

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
FEBRUARY 10, 2022
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: DR. YVETTE RICHARDSON, VICE PRESIDENT

The invocation was done by Pastor Frank Bowling, Eastmont Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell in person
Dr. Tonya Chestnut in person
Dr. Cynthia McCarty in person
Mrs. Belinda McRae in person
Dr. Wayne Reynolds in person
Dr. Yvette Richardson in person
Mrs. Tracie West in person
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

Absent

Governor Kay Ivey

Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 13, 2022, MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of January 13, 2022.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CAMILLA DUARTE
TUSCALOOSA MAGNET SCHOOL
TUSCALOOSA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
2022 ELEMENTARY BEST OF SHOW
STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education recognize that the visual arts are a vital and enriching segment of children's education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent's Visual Arts Exhibit provides an opportunity for K-12 students in every school system to participate; and

WHEREAS, the criteria set for judging are sanctioned by recognized and prestigious organizations—the National Art Education Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, and the Alabama State Council on the Arts; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to visual arts programs and teachers as they attempt to strengthen and strive for artistic literacy, educational excellence, and for a well-rounded education for every student; and

WHEREAS, the visual arts contribute powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students by enhancing metacognitive abilities and engaging students to learn; promoting curiosity, creativity, innovation, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration; provide opportunities to access, develop, express, and integrate meaning across a variety of content, other curricula experiences, and the human condition:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Camilla Duarte, Tuscaloosa Magnet School - Elementary, Tuscaloosa City School System; her teacher, Dana Skinner; her principal, Preeti Nichani; and her superintendent, Dr. Mike Daria, and congratulates her for winning Elementary Best of Show in the 2022 State Superintendent's Visual Arts Exhibit.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF EMILY RESTAD
PIKE ROAD HIGH SCHOOL
PIKE ROAD CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
2022 SECONDARY DIVISION BEST OF SHOW
STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education recognize that the visual arts are a vital and enriching segment of children's education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent's Visual Arts Exhibit provides an opportunity for K-12 students in every school system to participate; and

WHEREAS, the criteria set for judging are sanctioned by recognized and prestigious organizations—the National Art Education Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, and the Alabama State Council on the Arts; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to visual arts programs and teachers as they attempt to strengthen and strive for artistic literacy, educational excellence, and for a well-rounded education for every student; and

WHEREAS, the visual arts contribute powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students by enhancing metacognitive abilities and engaging students to learn; promoting curiosity, creativity, innovation, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration; provide opportunities to access, develop, express, and integrate meaning across a variety of content, other curricula experiences, and the human condition:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Emily Restad, Pike Road High School, Pike Road City School System; her teacher, Hyesong Kim; her principal, Brittney Duncan; and her superintendent, Dr. Charles L. Ledbetter, and congratulates her for winning Secondary Best of Show in the 2022 State Superintendent's Visual Arts Exhibit.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE
2022 ANNUAL STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education recognize that the visual arts are a vital, enriching, and core segment of children's education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent's Visual Arts Exhibit provides an opportunity for K-12 students in every school system to participate; and

WHEREAS, the criteria set for judging are sanctioned by recognized and prestigious organizations—the National Art Education Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, and the Alabama State Council on the Arts; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to visual arts programs and teachers as they attempt to strengthen and strive for educational excellence and artistic literacy for students; and

WHEREAS, the visual arts contribute powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students by enhancing metacognitive abilities and engaging students to learn; promoting curiosity, creativity, innovation, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration; provide opportunities to access, develop, express, and integrate meaning across a variety of content, other curricula experiences, and the human condition:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend the 2022 State Superintendent’s Visual Arts Exhibit award-winning students and their teachers upon the honor of being selected as Alabama’s outstanding young artists and visual arts educators.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH 2022 AS
“ARTS EDUCATION MONTH” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education recognize the arts as a vital and enriching segment of children’s well-rounded education; and

WHEREAS, the National Art Education Association has designated March as “Youth Art Month”; the National Association for Music Education has designated March as “Music in Our Schools Month”; the American Alliance for Theatre Education has designated March as “Theatre in Our Schools Month”; and the National Dance Education Organization has designated March as “Dance in Our Schools Month”; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, the Alabama Music Educators Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama Chapter of the Educational Theatre Association, the Alabama Dance Educators Association K-12, the Alabama Dance Council, the Alabama Conference of Theatre, and the Alabama Artistic Literacy Consortium have voiced their support for designating March 2022 as “Arts Education Month” in Alabama schools; and

WHEREAS, the arts education teachers in the public schools of Alabama continue to strive for educational excellence and artistic literacy for their students; and

WHEREAS, support should be given to arts teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education programs in their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, every chance given, arts education provides to every child every day powerful benefits including the following: arts education develops students’ creativity through problem-solving and critical-thinking abilities; arts education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and all other expressive qualities; arts education gives students a deeper understanding of multicultural values and beliefs; arts education connects arts learning with and enlivens what students learn in other subjects; and arts education interrelates students’ learning in arts processes of creation, production, performance, presentation, and responding:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That support should be given to arts education teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education in their schools and communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That education in the arts, including dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts, is an essential component of a well-rounded K-12 public education in Alabama to every child; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to arts educators, classroom teachers, and administrators for their efforts to improve arts education in Alabama public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby designate March 2022 as “Arts Education Month” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH 7-11, 2022,
AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education has recognized for over 50 years, the School Breakfast Program has contributed to the health and educational development of Alabama’s children by making nutritious meals available in Grades K-12 public schools; and

WHEREAS, every March, the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture join together to celebrate the National School Breakfast Week; and

WHEREAS, the National School Breakfast Week 2022 theme is “Take Off with School Breakfast,” a fun way to show students, parents, and stakeholders all the ways that the components of breakfast are a superpower; and

WHEREAS, research has indicated that students who eat breakfast have better attention and memory, and the quality of foods children eat impacts cognition, and poor nutrition is linked with absenteeism, health problems, hunger symptoms, and psychosocial problems; and

WHEREAS, scientifically based food and nutrition information contributes powerful education benefits to all elementary and secondary students; and

WHEREAS, the School Breakfast Program serves over 34 million breakfast meals each year to Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to school nutrition professionals who make the local School Breakfast Program work in 1,475 school sites statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages Alabama schools to participate in promoting National School Breakfast Week; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does designate March 7-11, 2022, as “School Breakfast Week” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF FEBRUARY 7-11, 2022, AS NATIONAL SCHOOL
COUNSELING WEEK**

WHEREAS, Alabama school counselors are employed in public and private schools to help students reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Alabama school counselors are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development; and

WHEREAS, Alabama school counselors help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal, and social growth of their children; and

WHEREAS, Alabama school counselors work with teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and

WHEREAS, Alabama school counselors seek to identify and utilize community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive school counseling programs and help students become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, Alabama comprehensive school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 7–11, 2022, as National School Counseling Week.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW
OF AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM
Birmingham-Southern College**

WHEREAS, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.59(4)(b)2, requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the President of Birmingham-Southern College a written request to develop a Class B English Language Arts (6-12) program; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed program for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be considered in determining the need for the program; and

WHEREAS, Birmingham-Southern College was approved to prepare teachers of English Language Arts, but decided not to continue the program because no students were enrolled; and

WHEREAS, current Birmingham-Southern College students have expressed an interest in preparing to teach English Language Arts; and

WHEREAS, Birmingham-Southern College personnel wish to provide more teachers to help address the acute shortage certified applicants; and

WHEREAS, Birmingham-Southern College personnel have been advised that the proposed program may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval, based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program be reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following program:

Class B English Language Arts (6-12)

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM
Jacksonville State University**

WHEREAS, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.59(2)(a)1, requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for a new program is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education authorized a review of a proposed Class AA Elementary Education (K-6) program to be provided by Jacksonville State University; and

WHEREAS, a review of the proposed program determined that all applicable standards were met; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program be approved:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby grants approval of the following program with conditions to be addressed as noted on the attached pages, until June 30, 2024:

Class AA Elementary Education (K-6)

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Belinda McRae and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted 7-0-1 to approve the following. Dr. Wayne Reynolds abstained.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADES 4-12

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Law provides for the adoption of textbooks by the Alabama State Board of Education, the same to be adopted from recommendations made by the State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has made its recommendations in keeping with said law; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has worked diligently and invested countless hours in making such recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with said law, the Alabama State Board of Education received the recommendations at its December 9, 2021, meeting and 30 days prior notice of the date of consideration by the Alabama State Board of Education and was further provided to the news media:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education extends its sincerest appreciation to the State Textbook Committee and to all those who selflessly contributed their time and talents to prepare the attached recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the attached recommendations for the adoption of textbooks for English Language Arts, Grades 4-12, are hereby approved.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted 7-0-1 to approve the following. Dr. Wayne Reynolds abstained.

RESOLUTION TO TAKE NO ACTION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADES K-3

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Textbook Law provides for the adoption of textbooks by the Alabama State Board of Education, the same to be adopted from recommendations made by the State Textbook Committee; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has made its recommendations in keeping with said law; and

WHEREAS, the State Textbook Committee has worked diligently and invested countless hours in making such recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with said law, the Alabama State Board of Education received the recommendations at its December 9, 2021, meeting and 30 days prior notice of the date of consideration by the Alabama State Board of Education was further provided to the news media, and

WHEREAS, only one available option for consideration for the core reading program was presented to the Board by the Textbook Committee. As such, several Board members have noted their concern over the adoption of a single solitary core reading program thereby severely limiting our districts options:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education extends its sincerest appreciation to the State Textbook Committee and to all those who selflessly contributed their time and talents to prepare the attached recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board, by the adoption of this resolution, neither approves nor rejects and thereby takes no further action effecting the attached recommendations of the Textbook Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that at the appropriate time at the request of the State Superintendent, the Textbook Committee shall reinitiate the process in order to consider any current or additional submitted materials for Grades K-3. This process should not be completed until there is reasonable evidence that a review would yield sufficient products for consideration and approval by this Board and the local school boards of this state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board hereby notifies any local board of education that seeks to conduct its own review process for selection as provided by law that it is incumbent upon the local board to only consider materials firmly established and consistent with the Science of Reading for core reading programs, as well as the report produced by the literacy task force as a recommendation to the State Superintendent and the subsequent memorandum from the State Superintendent dated July 2, 2021, as the basis for any such adoption.

Done this 10th day of February 2022

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

ADOPT NEW ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-1-1-.15, PERTAINING TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND RECORDS POLICY

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Mrs. Belinda McRae, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-2-2-.01, PERTAINING TO SCHOOL FACILITIES: APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION AS A PERMANENT RULE

On motion by Mrs. Tracie West and seconded by Dr. Tonya Chestnut, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 290-2-2-.01-.01ER, PERTAINING TO SCHOOL FACILITIES: APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION AS AN EMERGENCY RULE

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Mackey stated that Pickens County Board of Education unfortunately lost a member to death. The *Alabama Code*, Section 16-8-6, states that the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the Board, and the appointee shall hold for the unexpired term. The Board was unable to arrive to a conclusive nomination. Pursuant to my authority as the State Superintendent of Education, I appointed Dr. John E. Brandon to serve in the position vacated by Mrs. Deborah Holley for the remainder of her term.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mackey stated that he will mention a couple of comments and turn it over to some students who are celebrating Career and Technical Education Month. Dr. Mackey thanked the Board for adopting the first four items on the agenda that referenced Arts Education. He reported that the students are not in attendance today. All honorees of the Arts Exhibits will attend a special reception on March 9, 2022, at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery. The Board is invited to attend the reception on the day before the March 10, 2022, meeting. The musical performances for the month of February were cancelled, but Mr. Andy Meadows, Arts Education Specialist for the Department, rescheduled the performances for March and April. The musical performances schedule will be issued to the Board Members at the following Work Session. All musical performances will be held at the Gordon Persons Building Rotunda at 11:10 a.m. and the State Capitol Rotunda at 12:10 p.m. The visual arts show is on display at the old Supreme Court Library. Dr. Mackey reminded everyone that March is also Arts Education Month.

Dr. Mackey recognized all higher education representatives in the attendance. He gave accolades to Dr. Jayne A. Meyer, Director of the Office of Teaching and Leading, who has worked for the Alabama State Department of Education since November 1973 and will be retiring March 1, 2022. Dr. Mackey stated that Dr. Meyer has given a great deal to the Department as well as the state. He described Dr. Meyer as the most courageous, smart, and committed person that he has ever known.

In observance of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month, Dr. Mackey allowed Dr. Jimmy Hull, Assistant State Superintendent of Education for Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development, to show a video highlighting some of Alabama's CTE programs. Dr. Hull shared some information on middle grades CTE grants that was awarded to some local education agencies. Dr. Hull allowed Ms. Laura Bailey, Education Administrator of Health Science, Hospitality and Tourism, and Human Services, to share some highlights of the unique partnership of CTE Health Science programs and the Earn and Learn program at East Alabama Health in Opelika. The Tallassee High School FFA Quartet and Chapter Officers, accompanied by their instructor and mentors Dr. Daniel Free, Jerry Cunningham, and Michael Bird, were also present. The Quartet performed three beautiful songs. Dr. Mackey stated that the singing is a great way to end his report.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer