September 11, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Alabama Council for Social Studies (ALCSS) Annual Conference

The Alabama Council for Social Studies (ALCSS) Annual Conference will be held Monday, October 14, 2019, in Birmingham at Lawson State Community College. The Drury Inn and Suites on Lakeshore Drive in Birmingham will serve as the host hotel. As always, the ALCSS annual conference will provide professional development offered by leading social sciences organizations, K-12 educators, as well as higher education professionals. Social studies educators will take away the cutting-edge strategies to engage 21st Century learners. Preservice teachers and teachers new to the classroom are encouraged to attend the ALCSS conference to receive training, resources, and information relevant to teaching social sciences at all educational levels. Tour and sites to visit in the historic Birmingham area will include: the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute; the historic Sloss Furnaces; Vulcan Park and Museum; the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church; Bethel Baptist Church and Interpretive Center; the Negro Southern History Baseball League Museum; and much more.

The theme of this year's conference is Celebrating Alabama's Bicentennial: 200 Years of Activism and Advocacy. The keynote speaker is Dr. Wayne Flynt, Professor Emeritus at Auburn University, and the Editor-in-Chief of the new online Encyclopedia of Alabama, which is the product of a partnership between the Alabama Humanities Foundation and Auburn University. Dr. Flynt is a leading authority on Alabama and Southern History. He will deliver insights on historical and ethical reasoning in history and social studies. Dr. Flynt is a renowned author and lecturer. His most recent book, Alabama in the Twentieth Century, was awarded the 2004 Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize. He is the co-author of Alabama: A History of a Deep South State, which also has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

During the conference, there will be engaging content sessions for each of the following strands: early childhood education/elementary education; geography at all grade levels; middle and secondary school-level education; United States and World History; Alabama Bicentennial Celebration lessons; advanced placement; college and career readiness; technology and social studies activities in the digital classroom; museum exhibits; government, economics and civics sessions; and more.

To register for the ALCSS conference please go to www.alcss.org. Also, please visit the ALCSS Facebook page at Social Studies Council of Alabama for a chance to win a free trip and other worthwhile prizes sponsored by Currents of Change. For more information please email Dr. Wanda Ward at alcsspresident@gmail.com or Ms. Nettie Carson-Mullins at ncarson-mullins@alsde.edu.
We must always be prudent with our time and resources. However, I encourage you to support the attendance of your social studies teachers and social studies administrators. The conference is inexpensive and will provide an excellent opportunity for professional development activities for teachers.

EGM/NCM/DSS

cc: City and County Curriculum Coordinators
    School Principals
    Dr. Daniel Boyd
    Dr. Elisabeth Davis
    Mr. Sean J. Stevens
    Ms. Nettie Carson-Mullins

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