



**A Statewide Focus on Adolescent Literacy
Birmingham, Alabama
September 30-October 2, 2009
Agenda**

Location:

**Sheraton Birmingham
2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard North
Birmingham, AL 35203
Phone: (205) 324-5000**

Wednesday, September 30th

**4:15 – 5:30 pm Introductions and Sharing of State Progress
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)***

(Shuttle to reception and dinner site will leave immediately following session)

6:00 – 6:30 pm Networking Reception
Location: McCormick & Schmick's Restaurant
719 Shades Creek Parkway
Birmingham, AL 35209
Phone: (205)-871-5171

6:30 – 8:30 pm Dinner and Keynote Address

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tommy Bice, Alabama Deputy State Superintendent of Education

Thursday, October 1st

6:30-7:30 am Breakfast Available
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)*

7:30-9:15 am Panel Discussion:
Setting the Stage: Background and Policy Context for the Alabama Reading Initiative
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)*

Presenters:

Mark Dixon, Senior Advisor to Governor Riley
Caroline Novak, President, A+ Education Partnership
Denise Gibbs, Director, Scottish Rite Foundation Learning Centers

9:15 – 9:30 am Break



9:30 - 11:00 am Panel Discussion: Taking ARI to Scale: Implementation, Program Development, and Evaluation

Presenters:

Sherrill Parris, Asst. State Superintendent of Education, ALSDE
Judy Stone, Administrator, Alabama Reading First Initiative, ALSDE
Carol Belcher, Administrator for Data and Evaluations, ALSDE
Deann Stone, Federal Programs Director, ALSDE

11:15 am Bus departs for Site Visit to Aliceville High School, Pickens County
(Box Lunches on Bus)

1:15- 3:45 pm Site Visit at Aliceville High School
417 3rd Street, Aliceville, AL, 35442 (Phone: 205-373-6378)
Minnie Washington, Principal

Aliceville is a town 15 miles from the Mississippi state line with a population of 5,000. The town relies on agriculture and timber and a large number of its residents live at or below the poverty level. Aliceville High School, located in the Pickens County School District, serves 535 students in grades 7-12. The student population is more than 99% African American. About 85% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunches. The student-teacher ratio is 17:1. In the 2007-2008SY, on the Alabama Reading and Mathematics Test (ARMT), 44% of 8th graders scored proficient in reading, as compared to 58% in 06-07, 56% in 05-06, and 38% in 04-05.

3:50 - 4:50 pm Panel Discussion:
Implementation at the District and School Level: Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Support

Presenters:

Reeda Betts, Administrator for ARI Secondary Schools and
ARI-PAL, ALSDE
Johnny Johnson, Principal, Aliceville Middle School
Denise Perkins, Specialist for Secondary Coach Training and Support,
ARI-PAL, ALSDE

5:00 pm Bus departs for Birmingham

7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)*

Friday, October 2nd

6:45 - 7:30 am Breakfast Available
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)*

7:30 - 8:45 am Peer-to-Peer Learning/Reflections on Learning to Date
Location: Sheraton, East MR-B (in Convention Complex)*



8:50 am **Bus departs for Hayden Middle School, Blount County**

9:30 am-12:00 pm **Site Visit at Hayden Middle School**
310 Second Avenue, Hayden, AL 35079 (Phone: 205.647.3083)
Ken Parker, Principal

Hayden Middle School provides services for approximately 570 students in grades 5-7 and is located on the western border of Blount County in Hayden, Alabama. The small, rural town is comprised primarily of many smaller communities and unincorporated neighborhoods. The middle school serves students from Hayden as well as other surrounding rural areas of West Blount County. In the 2007-2008 school year, 38% of students were eligible for free or reduced meals. The student to teacher ratio is about 20:1. The student body is mostly White, but with a small minority population. In May 2006, HMS was chosen as one of the "Fabulous 14," to participate in the ARI-PAL pilot program. In the 2007-2008 school year, 71% of students in the 8th grade met or exceeded standards in the reading section of the Alabama Reading and Mathematics Test (ARMT), as compared to 68% in 06-07, 76% in 05-06, and 78% in the 04-05.

12:00-12:45 pm **Lunch**
Presenter:
Martha Rizzuto, Superintendent, Tarrant City Schools

12:45-1:10 pm **Debrief and Final Reflections**

1:15 pm **Bus departs for Airport/Hotel**

**The Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex is adjacent to the Sheraton and is accessible via an enclosed walkway on the Atrium level of the hotel*