



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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Governor Kay Ivey
President

**ALABAMA TEACHERS GET CREATIVE WITH
SCIENCE LEARNING IN SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM**

*“Gulf Coast Collaborative to Inspire Alabama STEM Educators at the
Dauphin Island Sea Lab this February”*

Jackie Zeigler
District I

Montgomery, Ala. – Ten highly skilled educators from Alabama have been selected to participate in the Advancing Coherent and Equitable Systems of Science Education (ACESSE) Gulf Coast Collaborative at Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

Tracie West
District II
President Pro Tem



The *Gulf Coast Collaborative*, sponsored by the NSF-funded ACESSE Project is a collaboration of science and STEM educators from Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Stephanie Bell
District III

Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Alabama Center for
Marine Education and Research

This initiative was developed collaboratively by state science leads in each state along with guidance from the Education Director of the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium and the Chair of Discovery Hall Programs at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Top educators from each state were invited to apply and participate in this special program. Participants will utilize ACESSE Resources centered around developing locally relevant phenomena to engage students in meaningful science learning to guide community partners and teachers in the use of Open Educational Resources (OER) curriculum materials.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V

Marie Manning
District VI

Belinda McRae
District VII



Participants will also learn about the Gulf Coast Sea Grant Consortium focus areas of coastal ecosystem health, sustainable fisheries, resilient aquaculture economies, and environmental literacy and the relevance of connecting this content to science education.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII
Vice President

This group will initiate professional development and collaboration among its participants. Each will learn more about lesson planning methods to promote science and STEM education in the classroom. They will engage in innovative activities utilizing virtual sessions and asynchronous work. The following educators were selected:

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

- **Monica Daniels** – Classroom teacher PK -5, Bessemer City
- **Nancy McGowan** – Gifted Specialist, PK-5, Hoover City

–more–

Upcoming Gulf Coast Collaborative on February 10-11, 2023

- **Patrice Molden** – Classroom teacher PK -5, Bessemer City
- **Sarah Pauls** – Science resource lab teacher, PK -5, Huntsville City
- **Mashika Tempero Culliver** – Classroom teacher 9-12, Selma City
- **Holly Evans** – Classroom teacher 6-8, Jefferson County
- **Krista Marcum** – Classroom teacher 9-12, Gulf Shores City
- **Virginia Driskell** – Marine Educator, Dauphin Island Sea Lab
- **Sidney Freeman** – Classroom teacher 9-12, University Charter School
- **Jayme Oates** – Environmental Educator, Legacy Environmental Education
- **Matthew Shockey** – Classroom teacher 9-12, Hueytown High School
- **Dr. Tracy Jay** – Environmental Supervisor, Environmental Studies Center

The *Gulf Coast Collaborative* event will take place at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab from February 10-11, 2023 – <https://www.disl.edu/>

The [agenda for this event](#) includes an immersive experience for educators focused on social activities, professional learning, and opportunities to connect regional science content experts with great education agency partners.

It will encompass two days of in-person learning centered around a shared interest in furthering student science and STEM achievement.

This event will also be followed by other exciting professional development efforts, through June 2023.

Learn more by contacting Alabama State Department of Education Instructional Services Specialist, Dr. Michal Grant Robinson at mrobinson@ALSDE.edu or State AMSTI Science Administrator, Jackie DeJarnett at jackie.dejarnett@alsde.edu

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