



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Contact: Communication**  
**(334) 694-4686**  
**[comm@alsde.edu](mailto:comm@alsde.edu)**

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER**  
**DR. CYNTHIA MCCARTY WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION**

**Montgomery, Ala.** – Dr. Cynthia McCarty, a two-term member of the state Board of Education, is announcing she will not seek reelection in 2022.



“I have thoroughly enjoyed engaging with educators throughout the state and am proud of the strides the board has made, but it is time to pass the torch,” McCarty said. The Jacksonville State University economics professor and Anniston resident said she would like more flexibility to pursue career interests and spend time with her family. She has held the district 6 seat since 2015 and served one year as Vice President and one year as President Pro Tem.

“I have mixed emotions about this decision,” McCarty said, explaining she believes continuing to improve K-12 public schools is critical to the state’s future. “Much has been accomplished, but there is much work yet to do.”

During her tenure on the board, McCarty has been a champion for the teaching profession, promoting the need to respect hardworking and dedicated teachers. She has actively supported opportunities and stipends for high quality instruction such as National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs), LETRS training and Certified Academic Language Therapists (CALTs).

Alabama is now 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the number of newly certified NBCTs, McCarty said, due in part to the almost 800 NBCT scholarships which have been awarded since 2017. She said she is especially proud of the thousands of teachers who are currently enrolled or have completed LETRS training, a rigorous program providing teachers with the knowledge and skills to teach reading more effectively.

“Alabama is fortunate to have so many outstanding teachers who deserve to be rewarded and recognized,” McCarty said. “We need to make sure we retain these exceptional educators and attract more to the profession.” She noted that for the first time, CALTs, educators who have mastered multisensory language instruction, will be awarded a state stipend, recognizing their impact on student learning.

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*SPECIAL NOTICE – DR. CYNTHIA MCCARTY WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION*

*McCarty also championed high standards and meaningful opportunities for students.* “The jobs of the future require a new skill set,” she said. She advocated for expanding options for students in science, technology and mathematics and was appointed by the governor to serve on the Computer Science Advisory Council and Alabama STEM Council.

The economist also focused on career technical education during her board service.

“Ensuring our students graduate and are prepared for meaningful work is the right thing to do for students -- and the economy.” One of her more rewarding roles has been serving on the advisory board for the Calhoun County School’s Career Tech Academy. “Witnessing young men and women actively engaged in welding, health science, auto technology, and more has been powerfully motivating,” she explained.

*McCarty is well-known throughout her district*, which includes Morgan, Marshall, Cullman, Blount, St. Clair, Calhoun, and Cherokee counties with a portion of DeKalb County. She is a frequent visitor to schools and says those visits are what she will miss most when her term ends. “I wish everyone had the opportunity to see the innovative things happening in our schools daily.”

McCarty’s term ends in January 2023 which she said means she has more to do: “I plan to keep working and keep asking questions to the last day of my term.”

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