to graduate college, career, and life ready, the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI), working in collaboration with the Dyslexia Advisory Council (DAC), has established these goals for Dyslexia Awareness Month:

- To bring awareness at the school, family, and community level to the needs of students with dyslexia.
- To encourage year-round school, family, and community engagement in events to celebrate and embrace students with dyslexia.
- To make available support and resources for schools, families, and communities.

Please join us in promoting “Dyslexia Awareness Month” in Alabama by supporting an environment of awareness and understanding for dyslexia in your district, schools, and communities. The following links will provide you with a plethora of resources to help you get started planning your events.

- <https://dyslexiaida.org/fact-sheets/>
- <https://dyslexiaida.org/dyslexia-in-the-classroom/>
- <https://www.dyslexia.com/about-dyslexia/dyslexic-achievers/all-achievers/>

If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Vickie Chappelle, by telephone at 334-694-4632 or by email at dyslexia@alsde.edu.

EGM/TS

cc: Dyslexia Advisory Council Members
 Dr. Daniel Boyd
 Dr. Elisabeth Davis
 Dr. Tracye Strichik
 Mrs. Reeda Betts
 Mrs. Vickie Chappelle

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