



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 State Department of Education Celebrates 2021  
 National School Counseling Week, February 1–5**

Jackie Zeigler  
 District I  
 Vice President

**Montgomery, Ala.** - *2021 National School Counseling Week, "Alabama School Counselors: All in for All Students,"* sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), will be celebrated this week to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within Alabama school systems and how students are better as a result of what Alabama school counselors do.

Tracie West  
 District II

National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for future careers.

Stephanie Bell  
 District III

"School counselors work with all students to remove barriers to learning by addressing students' academic concerns, postsecondary options, and social/emotional skill development," said Dr. Elisabeth Davis, Assistant State Superintendent for Student Learning. "School counseling programs help to increase student achievement and provide a much-needed resource for students, parents, teachers and school administrators. School counselors are integral to student success. This special week honors Alabama school counselors who implement comprehensive school counseling programs as they meet the challenges of the 21st Century."

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

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
 District V

Sean J. Stevens, Program Coordinator of Instructional Services, added, "We celebrate Alabama school counselors for being actively engaged in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents; for working in a partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world; for focusing on positive ways to enhance students' academic, postsecondary and social/emotional development; and working with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. School counselors are professionally credentialed, experienced educators—this combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program in Alabama."

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.  
 District VI

More than 100,000 school counselors nationwide will be participating in the week's festivities. Many schools will be hosting special events and activities to call attention to the countless benefits of a comprehensive school counseling program.

Belinda McRae  
 District VII

Parents or community members can learn more about school counseling programs by contacting the counselors at their local schools.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
 District VIII

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

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