October 10, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Alabama’s Emergency Alert System for Education (AEASE)

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), in partnership with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA), has partnered with nSide, Inc., to execute a strategy for leveraging existing investments in mass notification systems made at the school and district levels. This project will create a standardized option of mass notification for schools and/or districts through the utilization of existing emergency alert systems, alongside one unifying platform. This service is being provided through state funding at no additional cost to your school system.

After assessing multiple existing platforms within school systems, the intent of the project grew to provide better emergency communications for prevention, response, and recovery efforts, while simultaneously minimizing the disruption of existing systems and procedures.

Recognizing the best solution to be a unifying system, nSide began the aggregation of multiple alert systems and expanded into the Alabama Emergency Alerts System for Education, or AEASE (pronounced As). AEASE, powered by nSide|Notify, is the critical foundation of threat assessment from tips, direct alerts to 911 call centers, and continuous analysis of events for spotting trends and developing better tactics for the future.

This memorandum is to inform you that your system will receive a phone number to be included into your existing mass notification system(s) to ensure that AEASE receives all notifications. With this connection, AEASE will be able to receive information from your alert system(s) that will aid in the continued development of the best mechanisms for assisting with tips, emergency calls for response, and identification of trends for school safety notifications. Adding this phone number to your current “address book” for mass notifications is a critical piece for AEASE.

This phone number will be distributed on or around October 16, 2019, and should be added to the address book of your existing mass notification system(s) no later than October 31, 2019. For any questions or assistance, please contact Dr. Steve McKinney at help@nside.io or at 1-800-604-1822.

EGM:JJS:AA

cc: Mr. Hal Taylor
Dr. Steve McKinney
Dr. Daniel Boyd
Dr. Tony Thacker
Mr. J. Jason Swann
Dr. Marilyn Lewis

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