

# AASSP News



*Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals*

*P.O. Box 428 | Montgomery, AL 36101 | 800.239.3616 | 334.265.3611 - Fax*



Todd Markham  
AASSP President  
Buckhorn High School

Well friends, we are quickly approaching the end of another school year. It seems as if we just started a short while ago. I guess it's a product of my age, but time seems to be going a lot faster these days. I began my career in education in 1990. That doesn't seem all that long ago except when I find myself writing 2019 on all the seemingly endless forms we all sign so regularly. The job of school administrators sure has changed over the course of my career. For example, our board is about to remove corporal punishment from our policy manual. That doesn't concern me because we no longer employ it as a means of discipline at our school. It is, however, an indicator of the changes in our society and its expectations when it comes to schools. If we tried some of the stuff today that they used to do to us when we were in school, we would literally be jailed. Kids in my building think I'm pulling their legs when I tell them paddling wasn't allowed when I was in school, it was expected. And forget trying to get them to believe that seniors

were once employed to drive school buses, or that we had designated smoking areas for teachers AND students. They'll think you've been using some of the vapes you've confiscated.

As we approach the end of this year, I am encouraged by the attention public education has garnered in our state capitol. The senate just passed the largest ETF budget ever. Some of the items contained in that budget include a four percent pay raise, increases for current units, school nurses, National Board certification, classroom materials and supplies, technology, library enhancement, the JAG Program, First Class Pre K, decreased divisors in grades 4 thru 6, and additional funding to the Supercomputer Authority to allow expanded broadband services in schools and public libraries. The senate budget also approved new funding for the CLAS CIL Program. That should be welcome news for any of you who may have been considering applying to the program. The additional professional certification should come with additional financial reward. Thanks to Dr. Wilson for pushing for that. We are all aware of the numerous issues Tier II created making teaching in Alabama far less attractive to young people as a possible vocation. House Bill 77 introduced by Representative Baker would create the Tier III Teacher Recruitment & Retention Act which would help to lure young people back to the profession. As I write this, the bill has passed the house and is in committee in the senate. I appreciate the supporters of public education in our legislature as I know you all do. They have much to consider as they make decisions regarding the governance of our state. That is why it is vitally important that we dialogue with them at every opportunity and keep them informed about issues crucial to our profession.

The approach of summer means the annual CLAS Convention is just around the corner. I hope you have all registered already. If not, please consider doing so. Like many of you, my job has required me to attend a lot of meetings, conferences, seminars, etc. over the years. Some were good and some not so much. Some of the best and most meaningful professional development events I have attended

over the course of my career have been offered through CLAS and our secondary affiliate, AASSP. CLAS and AASSP have afforded me the opportunity not only to grow professionally, but also to develop many enduring friendships. The fellowship and camaraderie we share at these events is a welcome distraction from the realities of the job. I look forward to being in Montgomery for the annual CLAS Convention and I hope to see you all there.

In closing, I would just like to leave you with a thought. It is my opinion that with the exception of the practice of medicine, there is no other profession which has such a profound impact on mankind as does education. What you do every day is vitally important to the very fabric of society. It might not seem that way when you are listening to parent complaints, sweating over accountability measures, or dealing with the bureaucracy which now permeates our business, but you can believe it. Your work touches the lives of countless individuals and has a positive influence on them that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Looking for proof? Just think back to your own school experience and the teachers, coaches, and administrators who influenced you. That's what you are doing now for the young people in your buildings.

I hope the close of your school year goes well.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CLAS Summer Convention  
June 9-12, 2019  
Renaissance Montgomery  
Hotel & Spa and MPAC  
Montgomery, AL

NASSP National Principals  
Conference  
July 18-19, 2019  
Boston, MA



**AASSP and AAMSP Members:  
Be sure to attend your  
affiliate meeting at convention**

**Monday, June 10  
3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

- **AASSP - Alabama D**
- **AAMSP - Montgomery 6**



## Donna Burke Named Alabama's Assistant Principal of the Year

Donna Burke, assistant principal at Robert F. Bumpus Middle School, is the Alabama Assistant Principal of the Year by the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals (AASSP). As the Alabama state winner, Burke is eligible to be selected as the 2019 National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Assistant Principal of the Year.

Burke is well-known for engaging with the students and the staff. She meets students at the door each morning to gauge the pulse of student drama from the previous night. If she senses there is potential for drama, she might work alone or with the counselor to mediate student situation, call parents to give a heads up, or send a heads up email to the team of teachers. She frequently checks on teachers to see how they are dealing with personal matters and is known to provide a pick-me-up for the staff.

While searching for ways to address the needs of the diverse student population, Ms. Burke initiated a partnership with the YWCA. She worked with teachers to select 30 students from different backgrounds to form a Heritage Panel to help the student body learn to accept people from different cultures. Burke also created a program to build leadership skills and self-esteem in girls by having them read to and mentor kindergarten and first-grade students at Trace Crossings Elementary School.

"Ms. Burke works tirelessly each day, to make sure Bumpus runs smoothly," states R.F. Bumpus Middle School Principal, Dr. Tamala Maddox. "What separates Ms. Burke from other administrators is the heart she puts into every aspect of her job including the operation of the building; the care of the students, parents, and staff; the safety and well-being of the students and staff; the professional growth of the staff and herself; and the growth mindset she brings to the table each day."

Hoover City Schools' Superintendent Dr. Kathy Murphy echoed those remarks. "Donna Burke is a dedicated and outstanding educator who is committed to the academic success of students. Ms. Burke is respected by students and her colleagues," said Murphy.

A panel of judges selected Burke from numerous applicants across the state of Alabama. Burke's award was announced at school December 4. The announcement was a staged surprise.

She will represent the state as the nominee for the National Assistant Principal of the Year Award. The Alabama Assistant Principal of the Year program is sponsored by Horace Mann. Burke will also serve a one-year term on the AASSP Board of Directors.

AASSP extends its gratitude to Horace Mann for sponsoring this award program.

# Make A Wish - Dreams Do Come True



Alabama Student Council Association



Alabama



The Alabama Student Council Association (ASCA) in partnership with Kids For Wish Kids, granted a wish for 6-year-old John-John from Centreville AL during the ASCA Middle and High School Spring Conference on April 14, 2019 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The stage in the Bryant Conference Center was set for the reveal when 400+ students cheered as his wish to attend the Kalahari Indoor Water Park in Wisconsin was granted. The Awards Dinner in his honor was attended by John-John and his entire family and even though he is non-verbal and cannot carry on a conversation, his excitement was evident when the employees of the Kalahari Indoor Water Park in Wisconsin that he wished to visit had recorded and sent him a video that was shown on the big screen. Through the leadership

and hard work of James Clemens High School, President School of ASCA, \$13,199 was raised through various fundraisers by middle and high school student councils throughout Alabama. Each school's donation gave ASCA the opportunity to reveal John-John's wish. This is the second year ASCA hosted a reveal. "It's truly a rewarding and touching moment to see a child's wish come true. The students involved in the event to grant a wish to a health impaired child will be impacted forever," said Katrina Akers, Executive Director of ASCA.



## Make-A-Wish School Contributions

- Demopolis High School \$100
- James Clemens High School \$200
- CenterPoint High School \$100
- Thorsby High School \$100
- JF Shields High School \$20
- Maulsford High School \$20
- South Girard High School \$100
- Baldwin County High School \$200
- Buckham High School \$224
- Springfield High School \$500
- Lawrence County High School \$100
- St. Charles High School \$100
- Regent High School \$100
- Alanya Middle School \$20
- Oakville Middle School \$20
- Irishville High School \$20
- Seneca High School \$20
- Alexandria Middle School \$10
- Nicholas Lanier Middle School \$20
- Akers High School \$10
- Murphy High School \$10



**\$1,000 ASCA  
Scholarship Winner  
James Clem  
Athens High School**



**Students ready for the Make-A-Wish Gala 2019**

photo credit: @karenclem123



photo credit: @eliza\_hobbs



photo credit: @\_t.o.n.y\_



photo credit: @arielwilliams027

# THANK YOU

to this year's donors

**TOTAL RAISED**



**\$13,199**

## WHO GAVE?

- Alexandria High School
- Athens High School
- Athens Middle School
- Baldwin County High
- Buckhorn High School
- Center Point High School
- Demopolis High School
- Elmore County High
- Geneva High School
- James Clemens High
- JF Shields High School
- Munford High School
- Murphy High School
- Nichols Lawson Middle
- Odenville Middle School
- Prattville High School
- Ragland High School
- South Girard High School
- Springfield High School
- St. Clair High School
- Thorsby High School

# Congratulations to the 2018-2019 District High School Principals of the Year



**District 1**  
Joe Toomey  
Murphy High School



**District 2**  
Daniel Shakespeare  
Andalusia High School



**District 3**  
David Sikes  
Pike Road High School



**District 4**  
Matt Coker  
Tallasse High School



**District 5**  
Darrell Hudson  
Parker High School



**District 6 President**  
Bobby Tittle  
Ohatchee High School



**District 7N**  
Dr. Chad Holden  
Muscle Shoals High  
School



**District 8**  
Dr. Travis Schrimsher  
Athens High School



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
2019 ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**Dr. Chad Holden**

Muscle Shoals High School  
Muscle Shoals City Schools



Award sponsored by

AMERICAN FIDELITY  
a different opinion

**E**  
Interior Elements

# Congratulations to the 2018-2019 District Middle School Principals of the Year



**District 1**  
Andrea Dennis  
C.L. Scarborough  
Middle School



**District 3**  
Janice Stockman  
Prattville Jr. High School



**District 4**  
Ross Reed  
Auburn Jr. High Schools



**District 6**  
Chris Hanson  
Piedmont Middle School



**District 7S**  
Bo Wilcoxson  
Haleyville Middle School



**District 8**  
Dr. Robbie Smith  
Hartselle Jr. High School

Congratulations to all District Principal of the Year winners who were selected by each district.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
2019 ALABAMA MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

**Andrea Dennis**

Scarborough Middle School  
Mobile County Public School System



Award Sponsored by:

**Curriculum Associates**

**E**  
Interior Elements



# 2019 CLAS ANNUAL SUMMER CONVENTION

June 9-12, 2019 | Montgomery, Alabama  
 Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa and  
 Montgomery Performing Arts Centre

## REGISTRATION

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred First Name for Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Twitter Handle: @ \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

School System: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Required for confirmation)

Invoice To: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. CONVENTION REGISTRATION

(Includes meals, breaks, door prizes, sessions, and president's reception)

Circle the appropriate registration fee	EARLY REGISTRATION BY MAY 3	REGULAR REGISTRATION BY JUNE 8	ON-SITE REGISTRATION JUNE 9-12
MEMBER	\$ 288	\$ 324	\$ 354
NON-MEMBER	\$ 468	\$ 504	\$ 534

TOTAL Section 1 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. MEALS (No charge for paid registrants, but reservations are required)

Awards Luncheon ..... Tuesday, June 11

- I will attend (No charge for paid registrants)  
 I need \_\_\_\_\_ extra ticket(s) at \$40 each

Closing Breakfast Session ..... Wednesday, June 12

- I will attend (No charge for paid registrants)  
 I need \_\_\_\_\_ extra ticket(s) at \$30 each

TOTAL Section 2 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL (Sections 1 & 2) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

I have special health/dietary needs (list below):  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. PAYMENT

(Refunds granted only upon written request. No refunds granted after May 31, 2019)

Check (enclosed) # \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_  
Purchase order/number must accompany registration form

Credit Card (Visa/MC/Discover)  
 Visa     Master Card     Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last 3 digits on back of card

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Register online at [www.clasleaders.org/conv](http://www.clasleaders.org/conv), email your form to [tammy@clasleaders.org](mailto:tammy@clasleaders.org), fax registration form to (334) 265-3611, or mail the completed form to:

**CLAS**  
**P.O. Box 428**  
**Montgomery, AL 36101-0428**

**Room Reservations:** Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Renaissance Montgomery at (877) 545-0311 and asking for the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools, Summer Convention 2019 room rate of \$129 per night plus taxes and fees. Reservations are subject to availability and must be made by May 8, 2019, to receive this rate. Online room reservations - <https://goo.gl/eBNVHd>

**Questions? Call (800) 239-3616 or visit us online at [www.clasleaders.org](http://www.clasleaders.org)**

**Online Registration available at [convention.clasleaders.org](http://convention.clasleaders.org)**