

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY EDUCATION  
WORK SESSION  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024, 11 A.M. OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
PLAZA 103 GORDON PERSONS BUILDING  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-2101**

**AGENDA**

1. Resolution in Recognition of Ashley Dark of Gwin Elementary School, Hoover City School System, 2024 Mathematics Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District III
2. Resolution in Recognition of Heather Hurt of Vestavia Hills East Elementary School, Vestavia Hills City School System, 2024 Mathematics Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District III
3. Resolution in Recognition of Shandra Upchurch of Lakewood Elementary School, Huntsville City School System, 2024 Mathematics Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District VIII
4. Resolution in Recognition of Melody Greene of Berry Middle School, Hoover City School System, 2024 Science Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District III
5. Resolution in Recognition of Mary Brennan of Pelham Oaks Elementary School, Pelham City School System, 2024 Science Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District III
6. Resolution in Recognition of Maegan Gayle of Eichold-Mertz Magnet Elementary School of Math, Science and Technology, Mobile County School System, 2024 Science Presidential Award Finalist, State School Board District V
7. Resolution Proclaiming February 2025 as Alabama Career and Technical Education Month
8. Higher Ed Report Cards
9. Announce Intent to Adopt New *Alabama Administrative Code* Chapter 290-3-3, Pertaining to Educator Preparation
10. Resolution for Digital Literacy and Computer Science State Course of Study Committee
11. Superintendent Updates and Other Business

The Alabama State Board of Education meeting and work session will be available for LIVE viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/user/aldeptofed/live>.  
After the meeting, the archived video is available at <https://www.alabamaachieves.org/state-board-of-education/meeting-videos/>.  
If you have comments or questions, please call Communications at 334-694-4686 or send email at [comm@alsde.edu](mailto:comm@alsde.edu).

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ASHLEY DARK  
GWIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Ashley Dark of Gwin Elementary School, Hoover City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Ashley Dark was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Ashley Dark upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. HEATHER HURT  
VESTAVIA HILLS EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
VESTAVIA HILLS CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Heather Hurt of Vestavia Hills East Elementary School, Vestavia Hills City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 11 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Heather Hurt was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Heather Hurt upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. SHANDRA UPCHURCH  
LAKEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 MATHEMATICS PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state mathematics finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Shandra Upchurch of Lakewood Elementary School, Huntsville City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama mathematics classroom for 18 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Shandra Upchurch was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in mathematics teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Shandra Upchurch upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of mathematics.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. MELODY GREENE  
BERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Melody Green of Berry Middle School, Hoover City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 21 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Melody Green was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Melody Green upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. MARY BRENNAN  
PELHAM OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PELHAM CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Mary Brennan of Pelham Oaks Elementary School, Pelham City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 12 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Mary Brennan was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Mrs. Mary Brennan upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MAEGAN GAYLE  
EICHOLD-MERTZ MAGNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF  
MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY  
MOBILE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
2024 SCIENCE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FINALIST**

**WHEREAS**, now that we have entered the 21st Century, proficiency in mathematics and science is more important than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, established by Congress in 1983, are the nation's highest honor bestowed upon K-12 mathematics and science teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 200 teachers throughout the nation, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the United States territories, are selected each year as state finalists; and

**WHEREAS**, through the state selection committee, three 2024 state science finalists were chosen from a number of applications in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Maegan Gayle of Eichold-Mertz Magnet Elementary School of Math, Science and Technology, Mobile County School System, has demonstrated excellence in the Alabama science classroom for 12 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Maegan Gayle was chosen as a 2024 finalist in Alabama to receive the award for excellence in science teaching:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend Ms. Maegan Gayle upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding teachers of science.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

## **RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2025 AS ALABAMA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, February 2025 has been designated National Career and Technical Education (CTE) month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's career and technical education programs have become a vital and rigorous component of the state's educational system, dedicated to providing students with the academic, career, and life skills necessary for success in today's competitive workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's CTE programs foster strong connections between education and workforce development, driving economic growth and innovation at the local, regional, and state levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's CTE programs are partnering effectively with business and industry to ensure students gain the communication, leadership, and technical skills necessary for success in both college and career pathways; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's CTE programs provide valuable hands-on learning opportunities through apprenticeships, internships, and work-based learning experiences that prepare students for real-world challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, two out of every three high school students in Alabama currently participate in CTE programs, highlighting the broad reach and impact of these educational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) play a crucial role in developing leadership skills and promoting workforce readiness through a combination of technical training and leadership development; and

**WHEREAS**, 118,000 Alabama students were active members of CTOSs, including DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, JAG, JROTC, SkillsUSA, and TSA last year, demonstrating the depth of student engagement and commitment to excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past year, Alabama students earned 33,276 industry-recognized credentials, further demonstrating the effectiveness and value of the state's CTE programs in preparing students for successful careers; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's CTE programs prepare students for a lifetime of success by providing opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials, gain workplace experience, and earn college credit while still in high school; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 2025 as Alabama Career and Technical Education Month and encourages local boards of education, schools, business professionals, and community organizations to participate in this celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of Alabama's career and technical education programs and their positive impact on student achievement.

Done this 9th day of January 2025



# HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT CARDS

**ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT NEW ALABAMA  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER  
290-3-3, PERTAINING TO EDUCATOR PREPARATION**

Action Item No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Alabama State Board of Education  
January 9, 2025

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT  
THE DIGITAL LITERACY AND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
STATE COURSE OF STUDY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, *Code of Alabama* (1975) §16-35-1 through 5 provides that the Alabama State Board of Education shall constitute Courses of Study Committees for the purposes and functions as provided within the statute; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education appoints those persons listed on the attached as members of the Digital Literacy and Computer Science State Course of Study Committee for a period of one year or until their successors are appointed.

Done this 9th day of January 2025

# 2025 Digital Literacy and Computer Science Course of Study Committee

## Committee Members

Name	Congressional District	Board District	School System
Dr. Michele Collier	1	1	Escambia County Schools
Abbey Thomas	4	8	DeKalb County Schools
Anna Anderson	4	6	Cullman City Schools
Anna Foreman	3	2	Alexander City Schools
Brooke Elliott-Elrod	6	3	Chilton County Schools
Cassandra W. Allen	7	5	Perry County Schools
Cedric McCarrol	6	3	Pelham City Schools
Chandler Shields	7	3	Hoover City Schools
Eric Vest	4	6	Cullman County Schools
Jaclyn Rivers	3	3	Sylacauga City Schools
Jamie McClung	1	1	Gulf Shores City Schools
Jennifer Northrup	6	3	Hoover City Schools
Jessica McCants	2	1	Covenant Academy of Mobile Charter
Jordan Fancher	7	4	Jefferson County Schools
Latora Bullard	2	1	Bulter County Schools
Misty Waldrop	4	6	Cullman City Schools
Rachel Gibbs	5	8	Madison City Schools
Tara Ikner	1	1	Escambia County Schools
Taylor Morton	5	8	Huntsville City Schools
Tiffany Stonecipher	4	7	Muscle Shoals City Schools
<b>Higher Education</b>			
Amanda Cramer	7	4	The University of Alabama
Cassie Raulston	6	3	University of Montevallo
David Thornton	3	6	Jacksonville State University
Jung Wong Hur	3	2	Auburn University

## Congressional District Representation

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	2	4	5	2	4	4

## Board District Representation

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	2	6	2	1	4	1	3

**SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES AND OTHER BUSINESS**