

2026

Alabama Achieves



**Alabama
Achieves**

ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Every child. Every chance. Every day. is not only our department's motto, but a guiding philosophy that drives our department's initiatives and strategies to ensure that Alabama achieves our goals and that the 714,000 children who cross the thresholds into our public schools every day are prepared to become more productive, responsible citizens when they graduate and enter the workforce. From the first day of kindergarten until graduation day, every child should be afforded every chance to succeed in school. Our aspiration is that with our support, all children will seize the opportunities, rise to the challenges, and overcome any barriers in their way.



We are focused on innovative initiatives outlined in our strategic plan, Alabama Achieves, including the Alabama Literacy Act, Alabama Numeracy Act, STEM education, Career Technical Education, and workforce development.

We remain committed to working with our elected officials, local school systems, educators, boards, advocates, and other parties to move education in Alabama forward. And, through the leadership of our Governor, State Board, and Legislature - we are making progress and can see results.

In 2020, we unveiled our strategic plan the day before the pandemic resulted in the shutdown. Throughout the pandemic, Alabama remained focused on our strategic plan and strategies to improve our schools.

Alabama has made significant changes resulting in improvements in student outcomes. This book highlights many of our achievements.

We appreciate your support of education in our state and will continue to work diligently to improve education in Alabama.


Dr. Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education



Academic Growth & Achievement

Increase student achievement in all academic areas with a focus on reading and math



Increase reading achievement on state and national assessments



Support students with exceptional needs (e.g., special education, gifted, English learners, dyslexic, medically fragile)



Improve participation and success in Advanced Placement and dual enrollment courses



Increase mathematics and science achievement on state and national assessments



Expand computer science offerings to every school



Support a robust curriculum for all students that supports the arts, foreign languages, and other academic areas that create a solid foundation for students

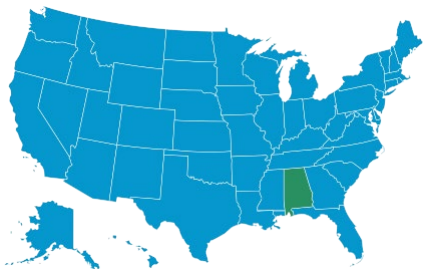
ACHIEVEments



- ↑ Alabama is ranked **5th** in the nation for Computer Science
- ↑ Participation in Dual Enrollment has increased **87%** since 2018 to 40,348
- ↑ **13.87%** or 160,836 students in Alabama receive support for exceptional needs including special education, gifted, dyslexia, etc

ACADEMIC GROWTH & ACHIEVEMENT

ACHIEVEMENTs



Alabama has led the nation for the past four years* in COVID Recovery.

- Alabama has exceeded pre-pandemic levels of achievement in mathematics and has the largest increase in 4th grade mathematics in the Nation on the 2024 NAEP, the Nation's Report Card, and is now ranked 32nd in Math - the highest ranking ever for Alabama
- Alabama is now 34th in the Nation in 4th Grade Reading and is one of two states to exceed pre-COVID levels

↑ **88.4%+**

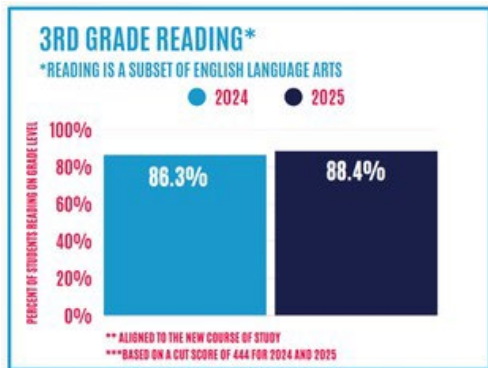
of 3rd Graders are Reading on Grade Level

↑ **25,022+**

Teachers trained in LETRS

↑ **1,048+**

AMSTI Schools



College, Career, & Workforce Ready

Engage, challenge, and support every student in relevant, impactful instruction that equips him or her with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully enter college, career, or workforce



Expand opportunities to give students multiple ways to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and qualities for success after high school



Identify the knowledge, habits, and qualities (i.e. essential skills) necessary for success after high school and support every high school to incorporate these across various curricula



Reduce the gap between College and Career Readiness (CCR) Rate and the Graduation Rate



Provide tools to local school systems for all K-12 students to have opportunities to explore various college and career options

ACHIEVEMENTS

↑ **92%+**

Graduation Rate

↑ **88%+**

College and Career Readiness Rate

↑ **173,235+**

Students enrolled in CTE

↑ **91.90%+**

Positive Placement Rate for CTE Students

↑ **45,300+**

CTE Credentials Earned

↑ **80.25%+**

of High School Students are enrolled in at least one CTE Class

Safe and Supportive Learning Environments

Provide safe environments that support the physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development of all students in every school



Working with ADMH to expand access to mental health therapists in schools



Provide support and professional expertise to local school systems as they create, enhance, and/or maintain safe, secure campuses



Provide support and high-quality professional development to school safety personnel



Collaborate with local law enforcement officials to jointly participate in training

ACHIEVEments

↑ **151+**

Mental Health
Service Coordinators

↑ **1,659+**

School Nurses (RN and
LPN)

↑ **706+**

School Resource
Officers

↑ **90M+**

Miles Driven by School
Buses

↑ **134M+**

Meals Served



Alabama has the Lowest
Percentage of Chronic
Absenteeism in the U.S.

Highly Effective Educators

Ensure highly effective educators are equipped with the content knowledge and teaching skills to address the needs of all learners in every school



Increase the number of high-quality educators entering the profession with an emphasis on shortage and areas of need



Provide high-quality professional development to focus on specific, identifiable needs of teachers and principals



Increase the number of non-traditional teacher candidates recruited as "second career" teachers from military, industry, business, and other fields

ACHIEVEments

↑ **38,013+**

AMSTI Trained Teachers

↑ **623+**

Building Based Math Coaches

↑ **4,163+**

TEAMS Teachers

↑ **162+**

CALTs



Alabama is ranked **5th** in the nation for number of new NBCTs -- and **7th** in the nation for total number of active NBCTs

Engagement

Build a collaborative environment at the Alabama State Department of Education that provides fast, reliable customer service for citizens, state leaders, and local education agencies



Develop internal communication strategies and pathways at the ALSDE with a focus of “customer satisfaction”



Enhance external communications strategies and pathways to improve communication between the ALSDE and stakeholders

ACHIEVEMENTS

↑ **374+**

Purple Star Schools

↑ **5,240%+**

Increase in Instagram Followers

↑ **40K+**

Twitter/X Followers

↑ **93M+**

Facebook Impressions



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