

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER 14-18, 2024,
AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education has annually recognized that the National School Lunch Program has contributed to the health and educational development of Alabama’s children by making nutritious meals available to all grade levels at public and private schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions who participate in the National School Lunch Program; and

WHEREAS, every October, the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture join together to celebrate the National School Lunch Week which was established in 1962 to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child’s life and how balanced nutrition throughout the day contributes to student success in and outside of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Week 2024 (#NSLW24) theme is “School Lunch Pirates! Find Your Treasure,” which spotlights the wide variety of flavors, dishes, delivery options, and tastes that can be customized in today’s school lunch; and

WHEREAS, research indicated that partaking in school lunch supports obesity prevention and overall student health by improving children’s diets and combatting food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the School Lunch Program served over 79,988,746 million lunch meals for the school year 2023-2024 to Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to school nutrition professionals who make the local School Lunch Program succeed in 2,268 school sites statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages Alabama schools to participate in promoting National School Lunch Week; and designates October 14-18, 2024, as “National School Lunch Week” in Alabama schools.

Done this 12th day of September 2024