May 29, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

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

SUBJECT: Three-Cueing System Prohibition

During its May 9, 2024, Board Meeting, the Alabama State Board of Education voted to adopt Alabama Administrative Code Rule 290-3-3.61. This rule outlines the Science of Reading (SoR) coursework standards for students enrolled in Alabama’s educator preparation programs (EPPs). To ensure that our pre-service teachers are being taught appropriate strategies and our current teachers are using appropriate strategies, this rule also specifically prohibits the use of the Three-Cueing System in Alabama’s EPPs and in Alabama public schools. An excerpt is provided below:

“Three-Cueing System” is any model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure/syntax, and visual cues (MSV). The utilization of the Three-Cueing System within coursework, materials, instructional strategies, etc., is prohibited in Alabama EPPs and in Alabama public schools.

Please take time to evaluate all instructional materials and practices to ensure the Three-Cueing System is not being utilized. The EPPs should also review all graduate-level program content and textbooks to ensure that they do not include three-cueing. If you have any questions, please contact your ARI Regional Literacy Specialist.

EGM/SYH/MF

cc: Deans of Education
    Mrs. Angela Martin
    Dr. Melissa Shields
    Mrs. Bonnie Short
    Ms. Shavon Y. Harris

FY24-2048