

ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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Governor Ivey and Alabama State Department of Education Launch 3rd Annual Thank Alabama Teachers Month

Monthlong observance in which communities, businesses and individuals are asked to show appreciation for K-12 teachers statewide highlighted by a teacher giveaway in partnership with Nick's Kids Foundation

MONTGOMERY (Nov. 1, 2022) — Governor Kay Ivey, alongside State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric G. Mackey from the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), today launched the state's third iteration of its Thank Alabama Teachers initiative. This year, the entire month of November has been designated by formal Proclamation to celebrate Alabama teachers through a robust statewide campaign in which communities, businesses and individuals are asked to participate.

The launch of Thank Alabama Teachers Month was held today at Montgomery's G.W. Carver High School and led by Governor Ivey, Superintendent Mackey, ALSDE Director of Communications Dr. Michael Sibley and Principal Gary Hall. Special notes of thanks from two Carver High students also highlighted the launch, which was attended by both Carver's junior and senior classes.

"During our formative years, teachers help carve our futures and uncover in us the people who we want to be and the paths in life we want to go down," said Governor Ivey, also a former high school educator. "They are truly key to Alabama's past, present and future, and we cannot thank them enough for their contributions to society. I am proud to issue a formal proclamation naming November as 'Thank Alabama Teachers Month.'"

"Teachers are the real influencers in people's lives, and as part of Thank Alabama Teachers Month, and together with the Alabama State Board of Education, we are calling on all Alabamians to thank current and past teachers for what they mean to us all," said Dr. Mackey. "Whether that's local businesses offering teachers in-store discounts or catered lunches, students leaving small gifts on a special teachers' desksides or people of any age uploading appreciation-filled social posts, the method in which you show your appreciation is entirely up to you —help us say 'thank you' in your own way."

As a unique addition to this year's launch was a special address from Mrs. Terry Saban on behalf of the <u>Nick's Kids Foundation</u>. The ALSDE will be giving away two Iron Bowl tickets to one lucky teacher recipient during the month of November with nominations accepted through <u>weteachalabama.com</u> or on the giveaway post located on the <u>ALSDE Instagram page</u>.

"As a former educator, I know firsthand that few people can leave an impact on a child's life like a teacher," said Mrs. Saban. "So, this month, we're saying thank you to teachers by giving away two Iron Bowl tickets courtesy of Nick's Kids."

To further assist Alabamians in identifying ways to thank teachers, those interested in participating can visit www.weteachalabama.com/thank-teachers for complimentary social assets and for a "Thank You Generator" of unique appreciation ideas.

"We are here to help you say, 'thanks' to these integral influencers in our lives, even if you don't know how to best do so," added Dr. Sibley. "We are so enormously proud of Alabama's educators and are committed to helping the public show them, alongside us, how much they truly mean to us."

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