ALABAMA
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL BOARDS

2026
Delegate Assembly Handbook

November 2026

Dear Members:

On Thursday, December 3, 2026, AASB will have its annual Delegate Assembly prior to the AASB Winter Convention.

The enclosed materials provide an overview of the Delegate Assembly for all members as well as for those who will represent their boards as delegates. Please ensure your school board has a representative prepared to attend the Assembly because AASB's positions on legislative and education-related issues will be determined by the delegates present. These issues will guide the Association for the upcoming year.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed materials or the upcoming meeting, please contact the AASB staff. We look forward to seeing you on December 3rd!

Scott Suttle
AASB President

Chad Holden, Ed.D.
Executive Director

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DELEGATE INFORMATION

Delegates are selected by member school boards to represent their boards during AASB's annual business meeting. Delegate selection/attendance is not mandatory but is encouraged. School boards can be allotted between one and five delegates depending on the board's student enrollment. AASB's special members are allotted one delegate. Delegates attending in-person should receive a blue ribbon on their convention name badge designating them as delegates.

All delegates will receive information and instructions on participating in Delegate Assembly ahead of the meeting. All delegates should arrive at the assembly by 5:15 p.m. so they may be certified as delegates and receive their materials for voting. Superintendents and non-delegate school board members are welcome to attend but may not vote. Non-voting attendees are asked to sit in the guest section.

This handbook is available online and in the AASB app.

PROPOSED DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA
The Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery

Thursday, December 3, 2026

4:00 p.m.	Bylaws Committee Hearing
	immediately followed by
	Resolutions Committee Hearing
5:15 p.m.	Delegates Convene
5:30 p.m.	Delegate Assembly
	Report of the President – Scott Suttle
	Approval of Agenda
	Adoption of Rules
	Approval of Minutes
	Committee Reports: Nominating Committee – Rev. Russell Clausell, AASB Past-President Bylaws Committee – Derek Henderson, Chair Resolutions Committee – Dr. Chante Ruffin, Chair
	Adjourn

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY RULES

The Delegate Assembly will operate under the provisions of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. Such provisions shall be used as a guide to facilitate the fair and constructive conduct of, and to help, not hinder, the business of the Assembly with the following additional rules:

Rule No. 1:

Delegates should arrive to Delegate Assembly on time. Recorded votes will be calculated based on the number of delegates voting on the particular question.

Rule No. 2:

Only delegates and AASB officers and staff may speak, unless others are invited to do so by the presiding officer. Those wishing to speak may do so once recognized by the presiding officer.

Rule No. 3:

Delegates shall be limited to three minutes in speaking to a motion. A delegate who wishes to speak must state his or her name and the name of the school board he or she represents prior to making further comments.

Rule No. 4:

When a delegate has spoken once on a question, he or she may not again speak on the same question until others who wish to be recognized are allowed to speak.

Rule No. 5:

Nomination speeches from the floor shall be limited to three minutes, and only one seconding speech of two minutes per candidate shall be allowed. No nominating speeches shall be made in support of unopposed candidates.

Rule No. 6:

Proposed amendments or substitutions must be submitted in writing and signed by the delegate offering the proposal on forms provided for that purpose. Forms may be obtained from the AASB Office before Delegate Assembly or onsite at Delegate Assembly.

Rule No. 7:

All voting shall be executed via the designated voting platform. If a delegate believes his or her voting platform has malfunctioned, he or she has an obligation to bring that matter to the attention of the presiding officer before the next vote is taken in order to challenge the results of a vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS
2025 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Call to Order

The annual meeting of the AASB Delegate Assembly met Thursday, December 4, 2025, at The Renaissance Hotel, in Montgomery. AASB President Russell CLAUSELL called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Introductions

President CLAUSELL introduced Sally SMITH, Executive Director; Bylaws Committee Chairperson Derek HENDERSON; Resolutions Committee Chair Designee Scott SUTTLE; Nominating Committee Chairperson Brad INGLE; and parliamentarian Melissa MCKIE.

President's Report

President CLAUSELL gave his President's Report.

Certification of Delegates

141 delegates were certified.

James WOOSLEY of the Satsuma Board of Education moved and Mary HARRINGTON of the Anniston Board of Education seconded that the certification of delegates be approved.

The motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

Donnanique WASHINGTON of the Linden Board of Education moved and Wendell SAXTON of the Elmore County Board of Education seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion carried.

Adoption of the Rules

Sawanda WILSON of the Macon County Board of Education moved and Portia JONES of the Tuscaloosa County Board of Education seconded that Rules of the Delegate Assembly be approved as presented.

The motion carried.

Adoption of 2024 Minutes

Peg HILL of the Shelby County Board of Education moved and Jacqueline SULLIVAN of the Chilton County Board of Education seconded that the Minutes from the 2024 Delegate Assembly be approved as presented.

The motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report

Brad INGLE, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, gave the report of the AASB Nominating Committee which nominated Randy SMALLEY for President-Elect.

INGLE moved to adopt the report.

The Nominating Committee Report was adopted.

Bylaws Committee Report

Derek HENDERSON, Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee, gave the report of the AASB Bylaws Committee.

He reviewed the proposed amendments from the Bylaws Committee.

With no set asides or amendments from the delegates, HENDERSON moved to adopt the report.

The Bylaws Committee Report was adopted.

Resolutions Committee Report

Scott SUTTLE, Chair Designee of the Resolutions Committee, gave the report of the AASB Resolutions Committee.

He reviewed each section of the Resolutions Committee's Report.

With no set asides or amendments from the delegates, SUTTLE moved to adopt the report.

The Resolutions Committee Report was adopted.

Adjournment

Following announcements and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:06 p.m.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members
Chair: Rev. Russell Clausell – Geneva City
Jan Hayes – Conecuh County
Bobby Armstead – Demopolis
Joey Brannan, Supt. – Eufaula
Mary Hooks – Macon County
Debbie Hall – Tarrant
Joan Frazier – Anniston
Lillian Wideman – Sumter County
Ronnie Owens – Lauderdale County
Gary Speers – Scottsboro

The Nominating Committee met in October to consider candidates for AASB President-Elect. Following an extensive interview, the Committee recommends the following candidate:

For President-Elect
DEREK HENDERSON, Alabaster City Board of Education
Derek Henderson has been a member of the Alabaster City school board since 2013 and currently serves as board vice president. He was elected as AASB's District 5 director in December 2022. Derek has been actively involved in AASB, having served on the Budget & Finance and Nominating Committees. He also is a trustee for the Alabama Trust for Boards of Education. Derek has achieved the Master Honor Roll distinction in the AASB School Board Member Academy, earning more than 378 training hours. He is a 2022 recipient of AASB's highest honor, the All-State School Board Award.

He is involved with a number of civic and community organizations and serves as a mentor to young men in middle and high school.

Derek is retired from State Farm as an insurance/underwriting professional. He is a graduate of Birmingham Southern College and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

He has been married to his wife, Gloria, for 45 years. The couple has four adult sons.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members
Chair: Derek Henderson – Alabaster
Vice Chair: Matt Dial – Satsuma
Kevin Wieseman, Supt. – Brewton
John Wells – Andalusia
Gail Holley – Lanett
Randal Smith – Fairfield
Allen George – Calhoun County
Karen Thompson Jackson – Tuscaloosa City
Daxton Maze – Hartselle
Tony Simmons – Marshall County
Scott Suttle – St. Clair County, ex officio

In September, the Bylaws Committee met to consider the following changes to AASB's Bylaws:

- Page 9 – Article III, Section 2(d)
  Nonsubstantive, editorial change to modify the word "not" to "neither"

- Page 12 – Article VI, Section 1
  Nonsubstantive, editorial change to modify the word "state" to "State"

- Page 12 – Article VI, Section 2(b)
  Nonsubstantive, editorial change to modify the word "President" to "president"

- Page 14 – Article VII, Section 3
  Nonsubstantive, editorial change to modify the word "convention" to the phrase "the Annual Convention"

- Page 14 – Article VII, Section 4
  Nonsubstantive, editorial changes to modify the words "state" to "State"

- Page 17 – Article IX, Section 5
  Nonsubstantive, editorial change to modify the word "the" to "an"

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2(c), the Bylaws Committee recommended and the Board of Directors approved nonsubstantive, editorial changes to the Bylaws. The amendments are presented to the Delegate Assembly for information, but no action is required.

Proposed Bylaws for 2027

ARTICLE I - Name
The name of this Association shall be: The Alabama Association of School Boards, Inc.

ARTICLE II - Purposes
The purposes of this Association shall be:

1. To promote responsible local lay control of the public schools.
2. To provide opportunities for the advancement of boardmanship skills.
3. To promote the general advancement of education.
4. To encourage the most efficient and effective organization and administration of the public schools.
5. To encourage establishment and maintenance of high standards in the conduct and operation of public schools.
6. To work for adequate financial support of public schools.
7. To study and interpret educational programs and to relate them to the needs of students.
8. To promote public understanding of the role of school boards and school board members in the improvement of education.
9. To act as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of pertinent data relating to all aspects of public education.
10. To conduct, independently or in cooperation with other organizations, corporations, institutes, foundations or persons, seminars, conferences, courses and research projects on education.
11. To study and interpret proposed legislation that may affect education, to disseminate such knowledge and information to school board members and others and to protect and improve public education.
12. To implement the policies, beliefs and resolutions of the Association.
13. To do such other things as the members, meeting in the Annual Convention or the Board of Directors, may deem appropriate for the accomplishment of these and other purposes to improve public education.

ARTICLE III - Members
Section 1. Classes of Membership
The membership of the Association shall consist of five classes: Active, Associate Boards, Sustaining, Honorary and Special Members.

Section 2. Admissions & Qualifications
a. Active Members. Any legally constituted school board of any public school system in Alabama shall be eligible for active membership in this Association. There shall be no registration fee for attending the Delegate Assembly. Any such school board may become a member upon payment of dues or service fees, as herein provided, and approval by the Board of Directors. Superintendents of such member school boards shall be non-voting affiliates of the Association without rights to hold elective or appointive offices.

b. Associate Boards. Any legally constituted public charter school authorized by a local public school system or the Alabama Charter School Commission shall be eligible for membership in this Association. Associate Boards shall not be eligible to vote nor hold

office. Their membership becomes effective upon approval by the executive director with affirmation by the Board of Directors and the payment of such dues.

c. Sustaining Members. Any individual, firm, corporation or organization which offers services or commodities for sale to school boards or to institutions of learning may apply for membership as a sustaining member of this Association. The membership becomes effective upon approval by the executive director with affirmation by the Board of Directors and the payment of such dues. Sustaining members shall not be eligible to vote nor hold office.

d. Honorary Members. Any resident of Alabama who, in the opinion of the Association, has rendered distinguished service to the cause of public education in Alabama or to the Alabama Association of School Boards shall be eligible for honorary membership. Honorary members shall be recommended for approval by the executive director and approved by the Board of Directors of the Association. Honorary members shall ~~not~~ neither be eligible to vote nor hold office in the Association.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial change

e. Special Members. Governing boards of publicly-supported educational institutions and entities not otherwise eligible for membership shall be eligible for special membership upon application to and recommendation of the executive director and approval by the Board of Directors. Governing boards shall be defined as elected or appointed bodies authorized to execute policies governing the institution. Advisory boards or committees shall be excluded from this definition. Special members shall be entitled to one vote in the Delegate Assembly. Special members shall not be eligible to hold office in the Association.

ARTICLE IV - Finances
Section 1. Dues
a. Dues for Active Members. Annual dues for active membership in the AASB shall be .0005 times a local school board's total state allocation, less that portion of said allocation for transportation for the local board's next fiscal year, as reported by the State Department of Education. The amount of membership dues payable shall be limited by the following factors:

(1) No active member school board shall pay membership dues in excess of $22,000 in one year; and
(2) No active member school board's membership dues shall increase by more than $500 above the amount payable during the preceding membership year.
(3) The Board of Directors shall have the right to set dues for active members in a given membership year in an amount that differs from the amount resulting from the calculation in this section assuming the amount set by the Board of Directors complies with (1) and (2) above.
(4) Any changes in annual dues in accordance with (3) above shall not result in an increase in annual dues to any member board and shall be implemented solely as a result of unusual, emergency or other exigent circumstances, as recommended by the executive director and approved by the Board of Directors.

b. Dues for Associate Boards. Annual dues for associate boards in the AASB shall be set by the Board of Directors.

c. Dues for Sustaining Members, Honorary Members and Special Members. Dues for sustaining members and special members shall be set by the Board of Directors. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues.

d. Payment Schedule of Dues. The membership dues shall be due and payable in advance of July 1 of each year. Designation of an active member shall be contingent upon payment of said dues by November 1 of each year.

Section 2. Expenses
Expenses of officers, directors and committee members shall be in compliance with Article X.

Section 3. Fiscal Year
The fiscal year of the Association shall extend from July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE V - Officers Duties/Nominations/Elections
Section 1. Officers
The elective officers of the Association shall be a president and president-elect. The immediate past president is an officer of the Association although not elected to the post.

Section 2. Duties of Officers
a. President. The president shall:
(1) Preside at all meetings of the Delegate Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee;
(2) Appoint all standing and special committees subject to the approval of the Board of Directors;
(3) Serve as an ex-officio member of Association committees except the Nominating Committee;
(4) In consultation with executive director, name delegates to represent the Association at meetings of other educational associations, agencies and committees;
(5) Be the official spokesperson for the Association along with the executive director;
(6) Serve as a member of the Executive Committee; and
(7) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by these Bylaws, the Delegate Assembly or the Board of Directors.

b. President-Elect. The president-elect shall:
(1) Perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president;
(2) Serve as a member of the Executive Committee; and
(3) Perform other duties as may be prescribed by these Bylaws, the Delegate Assembly or the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Election of Officers

a. All elective officers of the Association shall be elected at the annual business session of the Delegate Assembly. The officers shall assume official duties at the conclusion of the final session of the Annual Convention following their election.

b. The officers shall hold office for one term of one year or until their successors shall have been duly elected. At the end of the term, the president-elect shall automatically succeed to the office of president. An officer may be elected to the same office for no more than one term.

c. Whenever an elective office becomes vacant before the completion of a term, the order of succession shall be as follows: In the event the president position becomes vacant, the president-elect shall become president, and the Board of Directors shall select a president-elect from among the district directors. In the event the president-elect position becomes vacant, the Board of Directors shall select a president-elect from among the district directors. Any person appointed under this subsection shall serve for the remainder of the current term.

d. No person shall be eligible for election to an elective office in the Association unless that individual is a member of a school board which is a member of the Association in good standing.

e. No person shall be eligible for election to an elective office in the Association unless that individual has served on the Board of Directors. Such service need not be consecutive to the individual's candidacy for or term of elective office.

f. Whenever the president of the Association ceases to be a member of a school board, the individual may continue to serve until the conclusion of the final session of the next Annual Convention. Should the president-elect of the Association cease to be a member of a school board, the position shall be automatically vacated and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with Article V, Section 3(c) of these Bylaws.

Section 4. Report of Nominating Committee

a. The Nominating Committee hereinafter established shall prepare a report naming one candidate for the office of president-elect. The committee shall furnish a copy of its report to the executive director along with the written consent of the candidate for nomination no later than November 1. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to the member boards of education in advance of the Annual Convention no later than November 15.

b. Nominations from the floor may be made at any appropriate time after the candidate submitted by the Nominating Committee has been placed in nomination and prior to taking a vote. The nominator shall have the written consent of the candidate for nomination for presentation to the presiding officer at the time the nomination is made. The proposed candidate must have been considered by the Nominating Committee immediately preceding the Annual Convention.

c. If there is only one candidate for office, the vote may be by voice. If there is more than one candidate for office, the vote shall be by ballot.

d. In the event a candidate nominated by the Nominating Committee is unable or unwilling to accept the nomination before a vote of the Delegate Assembly, the Nominating Committee shall name a substitute candidate who satisfies the qualifications provided for prospective officers. The Nominating Committee must have the written consent of the substitute candidate in order to submit the nomination to the Delegate Assembly.

ARTICLE VI - Board of Directors
Section 1. Composition
The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the Association, one Director from each geographical district of the Association, and the immediate past president so long as the immediate past president is a school board member. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall invite a member of the ~~state~~ State Board of Education to serve on the Board of Directors as a non-voting, ex-officio member for a term of one year.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial change

Section 2. Meetings
a. Regular. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held four times annually or more often as the Board may decide.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial change

b. Special. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the Executive Director upon request of the ~~President~~ president or upon petition by five members of the Board.

c. Emergency. In case of an emergency situation, the Executive Director may, upon instruction by the president, initiate an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors for the purpose of transacting urgent business.

d. Electronic Meetings. At the discretion of the president, any meeting of the Board of Directors may be conducted electronically by conference call, video conferencing or any other method that allows members to communicate remotely.

Section 3. Quorum
A quorum shall consist of eight (8) voting-eligible members of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Notice
A minimum notice of ten (10) days, which may be waived by the president in case of emergency, shall be given prior to each meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Duties

a. The Board of Directors, between annual conventions, shall be charged with implementing the purposes of the Association, including the legislative program, and exercising general supervision over its affairs. It shall be charged with the duty of effecting policies and programs adopted at a meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

b. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for preparing and submitting to the Executive Committee the Association's annual budget and the expenditures therefrom. Additional duties of the Board of Directors shall include approval of all presidential committee appointments, acceptance of reports from committees excluding the report of the Nominating Committee, approval of the Association budget, approval of staff recommendations for projects and programs, determination of positions on legislative issues not otherwise determined by actions of the Delegate Assembly and adoption of rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as it shall deem advisable. Policies proposed by the Executive Director shall be acted upon by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall perform such other duties as are usual and customary for governing boards similarly constituted. The Board of Directors shall adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of all committees established by its Bylaws or created by the Board of Directors.

c. The Board of Directors shall employ an Executive Director who shall serve as secretary and treasurer of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII - Districts

Section 1. Defined

The Board of Directors may provide for the organization and governance of regional divisions of the Association. The Board may authorize the use of Association funds to assist in financing district activities. It may modify the boundaries of any district so created or terminate its existence.

Section 2. District Officers/Directors

Each district may elect such officers as it deems proper for the operation of the district and may conduct meetings dealing with business matters.

Section 3. Elections

Members of Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 shall hold elections of their District Directors in even-numbered years. Members of Districts 2, 4, 6 and 8 shall hold elections of their District Directors in odd-numbered years. Individual members of school boards that are Active Members shall be eligible to nominate any individual member of a school board that is an Active Member, including himself or herself, within the same district for District Director, but each school board shall have one vote only. Nominations shall be made in writing to the Executive Director by September 1 of the year in which the election is held. The Executive Director shall inform the district membership of the nominees and shall prepare a ballot with all the eligible nominees and send it to each member board in the district prior to October 1. If only one nomination is received, the nominee will become the District Director, and the Executive Director will notify the district. If more than one nomination is received, each board will select its nominee by majority vote and return its ballot to the Association postmarked or received by October 31 with a statement signed by the president

that the action was approved in a board meeting. The Executive Director will notify the district membership of the election results after the results are calculated. If no District Director nominations are received, the Board of Directors will select a District Director from the district membership, and the Executive Director will notify the district.

If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a special election will be held at ~~convention~~ the Annual Convention and the Executive Director will direct each member board in the district to designate a member to represent it at the special election to elect a District Director. In the case of a tie after the special election, the Executive Director will flip a coin to determine the District Director.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial change

Section 4. Term

The Directors from their respective geographical divisions shall be elected as provided in this Article except for the Director representing the ~~state~~ State Board of Education, who shall be selected by the ~~state~~ State Board of Education from among its members. The Directors shall assume official duties at the conclusion of the final session of the Annual Convention following their election. Directors shall hold office for a term of two years or until their successors shall have been duly elected. An individual may not be elected as a Director for more than two complete, consecutive terms.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial changes

No person shall be eligible for election unless that individual is a member of a school board which is a member of the Association in good standing. Whenever a Director of the Association ceases to be a member of the school board, the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the vacant term. The term of the Director appointed to fill the remainder of the vacant term will begin on the date the vacancy or appointment becomes effective, whichever is later.

Section 5. Resignation and Removal

a. A Director may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the President or Executive Director.

b. Any Director may be removed for good cause by a two-thirds vote of the full Board, when in the Board's judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served by removal. Prior to any such vote, the moving Director shall state his or her reasons in writing to the Board and the Director shall have five business days to submit a written response to the Board.

ARTICLE VIII - Committees

Section 1. Executive

a. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Association president, president-elect and immediate past president so long as the immediate past president is a school board member, and two additional members elected by the Board of Directors from its membership. If the immediate past president is not a school board member, the president

shall select a member from the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting ex-officio member.

b. The Executive Committee shall have and exercise all powers and authority granted by the Board of Directors, including development of an annual budget providing for the operation of the Association in conjunction with the Executive Director and presenting same to the Board of Directors for approval prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year. The Executive Committee may handle the urgent and other business of the Association when it is not possible or practical to convene a meeting of the Board. This business is subject to affirmation, when possible, by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Section 2. Standing
The following standing committees shall be appointed by the president of the Association with the approval of the Board of Directors. Standing committees shall be guided by the policy of the Board of Directors. Any Committee chair shall have the authority to make motions during Delegate Assembly, irrespective of whether they have been named a delegate by their respective boards.

a. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee, chaired by the immediate past president, so long as the immediate past president is a school board member, shall meet at a time and place designated by the Chairman in compliance with Article V, Section 4 of these Bylaws, and shall name one candidate for president-elect to be filled by election by the Delegate Assembly. Should the position of immediate past president be vacant at the time the Nominating Committee meets, the president will appoint a Chairman. The Nominating Committee report shall be submitted directly to the Delegate Assembly for action.

b. Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee shall meet prior to the Delegate Assembly to review and act on all existing resolutions and other resolutions properly referred to it.

All recommendations for resolutions shall be sent to the Executive Director by U.S. Mail or electronic mail no later than September 1. The report of the Resolutions Committee shall be made available to member boards no later than November 15. Prior to Delegate Assembly, the Committee shall conduct a hearing at the site of the Delegate Assembly on proposed resolutions and disposition of other resolutions presented to it.

The Delegate Assembly, by a two-thirds vote of those voting, may call up for consideration on the floor any resolution not recommended by the Committee. The Resolutions Committee also may prepare original resolutions.

c. Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall review the Bylaws annually for needed changes and review all proposed amendments properly submitted by Active Members as provided by Article XIII, Section 2 of these Bylaws. The Committee shall offer its report to the Board of Directors for its information and to the Delegate Assembly for action. The Committee may make nonsubstantive, editorial changes which will be

presented to the Board of Directors as such and will be deemed approved upon adoption of the Committee's report.

Section 3. Special
The president may appoint such special committees as may be determined necessary to carry out the work and purposes of the Association.

Section 4. Quorum
A quorum of any committee shall constitute the number of committee members who are present and/or otherwise participating by any method, including electronically.

ARTICLE IX - Conventions and Meetings
Section 1. Time and Place
The Annual Convention of the Association shall be held at a time and place to be determined each year by the Board of Directors.

The Delegate Assembly shall be held immediately before the Annual Convention of the Association. There shall be no registration fee required to attend Delegate Assembly. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, if, in the judgment of the Executive Director, it is impossible or impractical to hold Delegate Assembly at a physical location, Delegate Assembly may be conducted electronically at a time and in a manner determined by the Executive Director, in consultation with the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Proceedings
The published proceedings of the Delegate Assembly, or a summary thereof, shall be provided to each member of the respective school boards holding active membership in the Association as soon as practical following the close of the Delegate Assembly.

Section 3. Parliamentary Authority
Questions of parliamentary procedure shall be decided according to the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, unless special rules are adopted by the Delegate Assembly.

Section 4. Delegate Representation

Each Active Member school board shall be entitled to voting delegates at all meetings of the Delegate Assembly based upon the following formula:

Total Pupil Enrollment as Reported in Most Current State Department of Education Statistical Report	Number of Delegates
1 - 4,999	1
5,000 - 9,999	2
10,000 - 14,999	3
15,000 - 19,999	4
20,000 or more	5
State Board of Education, Special Members	1

Each member board shall select its official voting delegate(s) and alternate(s) from its lay membership and shall notify the Association office of said delegates and alternates prior to the Delegate Assembly. Subject to Article IX, Section 1, voting shall be in person by respective delegates or alternates.

Section 5. Notice
Notice of the Delegate Assembly shall be given to each member board no later than November 1. Said notice may be given in the form of a letter addressed to the secretary of each member board or it may be published in ~~the~~ an official publication of the Association.

RATIONALE:
Nonsubstantive, editorial change

Section 6. Special Meetings
Special meetings of the Delegate Assembly may be called by the Board of Directors. Notice of the special meetings shall be given to the secretaries of all member boards of this Association at least 20 days before the meeting.

Section 7. Quorum
A quorum of the Delegate Assembly shall consist of the delegates actually present in the meeting place at the time the business session is called and vote taken. Once established at Delegate Assembly, a quorum shall be maintained for the duration of the business session.

Section 8. Adoption
A majority vote of the delegates present and voting at the business session shall be required for the election of officers, adoption of resolutions and for the passage of such proposals as may properly come before the delegates.

Section 9. Deadlines
If a deadline provided in these Bylaws falls on a weekend or recognized holiday, the deadline shall be the next business day. In the event the Delegate Assembly is rescheduled from the standard December timeframe, deadlines shall be adjusted accordingly, and the membership shall be notified of those changes as soon as practical.

ARTICLE X - Expenses of Officers, Directors and Committee Members
Section 1. Reimbursable Expenses
The actual expenses for travel, food and lodging incurred by the officers, directors and members of Association committees attending any and all regular and called meetings of the Board of Directors and committees of this Association shall be reimbursed by this Association, in accordance with applicable Association policy.

ARTICLE XI - National Affiliation
Section 1. Membership
The Association may be a member of any national affiliate deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Affiliated Organizations
The Association recognizes the benefit of fostering organizations that have similar interests to the mission and goals of the Association.

Section 1. Governance and Operations
Affiliate organizations shall approve its bylaws and shall elect officers in accordance with those bylaws. The Executive Director of the Association shall serve as treasurer or secretary-treasurer of the affiliate organization. Funds of the affiliate shall be held in trust by the Association and dispersed under the direction of the affiliate governing body, but in accordance with Association policy. The Association shall provide periodic financial reports to the governing body of the affiliate and shall be reimbursed for expenditures made on behalf of the affiliate, which may include an administrative fee.

Section 2. Affiliates
a. Alabama Council of School Board Attorneys
Any attorney representing on a special or continuing basis, any public school system in Alabama, which is a member of the Association, shall be eligible for this affiliated organization upon the payment of the dues as provided.

b. Alabama Association of Administrative Assistants
Any individual employed as a secretary or like position for a public school system in Alabama, which is a member of the Association, shall be eligible for this affiliated organization upon the payment of the dues as provided.

ARTICLE XIII - Amendments
Section 1. Adoption
The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those voting at the business session of the Delegate Assembly of the Association or any meeting thereof provided previous notice has been given. Amendments to the Bylaws shall become effective upon their adoption by the Delegate Assembly unless otherwise specified.

Section 2. Proposed Amendments
Proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be submitted through the Executive Director to the Bylaws Committee no later than September 1, and shall be submitted to all active members of the Association no later than November 15. No proposed amendment shall be considered by the Assembly unless it is received in accordance with the procedures in these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV – Parliamentary Procedure
The rules contained in the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern the Association in all cases in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members
Chair: Dr. Chante Ruffin – Alexander City
Vice Chair: Mark Story – Dallas County
April Bradley – Baldwin County
Michael Nimmer – Butler County
Tyrone Watson – Henry County
Scott Hardy – Alexander City
Sherrye Tolbert – Trussville
Susan Shaw – Talladega County
Dr. Ann Jackson, Supt. – Jasper
Stephanie Smith – Tuscumbia
Bill Byrd – Madison County
Scott Suttle – St. Clair County, ex-officio

The Resolutions Committee met in September to consider changes to the resolutions. All resolutions remain positions advocated by AASB until changed or deleted by the AASB Assembly. The Resolutions Committee did not propose any new changes this year, and the AASB Board of Directors accepted the committee's recommendation. The resolutions remain as previously adopted. Delegates may address any resolution by requesting the presiding officer to set it aside for discussion. **Changes to resolutions which are not presented by the Resolutions Committee require approval by two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.** An index of resolutions can be found on page 30.

Proposed 2027 Resolutions

Section 1: School Finance

SF-1 Education Trust Fund (ETF) Budget and State Revenue

AASB urges the Legislature to:

- Ensure equitable and adequate K-12 public education funding with a focus on classroom divisors and staffing levels;
- Maintain and expand stable revenue sources for sustainable, recurring expenditures by:
  - Preserving existing sales, use, and income taxes;
  - Exploring new revenue streams; and
  - Reviewing and potentially reducing tax exemptions or credits;
- Fully fund K-12 public education and any new mandates;
- Oppose diversion of funds from public education institutions; and
- Appropriate funding for long-term capital projects.

SF-2 ETF Rolling Reserve Act

AASB applauds efforts to prevent ETF proration and supports reasonable provisions to implement key education initiatives during economic uncertainty. AASB believes any reserves captured through the Rolling Reserve Act should be allocated exclusively to public education institutions, with K-12 public education receiving, at a minimum, the same percentage of funding appropriated in the ETF. AASB asks the Legislature to examine how much revenue is diverted annually from operations to fund one-time or supplemental appropriations. AASB advocates $1 billion in non-recurring revenue be appropriated for K-12 capital outlay. AASB opposes earmarking revenue allocated to local boards through the ETF Advancement and Technology Fund (EAT).

SF-3 Local Property Taxes

AASB supports increasing minimum local property taxes required to qualify for state education funding. AASB also supports efforts to:

- Give school boards authority to call for property tax referenda;
- Reappraise property annually; and
- Provide an incentive to communities to raise school taxes.

AASB opposes statutory restrictions on school tax levies or property tax revenue collection, including current use laws. AASB urges the development of an accurate, comprehensive and regularly reviewed state database on local education property taxes to objectively analyze the impact of state initiatives.

SF-4 State Education Funding Formula

AASB supports a K-12 funding program that promotes achievement for all students.

The formula should adequately and equitably provide the full annual cost of a basic educational program by including additional funding (weights) based on student needs and relevant community characteristics. The state funding formula should provide local school boards maximum flexibility to determine system budgets, staffing, and programs. AASB supports a funding program which:

- Provides stable funding;
- Defines each school system's wealth based on its tax base;
- Incorporates both local and state revenue;
- Prevents loss of funds for any school system while transitioning a new program;
- Regularly assesses program adequacy and equity;
- Provides state funding for all transportation costs, including those for student activities; and
- Recognizes the unique attributes of systems/schools such as size and geographic location in urban, rural, isolated or high-growth areas.

SF-5 Tax Reform

AASB urges policymakers to develop and enact a comprehensive, equitable tax reform package that adequately generates additional funds for public schools.

SF-6 Federal Funding

AASB strongly supports full funding of federal education programs and innovative reforms, including adequate resources for state and local program management. AASB supports flexibility within federal programs for local school boards to allocate funds based on local needs.

SF-7 State Bond Issues and Capital Outlay

AASB supports timely issuance and release of state bonds to fund long-term, K-12 capital improvement projects, provided there is adequate ETF revenue to cover debt service. AASB opposes state-level prioritization of local building needs and use of bond issue money for non-capital expenses, particularly financing initial payments. AASB urges legislation that specifies allocations for accrued interest, mandates, regular reporting on discretionary allocations and requires a competitive bid process for selection of bonding officials.

AASB urges the state to use various reserve funds to provide no- or low-cost construction loans to local school boards.

SF-8 Simplified Sellers Use Tax (SSUT)

AASB supports both an increased state share of SSUT revenue for the ETF and an increased local share of SSUT revenue to offset continued decline in traditional sales tax revenue. Local school boards receiving traditional sales tax revenue should receive a proportional share of local SSUT revenue.

Section 2: Governance

G-1 Local Governance

Local control without restrictive mandates enables local boards to:

- Promote transparency in governance with corresponding accountability for public funds, student achievement, leadership, and management; and
- Provide flexibility to best meet local needs.

AASB opposes state and federal legislative measures limiting authority and autonomy of local school boards over school management, including policy, curriculum and instruction, discipline, personnel, health and safety, and financial decisions. Site-based authority should be granted by local school boards, not legislated.

G-2 Superintendent Selection and Removal

AASB supports local school board appointment of superintendents, including those who are currently elected. AASB opposes any effort to limit or restrict a board's ability to terminate the superintendent.

G-3 Competitive Bid Law

AASB supports revising the bid law to allow school boards to manage construction projects without general contractors and other efforts to increase flexibility. AASB opposes requiring bids for professional services and other efforts to expanding bid law for school boards.

G-4 School Board Member Qualifications, Training, and Governance

AASB supports both elective and appointive methods of selecting school board members. AASB opposes changing the school board member selection method without a local vote. AASB advocates for the following best practices:

- Select school board members based on character;
- Select school board members through non-partisan means;
- Prohibit the appointing authority from removing board members prior to term expiration;
- Prohibit employees from serving on boards which employ them; and
- Prohibit city mayors from serving on the city board of education.

AASB supports full compliance with the School Board Governance Act of 2012, including local school board member orientation, ongoing training and modeling the Code of Conduct. AASB urges members to utilize the association's services for promoting good governance.

G-5 School Choice

AASB opposes diverting state funds to private, church, or home schools in any manner and believes state funds should exclusively support public schools. AASB advocates that non-public schools receiving state or federally funded tax credits, scholarships, education savings accounts, or vouchers should adhere to the same accountability standards as public schools, including:

- Participation in the state assessment program;
- Publication of disaggregated assessment data to measure student achievement; and
- Compliance with state laws and requirements, including the state report card and financial audits.

G-6 Academic Accountability and Intervention

AASB supports a statewide accountability system, aligned with the federal report card, to measure and improve student performance through academic achievement outcomes and other State Board of Education (SBOE)-approved indicators. AASB supports an accountability system that accurately captures and communicates performance at school, system and state levels using both academic and non-academic indicators proven to impact student achievement. AASB supports state intervention in school systems failing to meet either required financial and/or academic benchmarks, provided local school officials first have the opportunity and resources to correct deficiencies. AASB also supports state authority to reconstitute schools under intervention, including the flexibility to re-staff persistently low-performing schools without specific statutory constraints.

G-7 School System Rights

AASB recognizes the rights of cities and counties to operate separate school systems and supports voluntary consolidation of schools and school systems.

G-8 Constitutional Reform

AASB supports constitutional reform. AASB believes constitutional revisions should include proposals that:

- Recognize K-12 education as an essential state function;
- Permit greater local autonomy;
- Permit fundraising mechanisms for public schools;
- Eliminate discriminatory language; and
- Recognize the right to equal protection.

Section 3: Personnel

P-1 Tenure

AASB supports efforts to refine tenure and performance evaluation practices that:

- Link student progress/growth as a factor in evaluating effective teacher performance for both obtaining and retaining tenure;
- Give school boards final authority in personnel decisions;
- Allow school boards flexibility to transfer teachers during the school year, with limited teacher appeal rights;
- Provide school boards with disciplinary options for teachers which cannot be appealed beyond the school board level;
- Limit tenure eligibility to teachers;
- Extend the probationary status period to five years; and
- Offer an alternative to the tenure system.

P-2 Collective Bargaining

AASB opposes compulsory union membership and collective bargaining for school personnel. AASB opposes strikes by educational employees.

P-3 State Retirement System

AASB supports a cost-effective and financially stable retirement system for school employees. AASB opposes changes that adversely affect current participants or increase state costs without thorough evaluation. AASB supports allowing retired educators to return to teaching while retaining their retirement benefits, provided these additional years of service do not count toward further retirement benefits.

P-4 Employee Compensation

AASB supports competitive salaries that are equitable across employee categories, promoting effective teacher recruitment and retention. AASB advocates salary increases based on state allocations. The association encourages school boards to consider merit-based pay, rewards for additional academic achievements and incentives for teachers in high-need subjects and underserved geographical areas. AASB supports compensating teachers at their equivalent hourly rate on a daily rate schedule for activities such as summer professional development, summer reading and math camps, and summer school.

AASB supports incentives for educators achieving highly qualified or credentialed status, including National Board Certification, as well as for placement in high-need geographic and specialty content areas.

P-5 Payroll Deductions

AASB opposes mandates requiring school boards to process payroll deductions for employee contributions to a political entity or other private or public organizations. If payroll deductions are mandated, AASB believes school boards should be able to assess an administrative fee and/or require a minimum participation level.

P-6 Background Checks

AASB supports national criminal background checks for:

- Prospective school board members (elected or appointed), at the candidates' expense;
- Public school employees, paid for by the prospective employees; and
- Volunteers with direct, unsupervised contact with children.

AASB believes school boards should have the authority to conduct national criminal background checks on any employee whenever reasonable suspicion arises. AASB believes non-public schools and agencies should have the option to conduct such checks.

P-7 Teacher Certification

AASB supports programs that promote teacher success. AASB advocates a state teacher certification process to:

- Promote higher standards for teachers, including additional subject-area requirements in their licensure fields and proficiency in instructional technology;
- Require universities to provide remedial assistance to underperforming graduates;
- Link state authorization of teacher preparation programs with graduate performance;
- Ensure teacher preparatory programs are aligned with current state initiatives and practices;
- Expand teacher internships, mentoring programs and alternative pathways into the profession;
- Require initial teacher certification testing in content areas; and
- Offer certification reciprocity to teachers that earn valid credentials in other states.

P-8 Professional Development and Professional Pathways

AASB supports increasing quality professional development opportunities for certified staff, including educational technology training and educational programs for other staff. AASB advocates direct allocation of all state professional development funds to school boards, allowing targeted training aligned with school goals. AASB urges school boards to establish partnerships with higher education institutions to promote professional development. AASB urges SBOE oversight to require strong accountability and efficient delivery of consistent, high-quality content by state in-service centers.

P-9 School Leadership

AASB recognizes and values school superintendents, principals, assistant principals, directors, and other administrators as vital members of the school management team. The association supports reinforcement of these leadership roles through training programs, assessment centers, regular evaluations, and other similar initiatives. AASB urges regular assessment to ensure the availability of qualified administrative candidates.

P-10 Ethics Law

AASB supports changes to the ethics law to exclude public school employees from the two-year "revolving door" provision. AASB supports employees' right to seek public office and believes such employees should not be compensated at public expense while serving as a public official unless using leave or flex time under an approved board policy applicable to all employees.

P-11 Nepotism

AASB encourages school boards to adopt policies prohibiting employees from directly supervising their immediate family members. AASB supports reasonable

restrictions on the employment and promotion of family members of sitting local board members and superintendents within the same school system.

P-12 Teacher Shortage

AASB urges immediate and ongoing efforts to address the teacher shortage through a multi-pronged approach that includes improving teacher recruitment and retention and enhancing the education career pipeline.

Retention efforts should include:

- Increasing teacher salaries and improve Tier 2 teacher retirement benefits;
- Providing incentives for retired teachers to return to the classroom; and
- Providing incentives for educators to defer retirement.

Pipeline quality and expansion efforts should include:

- Recruiting students and other professionals to the teaching field, including initiatives at the high school level encouraging students to pursue education careers;
- Funding academic scholarships or providing student loan repayment to those pursuing education degrees.
- Offering incentives to those who commit to teach in Alabama for a specific number of years in subject areas or geographical areas with critical teacher shortages;
- Allowing alternative competency-based educator preparation programs; and
- Expanding opportunities for work experience to be used in lieu of course work in high-needs academic subjects.

Section 4: Student Achievement

A-1 Special Education and Special Needs

AASB supports Congress reauthorizing the Individuals with Disabilities with Education Act (IDEA) and increasing the federal share of special education funding to at least 40% of cost.

AASB encourages school officials to be responsive to children with special needs and provide them with education services in the least restrictive environment, including placement in the regular classroom where appropriate. AASB supports early detection of student learning disabilities and advocates local decision-making for student placement. AASB opposes providing medical care unrelated to the disability and expanding recognized disabilities under state and federal education law. AASB supports less restrictive federal special educations laws and regulations governing discipline or other issues that disrupt the learning environment.

A-2 Compulsory Attendance Age/Kindergarten

AASB supports compulsory school attendance from ages six to 17. AASB supports mandatory completion of kindergarten before first grade entry.

A-3 School Climate

AASB recognizes the importance of a positive school climate promoting safety and security during both instructional time and extracurricular activities. To that end, AASB encourages school boards to:

- Adopt plans to ensure safety;
- Aggressively target "bullying" behavior;
- Ban weapons on school premises and educate students about their dangers;
- Involve community groups and agencies in school safety plans;
- Require regular inspection of school facilities and equipment;
- Encourage federal and state leaders to commit resources to violence prevention and to enhance school safety measures; and
- Join forces with community agencies to prevent/reduce gang activity.

A-4 Student Health and Well-Being

AASB encourages local school boards to support a coordinated school health program encompassing health and physical education, health, nutrition, counseling and social services, a healthy school environment, staff and family health promotion, and community involvement. AASB supports public schools free of health and environmental hazards and encourages school boards to test for such hazards. AASB urges school boards to:

- Partner with the community to promote programs that enhance students' overall physical, intellectual, and emotional well-being;
- Require students to have certain immunizations and communicable disease testing prior to school entry;
- Adopt practical and flexible policies for students with special health needs to promote privacy and protect students and staff;
- Promote innovative nutrition and physical activity programs to foster healthy student lifestyles; and
- Ban use of tobacco products and electronic cigarettes (vaping) in school facilities and at school-related events in public venues.

AASB supports Congress maintaining and school systems implementing the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program.

A-5 Student Conduct

AASB supports local decision-making regarding student discipline**.** AASB urges school boards to implement various strategies that guide student behavior, promote achievement and foster a conducive learning environment, including efforts to:

- Develop fair, firm student conduct codes with parent and community input, permitting flexibility to consider student age and specific offense while prohibiting corporal punishment;
- Encourage evidence-based positive behavior programs and discipline alternatives;

- Craft programs and policies to eliminate violent and disruptive behaviors such as bullying, verbal disrespect, racial insensitivity, and harassment, which can negatively impact students' self-esteem and academic achievement;
- Adopt conflict resolution programs such as peer mediation;
- Provide state-funded interventions such as alternative schools or classes and in-school suspension for continually disruptive students;
- Link school behavior with student privileges;
- Adopt random drug testing policies within legal parameters;
- Establish comprehensive strategies for all students, including academic and behavior interventions, prevention and multi-tiered supports; and
- Regularly review discipline data to ensure equitable treatment.

AASB advocates broader school board authority to restrict attendance or remove students charged with or convicted of serious off-campus offenses for protection of students and staff.

A-6 Student Achievement

AASB believes all students should graduate prepared for college or a career. AASB advocates a student-centered approach prioritizing continuous improvement through data-driven decision making, high-quality instruction and innovation. AASB supports reducing barriers to achievement and setting measurable performance goals for students, grades, and school and staff. School boards should focus their leadership efforts on student achievement through measures to:

- Align policies, programs, school board and community resources with high academic expectations and goals;
- Use accountability, evaluation and reporting mechanisms to set, measure and support student achievement goals;
- Involve the community and parents in developing and supporting academic goals; and
- Recognize and reward student and staff achievement.

A-7 Student Assessment and Education Standards

AASB supports high academic standards and an expectation of college and career readiness for all students, demonstrated through grade-level proficiency and objective grading/assessments, with curriculum and instruction aligned with state standards and assessments. AASB supports an assessment program focused on instructional improvement and monitoring student growth. AASB supports Alabama's College and Career Ready Standards (ACCRS) as a baseline for increasing rigor and achievement for all students.

AASB believes graduation standards should be established by the SBOE and urges school boards to implement strategies helping students meet these requirements. AASB supports the College and Career Readiness Indicator (CCRI) as a high school graduation requirement and urges the SBOE to closely work with resource-limited school systems to ensure equitable opportunities to fulfill requirements.

A-8 Career and Technical Education and Workforce Development

AASB supports state and local efforts to research, develop and implement modern career and technical education aligned with workforce needs through partnerships at local, state and regional levels, including public-private partnerships and collaboration with higher education institutions. AASB supports school board authority to design secondary school curricula that prepare students for life success, encompassing rigorous academic programs for all students, advanced courses for college-bound youth and sufficient skills preparation for graduates entering the workforce.

A-9 Textbook and Instructional Materials Selection

AASB supports local school board authority to select textbooks not rejected by the state textbook committee or SBOE. AASB advocates for board discretion to use state funds to purchase electronic textbooks or later editions. AASB urges parent, teacher and technical expert involvement in evaluating and selecting textbooks and instructional materials and supports publishing rubrics used to identify high-quality materials.

A-10 Technology

AASB supports using communication and information technologies to improve instruction, broaden curriculum and enhance community and student services. AASB encourages school boards to integrate technology throughout the curriculum at all grade levels, aligning with industry best practices and complying with data protection and privacy laws. AASB urges state and national leaders to fund educational technology, including virtual and distance learning. AASB supports a comprehensive, state-funded technology plan allowing school boards flexibility to meet local needs without requiring long-term financing.

AASB urges proactive cybersecurity efforts to protect school system data, operations and infrastructure. AASB encourages a multi-pronged approach encompassing cyber-attack threat assessment, prevention, emergency plans, mitigation and response, as well as regular assessment of critical technology components.

A-11 Instructional Calendar and Days

AASB advocates a school calendar with a minimum of 185 instructional days or equivalent for students per year with local flexibility. AASB encourages schools to proactively address absenteeism by promoting attendance and identifying early warning signs of student disengagement. AASB urges school boards to:

- Provide additional instructional time for students requiring assistance;
- Maximize current instructional time;
- Adopt a calendar that complements local needs; and
- Allow alternative scheduling.

AASB opposes efforts to place any restrictions on setting the school calendar or otherwise disrupt the instructional day.

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