

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

Alabama State Board of Education August 13, 2020

MEMORANDUM

Governor Kay Ivey
President

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education

Eric G. Mackey

FROM:

RE:

State Superintendent of Education

Jackie Zeigler District I Vice President

Virtual School Assurances on Cognia's eProve Diagnostics Platform

Tracie West District II

Stephanie Bell District III

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D. District IV President Pro Tem

Tommie T. Stewart, Ph.D. District V

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D. District VI

> Jeff Newman District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D. District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D. Secretary and Executive Officer In the 2020-2021 school year, systems that have a virtual school must complete the Virtual School Assurances in Cognia's eProve Diagnostics Platform. According to the *Virtual School Act* 2015-89, school systems are required to ensure that online providers of virtual courses are accredited by a recognized accreditation entity, and it is essential that the courses contain the required content as identified in the applicable Alabama Course of Study. Additionally, virtual schools are required to abide by federal education statutes including the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA), Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, and Title II of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA).

The Virtual School Assurances should only be completed by systems with a virtual school that earns foundation units and has enrollment. Brick and mortar schools that offer virtual programs or virtual courses do not need to complete the assurances. Each system that has a virtual school must complete the assurances on or before September 1, 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Jean Scott by email at jscott@alsde.edu or by telephone at (334) 694-4710.

EGM/AM/JS

FY20-2135