



## Board Members

### Alabama State Board of Education

**Governor Robert Bentley**  
**President**

**Tracy Roberts**  
**District 1**

**Betty Peters**  
**District 2**

**Stephanie W. Bell**  
**Vice President**  
**District 3**

**Dr. Yvette Richardson**  
**District 4**

**Ella B. Bell**  
**President Pro Tem**  
**District 5**

**Dr. Charles Elliott**  
**District 6**

**Jeff Newman**  
**District 7**

**Mary Scott Hunter**  
**District 8**

The Alabama State Board of Education plays a critical role in the education of millions of children and adults each year. The Board performs the dual role of overseeing the Department of Education's K-12 public schools and the Department of Postsecondary Education's system of community and technical schools, adult education programs and workforce training initiatives.

The members of the Alabama State Board of Education serve as trustees for the Alabama Community College System with the Governor serving as chair of the Board by virtue of elected office. The other board members are elected from eight districts.

Monthly public work sessions and board meetings are held in Montgomery, and at times, in various districts around the state to discuss and act on the business of the Alabama Community College System.



**Governor Robert Bentley**  
**Board President**  
Current Term: 2011-2015



Family Background

- \* Native of Columbiana in Shelby County;
- \* Resident of Tuscaloosa;
- \* Married for over 40 years to the former Dianne Jones of Montgomery;
- \* Father of John Mark (wife Amy), Paul (wife Melissa), Luke, and Matthew (wife Katy);
- \* Grandfather of 5 - Katie, Taylor, Anna Claire, Mary Boyd, and Caroline;
- \* Member of First Baptist Church Tuscaloosa;
- \* Deacon and Sunday School teacher.

Military Service

- \* Commissioned as Captain in the Air Force during Vietnam;
- \* Medical Officer;
- \* Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America;
- \* Member of American Legion.

Professional Career

- \* Physician;
- \* Founding partner of Alabama Dermatology Associates;
- \* Turned his small business into one of the largest practices in the Southeast;
- \* Named one of the "Best Doctors in America" by his peers.
- \* Member of the Alabama State House from Tuscaloosa.

He has served on the following committees:

- \* Education Appropriations Committee
- \* Boards and Commissions Committee
- \* Agriculture and Forestry Committee
- \* Internal Affairs Committee

BACKGROUND

Dr. Robert J. Bentley ran for Governor to grow the economy and create jobs without increasing taxes or spending. He believes there needs to be more transparency and accountability in Alabama's government. He is a pro-life, pro-marriage, and pro-second amendment conservative who believes in smaller and more limited government.

He will not accept the Governor's annual salary until Alabama reaches full employment.

Robert is an active member of First Baptist Church (FBC) Tuscaloosa where he serves as a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher. At FBC Tuscaloosa he has been the Chairman of the Board of Deacons four times and a member of the Youth for Christ Advisory Board, as well as the Family Counseling Advisory Board. Dr. Bentley has also served on the State Advisory Board for Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Currently, he serves on the Board of Trustees for Judson College in Marion, Alabama and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Medical Education Consortium which he helped found.

EARLY BACKGROUND

Robert Julian Bentley is a native of Columbiana in Shelby County Alabama. His father, David Harford Bentley, worked at his sawmill and instilled within his youngest son the importance of the old-fashioned, All-American work ethic. His mother, Mattie Boyd Vick Bentley, cared for Robert, his brother and three sisters. She taught him to be compassionate and to appreciate traditional family values.

Growing up in Columbiana taught Robert the value of hard work and the importance of family. His parents, neither of whom completed school past junior high, impressed upon him that education and

**Alabama State Capitol**  
**600 Dexter Avenue**  
**Montgomery, AL 36130**  
**334.242.7100 phone**  
**334.353.0004 fax**

learning were the keys to future success. Although Robert left Columbiana after graduating high school, he has always remembered his roots and the people who helped shape his life in rural Shelby County.

## EDUCATION AND FAMILY

### Education

After graduating from Shelby County High School, Robert put himself through college at the University of Alabama. While at UA, he majored in Chemistry and Biology and graduated with his Bachelor of Science in just three years.

From an early age, Robert Bentley knew he wanted to become a doctor. After graduating from UA, he began his studies at The University of Alabama School of Medicine. During his first year of medical school, he met Martha Dianne Jones of Montgomery. They were married on July 24, 1965. He graduated with his M. D. in 1968 and began his one year internship at Carraway Methodist Hospital in Birmingham.

### Military Service

In 1969, during the Vietnam conflict, Bentley joined the United States Air Force where he was commissioned as a captain, and served as a general medical officer. He was stationed at Pope Air Force Base at Fort Bragg where he became hospital commander near the end of his tenure. While in the service as a general medical officer he treated many military dependants, active duty service members, and wounded soldiers. He is a life member of Vietnam Veterans of American and a member of the American Legion.

Following his military service, Bentley began his three year residency at the University of Alabama in Dermatology. However he has never forgotten his military background, and while serving in the Alabama House of Representatives he has sponsored legislation to improve educational benefits for disabled veterans.

### Family

After completing residency, the Bentley's decided to make Tuscaloosa home to begin their family together and for Robert to start his dermatology practice. They have raised four sons--John Mark (wife Amy), Paul (wife Melissa), Luke, and Matthew (wife Katy). Robert and Dianne are the proud grandparents of Katie, Taylor, Anna Claire, Mary Boyd, and Caroline.

**Tracy Roberts**  
**District 1**

Current Term: 2013-2017

Mrs. Roberts was elected to the Alabama State Board of Education in November of 2012.

District I includes Baldwin, Butler, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Escambia and a portion of Mobile Counties; and the following colleges: Jefferson Davis Community College; James H. Faulkner State Community College; Reid State Technical College; and Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

Graduate of Jefferson Davis High School, 1977

B.A. - The University of Alabama, 1981

Worked in Washington, DC for Congressman Bill Dickinson.

Volunteered in Baldwin County schools as a member of local PTAs, Alabama PTA and the National PTA, serving in various leadership roles, 1996

Ran for the District 7 seat on the Baldwin County Board of Education and was elected to a six year term in 2004 during that term she served two years as Vice-President and two years as President. She was unopposed and re-elected in 2010.

All-State School Board Award from the Alabama Association of School Boards, 2012

Active in the University of Alabama National Alumni Association, serving as Vice-President and President of the Baldwin County Chapter

Elected as District 11 Vice-President of the University of Alabama National Alumni Association, 2011

Board Member of the University of Alabama Parent's Association



**31490 Tara Blvd. West**  
**251-626-5023 Home**

**[tracyroberts@bellsouth.net](mailto:tracyroberts@bellsouth.net)**

**Betty Peters**  
**District 2**

Current Term: 2011-2015

Mrs. Peters has served as a member of the Alabama State Board of Education since 2003.

District II includes Barbour, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Randolph, Russell, Tallapoosa and a portion of Coosa Counties; and the following colleges: Central Alabama Community College; Chattahoochee Valley Community College; Enterprise State Community College; Southern Union State Community College; and George C. Wallace Community College, Dothan.

1965 graduate of Dothan High School

1983 graduate of Troy State University-Dothan, magna cum laude, with BS in Accounting

Secretary-Payroll Clerk, Auburn University

Secretary, Public Affairs Office, US Taiwan Defense Command, Taipei, Taiwan

Secretary, Budget Office, USAAVNBD, Ft. Rucker

Administrative Aide, Social Security Administration, Dothan

Accountant, Peters Municipal Associates, Dothan

Former substitute and volunteer teacher in public and private schools

Church treasurer, former Vacation Bible School co-director and Sunday School teacher

Participant in interdenominational Bible studies

Student newspaper staff, TSU and TSU-Dothan

President, Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society, TSU-Dothan

Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities

National Dean's List

2002 recipient of Olive Spann Award, Eagle Forum of Alabama



**526 Beatrice Road**  
**Kinsey, AL 36303**  
**334.794.8024 phone**  
**334.793.6303 fax**

[bpetersfaulk@gmail.com](mailto:bpetersfaulk@gmail.com)

**Stephanie W. Bell**  
**Vice President**  
**District 3**

Current Term: 2009-2013

Mrs. Bell has served as a member of the Alabama State Board of Education since 1995. She has served as Vice President since July 2012.

District III includes Chilton, Coosa, Elmore, Shelby, Talladega and portions of Autauga, Bibb, Jefferson, and Montgomery Counties; and the following colleges: J. F. Ingram State Technical College; the Childersburg Campus of Central Alabama Community College; and the Shelby Campus of Jefferson State Community College.

Attended Montgomery Public Schools, grades one through 12

Graduate, Jefferson Davis High School, Montgomery

B.S., English/Journalism-Applied Communications: Auburn University, Auburn and Montgomery

Former Executive Director (volunteer capacity): SCORE (100 Statewide Committee on Reforming Education)

Former reporter: The Montgomery Advertiser/Alabama Journal, covered state and local government, including education, courts and Legislature

Former English teacher to Chinese adults in Taichung, Taiwan

CASE II Media Award: Presented by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education for articles about Alabama's two-year colleges

Hector Award Nominee: Meritorious Reporting

Friend of Education Award, 1998

Emma Sansom Heroine Award, 1997

Alabama Eagle Award for promoting God, country, and family

Alabama Homemaker of the Year Award

Outstanding Young Woman of America

Member: Education Leaders Council

Member: National Council of Women Advisors to Congress

Governmental Affairs Committee, National Association of State Boards of Education

Member: Governor's Domestic Violence Advisory Council

Junior League of Montgomery

Former member, boards of directors: Camp ASCAA and Family Guidance Center

Past volunteer: Father Purcell Memorial Exceptional Children's Center

Member: Eastwood Presbyterian Church, Montgomery



**3218 Lancaster Lane**  
**Montgomery, AL 36106**  
**334.272.2777 phone**  
**334.260.0100 fax**

[stephaniewbell@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniewbell@gmail.com)

**Yvette Richardson, Ed.D.**  
**District 4**

Occupation: Educational Consultant

Current Term: 2011-2015

District IV includes Greene, Hale, Pickens and portions of Bibb, Jefferson and Tuscaloosa Counties; and the following colleges: Alabama Technology Network; T. A. Lawson State Community College; and Shelton State Community College.

Ed. D.: University of Alabama

Ed. S.: Samford University

M. S.: Samford University

B. S.: Miles College

Thirty-one years in public education as Associate Dean at Virginia College, Birmingham, teacher, school principal, director of curriculum, Superintendent of Fairfield City School System, Superintendent of Russell County School System, and adjunct professor.

Member of Fairfield Civitans, Phenix City Rotary Club, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Council for Leaders of Alabama Schools, Alabama Association of School Boards, and National Education Association

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Educator of the Year Award, 2007

Leadership Birmingham, Class of 2000, Member

Governor's Redesign Committee for Colleges and Universities in State of Alabama



**Post Office Box 785**  
**Fairfield, AL 35064**  
**334.923.7262 phone**

[mcphersony@bellsouth.net](mailto:mcphersony@bellsouth.net)



**Ella B. Bell**  
**President Pro Tem**  
**District 5**

Current Term: 2009-2013

Mrs. Bell has served as a member of the Alabama State Board of Education since 2001. She has served as President Pro Tem since July 2012.

District V includes Autauga, Bullock, Choctaw, Clarke, Dallas, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Monroe, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Sumter, Washington, Wilcox and a portion of Mobile counties; and the following colleges: Alabama Southern Community College; Bishop State Community College; Marion Military Institute; H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College; and George Corley Wallace State Community College, Selma.

B.S., Tuskegee University, 1969

Master's degree in Educational Supervision, Alabama State University, 1974

Doctoral work in educational leadership (completed everything except dissertation), 1974-1977

Former Director of The Dropout Prevention Center, Alabama State University

Tuskegee University Alumni Association

Montgomery Area United Way Board

SISTAS Inc. (support group for women surviving breast cancer)

Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Trinity Lutheran Church, Co-Chair of Board of Stewardship

Chamber of Commerce National Government Committee

Montgomery County Democratic Conference

Alabama Democratic Conference

Three Citations from the governor for State Combined United Way Campaign

Spirit of Freedom Award from the City of Mosses in Lowndes County

Certificate of Appreciation from Alice McKinney, Chair of United Way

Certificate of Appreciation from Day Street Baptist Church for Women's Day Observance

Outstanding Leadership Award from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Outstanding Leadership Award from the Montgomery Community Action Agency

Certificate of Appreciation from SISTAS Inc

Certificate of Appreciation from National Tots and Teens Inc.

Outstanding Leadership Award from Trinity Lutheran School



**2634 Airwood Drive**  
**Montgomery, AL 36108**  
**334.834.2811 phone**

[stateboard5@hotmail.com](mailto:stateboard5@hotmail.com)



**Charles Elliott, M.D.**  
**District 6**

Occupation: Anesthesiologist

Current Term: 2011-2015

District VI includes Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Cullman, Marshall, Morgan, St. Clair and portions of Dekalb and Limestone Counties; and the following colleges: John C. Calhoun Community College; Snead State Community College; Wallace State Community College, Hanceville; and the Ayers Campus of Gadsden State Community College.

Bradshaw High School, Florence, AL, 1971

B. S., 1975, (magna cum laude), Phi Beta Kappa: The University of Alabama

M.D., 1979, University of Alabama School of Medicine

Intern and Resident in Internal Medicine, 1979-1981, Carraway Methodist Medical Center, Birmingham

Resident in Anesthesiology, University of Alabama Hospitals and Clinics, 1981-1983

Instructor/Fellow in Anesthesiology, University Hospital, 1983

Medical Staff Affiliations:

Decatur General Hospital, Parkway Medical Center Hospital, Surgery Center of Decatur

Diplomate, American Board of Anesthesiology

Medical Association State of Alabama

Morgan County Medical Society

Past President Morgan County Medical Society

American Society of Anesthesiologists

Alabama State Society of Anesthesiologists

Served on Decatur's Board of Education from 1996 to 2008, and as Board President for seven consecutive years.

Board of Directors, 2004-2008; Master School Board Member; Alabama Association of School Boards

State Department of Education Committee on Physical Education and Nutrition

Beltline Church of Christ, Decatur, served as elder and Bible Class teacher.

Active in medical missions to Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, and Guatemala

John A. Caddell Award, 2008, Decatur General Hospital Foundations' award for service to the community

Ethylene Banks Award, 2009, named Citizen of the Year by the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce



**Post Office Box 1584**  
**Decatur, AL 35602**  
**256.580.1705 phone**

[drcharleselliott@gmail.com](mailto:drcharleselliott@gmail.com)

**Jeff Newman**  
**District 7**

Current Term: 2013-2017

Mr. Newman was elected to the Alabama State Board of Education in November of 2012.

District VII includes Colbert, Fayette, Franklin, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Marion, Walker, Winston and portions of Jefferson, Limestone and Tuscaloosa Counties; and the following colleges: Bevill State Community College; Jefferson State Community College; and Northwest-Shoals Community College.

High School Graduate, Millport High School, Lamar County, Alabama.

Education, Bevill State Community College

Bachelor of Science in Education, Agribusiness Education, Auburn University

Master of Education, Agribusiness and Extension Education, Mississippi State University

Master of Education, Administration and Supervision, The University of West Alabama

Educational Specialist, Curriculum/Instruction Evaluation and Administration, NOVA Southeastern University

Retired Superintendent of Education of the Lamar County School System  
School Superintendents of Alabama Member

Alabama Farmers Federation Member

Alabama Education Association Member

Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools Member

Alabama School Board Association Member

National Rifle Association Lifetime Member

Millport Industrial Development Board President

Propst Memorial Methodist Church Member



**261 Newman Drive**  
**Millport, AL 35576**  
**205-712-0011 Cell**

[newmanjef@hotmail.com](mailto:newmanjef@hotmail.com)

**Mary Scott Hunter**  
**District 8**

Occupation: Attorney, Siniard, Timberlake and League, P.C.

Current Term: 2011-2015

District VIII includes Etowah, Jackson, Madison and portions of Dekalb and Limestone Counties; and the following colleges: J. F. Drake State Technical College; Gadsden State Community College; Northeast Alabama Community College; and the Huntsville Campus of John C. Calhoun Community College.

Bachelor of Arts - 1995 (cum laude): University of Alabama

Juris Doctorate - 1998: University of Alabama School of Law

Military Service (1998-2009): Commissioned as a United States Air Force lieutenant and attained the rank of major serving in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps as an active duty member, then in the Air Force Reserves, and finally in the Alabama Air Guard. Military Awards: Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, Longevity Service Ribbon, and the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.

Affiliations: Madison County Bar Association (Education Pipeline Committee), Alabama Bar Association, Alabama Association of School Boards, Schools Foundation, Military Child Education Coalition, Air Force Association, Trinity United Methodist Church (Finance Committee), Blossomwood Elementary School Parent Teacher Association, Alabama Alumni Association / Friends of New College, Various Republican Clubs and Groups, South Huntsville Civic Association.



**Post Office Box 18572**  
**Huntsville, AL 35801**  
**256.489.1996 phone**

[hunter@maryscotthunter.com](mailto:hunter@maryscotthunter.com)