



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2024

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Alabama
State Board
of Education

ALABAMA’S PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS ANNOUNCED TODAY

“Highlighting Our Top Schools and Their Dedication to Military Families and Students”

Governor Kay Ivey
President

Montgomery, Ala. – Today, approximately 75 schools from Alabama were recognized at the Alabama State Board of Education Meeting and received Purple Star School designations.

Jackie Zeigler
District I

The *Purple Star Schools Program* is a collaborative initiative developed to recognize the efforts of K-12 schools in the state that are committed and supportive of military students, and their families, as they transition to their new homes and schools.

Tracie West
District II
Vice President



The Alabama Purple Star Schools Program was

Stephanie Bell
District III

established by the Legislature with the passage of [Act 2021-7](#).

This program recognizes local schools and was designed to lower high mobility challenges and increase military-friendly schools.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

**See the full list of this year’s Purple Star Schools honorees here:*
[Purple Star Schools Honorees](#)

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V
President Pro Tem

Also, schools earning this accolade receive a special *Purple Star School Recognition Banner* to display. “We want to ensure every student who moves to Alabama is given every opportunity for academic growth and achievement – and the Purple Star School Program helps families identify military-friendly schools and helps local schools become more prepared to address the challenges facing these students,” said State Superintendent Dr. Eric G. Mackey.

Marie Manning
District VI

To receive Purple Star School designation, local schools must complete *required* activities, plus one optional activity, listed below:

Belinda McRae
District VII

Required:

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

1. The school must have a staff point of contact for military students and families who serves as the primary liaison between them and the school.
 - The liaison completes professional development on special considerations for military students and families.
 - The liaison identifies and informs teachers of the military-connected students in their schools and the special considerations military families and students should receive.
2. School maintains a dedicated Purple Star Program page on its website featuring resources for military families.

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

–more–

Alabama's Purple Star Schools Announcement

3. The school must maintain a student-led transition program with a faculty or staff advisor. This program should provide peer support for newly enrolled and transitioning students.

Optional:

1. The school provides professional development for additional staff on special considerations for military students and families.
2. The local school board passes a resolution publicizing the school's support for military children and families.
3. The school hosts a military recognition event that demonstrates a supportive culture.
4. The school establishes a partnership with a local military installation that provides opportunities for military members to volunteer at the campus, speak at an assembly, or host a field trip.

The Purple Star Schools program officially launched in 2021 and 53 schools earned the designation. Then in 2023, a total of 122 schools earned Purple Star School status.

Today, there are nearly 250 Purple Star Schools in Alabama!

To learn more about the Purple Star Schools Program in Alabama, visit <https://www.alabamaachieves.org/al-pssp/>

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