



Contact: Alyssa Godfrey
Communications Director
CLAS
P.O. Box 428
Montgomery, AL 36101
alyssa@clasleaders.org

COUNCIL FOR LEADERS IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS IN EDUCATION

Former Alabama Educator Inducted into Alabama Educational Leadership Hall of Fame

Troy, Ala – November 15, 2018 – Dr. L. Earl Franks, former executive director of the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS), was inducted into the Alabama Education Leadership Hall of Fame at Troy University today. He was honored at an induction ceremony at 10:30 a.m. in Jack Hawkins, Jr. Hall.

Franks was an Alabama public school educator for 22 years. He was an award-winning band director for 13 years before moving into the principalship at Luverne School, a Pre-K-12 school in Luverne, Ala. In 2008, Franks was named executive director of CLAS. While serving as a principal and later as CLAS executive director, Franks was able to develop broad experience by working with school systems in many different capacities. He was also credited with driving innovation and association growth due to his leadership of the CLAS organization. In 2017, Franks was named executive director of the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) in Alexandria, Va.

Dr. Franks received his doctorate in Educational Leadership from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. He received his Master of Science in Education, Bachelor of Music Education, and Educational Specialist degrees from Troy University in Troy, Ala.

"Troy University has been committed to training outstanding educators since 1887, and Dr. Earl Franks is one of the brightest stars our College of Education has ever produced," comments Troy University Chancellor Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr. "Dr. Franks has made his mark as a music educator, an administrator, and as the leader of state- and national-level organizations devoted to improving the quality of public education. Few Trojans have enjoyed such a diverse – and successful – career in education. His induction adds luster to an already distinguished roster of education leaders."

Dr. Franks is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow with Major Donor distinction from Rotary International and has received leadership awards from the Alabama Music Educators

Association, Troy University Music Department, as well as the prestigious Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential from the ASAE Center for Association Leadership.

"I am deeply honored to be able to recognize and congratulate such an outstanding leader as Dr. Earl Franks," states CLAS Executive Director Dr. Vic Wilson. "To have an educator develop into a phenomenal leader and move into a position of influence on the national level is an inspiring and monumental achievement."

About CLAS:

CLAS, the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools was founded in 1969 by a small group of school leaders to provide targeted professional learning and support for Alabama's public school administrators. CLAS now serves ten affiliates representing each type of public school/school system leader. CLAS provides the framework to connect dedicated school administrators and other successful leaders with a network for professional growth and support. CLAS is the premier professional learning provider for administrators in public schools in the state of Alabama.

About the Alabama Educational Leadership Hall of Fame:

The Alabama Educational Leadership Hall of Fame was established on July 1, 1982, by the Troy University Board of Trustees under the authority of the Legislature of the State of Alabama. Its mission is to recognize, by cooperative effort of Troy University, Alabama Association of School Boards, and the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools, individuals whose long-term leadership and service to education in Alabama on the local, district, state, regional, and/or national level is of the magnitude that it would dictate perpetual recognition.

Photo: [Earl Franks, Ed.D., CAE](#)

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