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### Need Training Hours?

There are still ways to earn hours before the June 30 training year deadline. Earn 3.5 hours by attending the [School Safety Summit](#) or 7 hours by attending AASB's [Summer Conference](#). And remember, many courses are available through AASB's online portal, [School Board U](#), including two newly launched FREE courses, [Beginner's Guide to Communication Patterns](#) and [Religion in Public Schools](#).

### It's a Date!

**May 16 (1 hour)**  
[Webinar: Telling your Story Tools & Tips for School Systems](#)

**May 21 (2 hours)**  
[Advocacy Day: All Districts](#)  
Montgomery, Ala

**June 14 (3.5 hours)**  
[School Safety Summit](#)  
Orange Beach, Ala.

**June 14-16 (7 hours)**  
[AASB Summer Conference](#)  
Orange Beach, Ala.

**June 15 & 16 (6 CLE hours)**  
[ACSBA Summer Conference](#)  
Orange Beach, Ala.

**June 17-19**  
[AAAA Summer Conference](#)  
Orange Beach, Ala.

### Mark Your Calendar

AASB's District Meetings will take place Aug. 29 - Sept. 19. Be on the lookout soon for registration details.

### State BOE Receives Supt. Evaluation Results, Certification Changes Discussed

The audience was packed for Thursday's State Board of Education meeting, as Alabama's 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year Ana Carolina Behel, Teacher of the Year Alternate Jacque Middleton and 14 district finalists were recognized. The meeting agenda was light on action items, with most of the meeting devoted to recognizing educators.

In a carryover from the April meeting, the board approved Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth's Alabama Public Charter School Commission nominee, Allison Hagood, with four yes votes and three abstentions. The board also announced its intent to adopt changes to the Alabama Administrative Code pertaining to student health services, specifically regarding the Alex Hoover Palliative and End-of-Life Care Act, appointed the 2019-20 k-12 textbook committee for health, and approved educator preparation programs for Alabama A&M University.

Near the end of Thursday's meeting, the board received results of the early performance evaluation of State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey. Gov. Kay Ivey's Education Policy Advisor Nick Moore explained how the results were compiled and tabulated. Mackey's evaluation covered six categories, and he received a composite score of 3.67 on a five-point scale, with his highest score (4.41) in "personal qualities" and lowest (3.32) in "performance and key job responsibilities." Individual board member composite scores ranged from a 1 from Ella Bell (District 5) to a 4.61 from Jeff Newman (District 7). Board Vice President Dr. Cynthia McCarty (District 6) said Mackey will use the recommendations as constructive guidance to provide the board with a personal professional growth plan. For more details, [read coverage by Trisha Powell Crain on al.com](#).

During a brief superintendent's report, Mackey addressed a large contingency of students from Washington County, assuring them that he and members of the state board are listening to their concerns about a proposed charter school in their community. He stressed several times that he couldn't "say much more."

The work session following the meeting featured several lengthy presentations, the first

led by Tommy Glasscock, assistant state superintendent, Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development Division. A large group of CTE representatives from more than a dozen Alabama school systems were on hand to hear Glasscock explain how the ALSDE is working to address challenges with CTE educator certification. Problems arose when the company that provided the previous basic skills assessment disbanded and the department defaulted to the same assessment used for college students. While most passed, many had trouble with the higher-level assessment. Glasscock said the department has worked with ACT on a comprehensive study to develop an assessment that more accurately reflects needed skills for CTE educators, including applied math, workplace documents and business writing. In addition, beginning with the 2019-20 year, those enrolled in the CTE Teacher Certification Program will receive targeted professional development to assist in improving the retention rate. Because the plans addressing CTE certification and retention do not involve an administrative code change, it could be adopted at the next board meeting. [View CTE presentation](#).

Deputy State Superintendent Dr. Daniel Boyd [updated the board on several issues](#), including the department's efforts to improve outcomes in specialized treatment centers (STCs) which serve approximately 2,000 students referred from DHR, the court system and other entities. He said a meeting regarding STCs will take place May 22, facilitated by a representative of the American Institutes for Research with several STC experts in attendance. Boyd also discussed steps the department is taking to attract new teachers, which he said is becoming even more difficult because of a booming economy full of competition from business and industry sectors. Those strategies include changes to Alternative Certification requirements that would allow a GPA of 2.0 with a higher Praxis score. For provisional certificates, the current "recency" rule requiring candidates to have completed a degree within the last five years will be removed. In addition, the basic skills assessment will no longer be required for candidates who possess a bachelor's degree.

Boyd also informed the board of the Teacher Shortage Task Force's recommendation to



raise the pass score for the math Praxis. A discussion followed about the lack of consistency in graduation requirements among colleges of education, with some having a Praxis pass requirement to earn an education degree, some requiring students to pass the Praxis before entering student teaching and others having no Praxis score requirement for graduation. McCarty said she would like to see data comparing the Praxis processes and teacher success.

In an assessment update, Assistant State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Thacker told the board the assessment task force has recommended sticking with the ACT as the high school assessment. He also said about 150,000 students have completed pilot testing of the new DRC-developed assessment for grades 2 – 8. Another presentation by Assistant State Superintendent of Education Dr. Elisabeth Davis focused on [structured literacy and dyslexia support updates](#).

**Next State Board Meeting:** The next State Board of Education meeting will take place June 13 in Montgomery at 10 a.m., followed by a work session.

### 'Road to Success' Student Video Contest Winners to be Announced Monday



Schools from across Alabama entered AASB's 8th annual student video contest with its new theme, "Road to Success."

This year's contest winners will be announced Monday, so keep an eye on AASB's

Facebook and Twitter pages Monday, May 13 for the big news!

### Showcase Your Students' Talent

Do you know a talented vocal, instrumental, performing arts or ROTC group in your school system? Don't miss out on a great opportunity to showcase the outstanding talent of your students and their instructors before an audience of hundreds at AASB's Annual Convention in December. The application deadline is **August 31, 2019**.

**Social Media Contest:** Entertainment finalists will be entered into a social media contest in which local schools and communities will be able to vote for their favorite group. The lucky group with the most votes will earn bragging rights as this year's "fan favorite" and will be invited to perform at AASB's Convention.

**For more info:** [Download the Entertainment Application and Criteria/Guidelines](#).

### FREE Opioid Training Program Being Offered to Education Leaders

The Alabama Opioid Training Institute, in partnership with the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy and the Alabama Department of Mental Health, will offer free training programs to empower education and community leaders to battle the opioid crisis in Alabama, which has one of the highest opioid-prescribing rates in the nation.

**Program dates and locations include:**

- **May 20 & 21:** Birmingham | [Hilton @ UAB](#)
- **July 23:** Huntsville | [Jackson Center](#)
- **July 24:** Cullman | [Cullman Civic Center](#)
- **July 29:** Montgomery | [Hilton Garden Inn - EastChase](#)
- **July 30:** Auburn | [Auburn Grand National](#)
- **August 1:** Dothan | [Windmill Station](#)
- **August 2:** [Mobile](#) | [Battle House Renaissance](#)

For more information, visit [www.alabamaoti.org](http://www.alabamaoti.org), call 334-844-8371 or email [hsopce@auburn.edu](mailto:hsopce@auburn.edu).

### Don't Miss AASB's Summer Conference and Early Bird

Spend three days learning and networking at AASB's annual [Summer Conference](#) (7 training hours) at The Perdido in Orange Beach, Ala., June 14-16. You also don't want to miss the new Early Bird, "Safety Summit" on June 14. The [School Safety Summit](#) is worth 3.5 training hour and will feature experts who will share potentially life saving advice on keeping Alabama's K-12 schools safe.

Featured speakers include:

- **Dr. Bernie James** – *Education Law*
- **Patrick Sidmore**, -*ACEs & Trauma Informed Schools*
- **Angela Walker** – *Social-Emotional Learning in Alabama*
- **Hamish Brewer** – *Be Relentless*
- **James Wells** – *Developing Creative Leadership Teams in Schools*
- **Dr. Kymyona Burk** – *Mississippi's Reading Initiative*
- **Nick Moore** – *Governor's Grade-Level Reading Initiative*

### May 16 Webinar: Telling Your Story

There are great things happening every day in your school system. Learn how to spread the good news by registering for AASB's next webinar, [Telling your Story: Tools & Tips for School Systems](#), on May 16, from noon to 1 p.m. Join AASB Director of Public Relations Dana Vandiver for valuable tips to get your system in the spotlight in no time.

### Alabama Charter Commission Meeting Update

The Alabama Charter Commission met by teleconference on April 29, 2019. The Commission discussed the following items and took the following actions:

- Approved a resolution to formally approve the i3 Academy (Birmingham);
- Extensively discussed proposed changes proposed by Legacy Prep (Birmingham) relating to its budget, funding and enrollment expectations. The Commission tabled the proposal and requested additional information be provided;
- Discussed the Commission's expectations for the schools opening this fall, including Legacy Prep (Birmingham), Woodland Prep (Washington County) and LEAD Academy (Montgomery);
- Approved University Charter's (Sumter County) submission regarding growth measurements;
- Discussed Commissioners up for reappointment when current terms end on May 31;
- Discussed Woodland Prep (Washington County), recent media interest and strategies to share more factual information.

### Update New Superintendent & Board Member Profiles

AASB provides news, shares advocacy information and maintains board member training records in the eMEMBERSHIP database. It's important to enter new superintendent and board members in the membership database as quickly as possible. AASB provides board administrative assistants with usernames and passwords. Members can access their records, too. By entering new members' profiles quickly, they can immediately begin receiving AASB emails and mailings and their state-mandated training records can be properly maintained. Members leaving the board are encouraged to stay active in public education as an AASB associate member and/or member of the AASB Network. Contact [membership@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org](mailto:membership@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org)