

## STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



October 19, 2022

Alabama State Board of Education

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey EAN

State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Technology Inventory Including Digital Equity Data for

School Year (SY) 2022-2023

Although it has long existed, the digital divide has been highlighted during the global pandemic as evidenced by the digital inequities faced by schools, students, and families. As we strive to close the digital divide in Alabama, it is essential that we work within the educational setting, as well as with other state agencies, to identify gaps that exist and develop much-needed solutions.

Beginning this school year, digital equity data will be collected as part of the annual technology inventory requirements to provide the most accurate baseline data possible for future planning and technology initiatives. As we work collaboratively with stakeholders to look at ways to expand connectivity in Alabama, provide access to devices sufficient to meet the needs of current and future learning trends, and provide resources to effectively integrate technology into instruction to empower our students, collecting and analyzing digital equity data will be essential to this process.

Several local education agencies (LEAs) have begun the process of collecting digital equity data for all students. A help guide explaining which fields are required and how to complete the task individually or in mass via data import manager can be accessed at <a href="Updating Technology Inventory">Updating Technology Inventory</a> in PowerSchool Oct2022.pdf. By January 31, 2023, all districts should have digital equity data entered for students in Grades K-12 in the PowerSchool Student Information System. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, this information will be collected annually and will initially be pulled in accordance with the traditional 20-Day ADM data collection deadline of the third Friday in October. Ongoing data pulls will continue throughout the year as needed for various grants, reports, or projects.

City and County Superintendents of Education Page 2 October 19, 2022

For this school year Part One, the traditional technology inventory that was distributed to technology coordinators in April 2022, is due October 14, 2022. Part Two, student digital equity data, should be entered no later than 3 p.m. on January 31, 2023. Moving forward, technology inventories will include the traditional equipment counts, digital equity for students, and digital equity for staff (not applicable for the 2022-2023 school year) for a more accurate and comprehensive view of digital equity in Alabama. Some data will be reported as well as displayed on the Alabama State Department of Education website.

If you have any questions regarding the technology inventory that also includes the digital equity data component, please submit a ticket to the Educational Technology Section using the following link at Ed. Tech. Support Ticket or call 334-694-4641.

## EGM:SEG:DS

cc: LEA Technology Coordinators

LEA Data Managers Mrs. Angela Martin Dr. Brandon T. Payne Mr. Chuck Marcum Dr. Elisabeth Davis

Mrs. Stacy Royster

FY23-2005