



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION




Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

May 21, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Creating Alternative Pathways for Student Success (CAPS)
SAVE the DATE—September 12-14, 2018

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Prevention and Support Services Section, is pleased to announce the upcoming *Creating Alternative Pathways for Student Success Conference*, a professional development opportunity. Nationally known experts such as Mr. Gerry Brooks, school administrator and social media star, will provide strategies and processes proven by research to be effective in addressing social and emotional indicators in regards to student failure. The first 100 people who submit a registration form to Ms. Donna Dickson and register in PowerSchool (CAPS2018) will receive a one-year free membership to the Alabama Alternative Pathways to Education Association (AAPEA).

More than seven million students nationwide are chronically absent from school—missing so much school for any reason—that they are academically at risk. The inordinate number of suspensions also serves as a major culprit for students not achieving success in school academically and behaviorally. It increases the likelihood that children will be unable to read by third grade, fail classes in middle school, and not graduate on time or drop out of high school. Children living in poverty from communities of color and diagnosed with a disability are disproportionately affected.

Alabama officially now has attendance on the radar screen with ten percent reflected on the Report Card, an emphasis in the *Every Student Succeed Act* (ESSA) Plan, and 15 total absences to reflect a student in Alabama being identified as chronically absent. Many times, an absence is the identifiable indicator that other obstacles—such as disengagement from school, bullying, low academic performance and peer pressure, suicide concerns, poor teacher-student relationships, or social and emotional concerns—are prevalent. Powerful sessions will be shared to address some of these issues, showcasing Alabama schools that have a story to tell will be interesting and enriching as local education agencies prepare to address accountability measures and declare war on chronic absenteeism, suspensions, grade-to-grade promotion, and ultimately graduation on time.

Please mark the calendar and submit the attached registration form to receive a guaranteed spot and early bird special of \$110 for the **Creating Alternative Pathways for Student Success (CAPS) Conference** in Mobile, Alabama, on September 12-14, 2018, at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel. A block of rooms at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel is reserved by calling 1-800-922-3298 for an ALSDE Alternative Education Conference special rate.

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We are looking for Best Practices from your LEA that have proven to be successful in these critical areas. Please e-mail Dr. Kay Atchison Warfield (kaw@alsde.edu) or Ms. Ayanna Long (along@alsde.edu) if you are interested in presenting your successes. Contact Dr. Warfield at 334-242-8165 if you need clarification or have any questions regarding this opportunity or e-mail Mrs. Donna Dickson at caps2018@att.net.

EGM/KAW/KM

Attachment

cc: Ms. Donna Dickson

FY18-2095

ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Creating Alternative Pathways for Success

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2018

RENAISSANCE MOBILE RIVERVIEW PLAZA HOTEL
MOBILE, ALABAMA

CALL 1-800-922-3298 AND REQUEST ROOM FOR ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
ALTERNATIVE ED CONFERENCE 2018
ROOM RATES PER NIGHT \$105 (KING) \$115 (DOUBLE QUEEN)
ROOM BLOCK/RATES AVAILABLE UNTIL AUGUST 20, 2018

REGISTRATION- Circle appropriate category

- Register Prior to August 20, 2018 -- **\$110**
- Late Registration August 21 – September 6, 2018 -- **\$150**
- Out-of-State Registration Prior to September 6, 2018 - **\$150**
- On-Site and Registration after September 6, 2018 – **\$200**

MAKE CHECKS/PURCHASE ORDERS payable to: **Alabaster City Schools**
Mail registration and PAYMENT to:
Donna Dickson, 371 Spring Creek Road, Montevallo, AL 35115

Name: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Job Title: _____

Email: _____

IMPORTANT: If you are paying with a Purchase Order, please mail a copy of your registration to the above address with the Purchase Order or a letter (on letterhead) from the business office stating intent to pay with Purchase Order. At the time of the conference, we must have a copy of the Purchase Order for you to attend. Unpaid Purchase Orders will become the responsibility of the participant.

Questions? Please contact Donna Dickson at 205-281-0236 or caps2018@att.net