



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 20, 2018

Contact: Jay Love (334) 834-6000

BEA Releases *Leadership Matters: A Blueprint for Reinventing Schools for Student Success*

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Business Education Alliance Chairman and President Joe Morton, Ph.D., has released the BEA’s 2018 education report, *Leadership Matters: A Blueprint for Reinventing Schools for Student Success*. It examines the role that leaders at the state, school, and community levels can play in order to move education successfully.

The report, announced at the Business Council of Alabama’s summer Governmental Affairs Conference, is available http://parcalabama.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Leadership-Matters-Report.pdf?utm_source=2018+BEA+Report+-+Leadership+Matters&utm_campaign=PARCA+2018&utm_medium=email here.

The BEA report was produced by the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama with research support and consultation provided by the A + Education Foundation. It is the fifth education white paper for the BEA.

“Our report shows that with creative and energetic business and education leaders, Alabama’s students can be prepared to help their own and the state’s economy,” Dr. Morton said.

The report says that Alabama needs high school graduates with advanced training who are certified College and Career Ready as defined by the state board of education.

The gap between Alabama’s high school graduation rate of nearly 90 percent compared with the College and Career Ready graduation rate of 71 percent must be closed if Alabama is to have the 500,000 highly skilled adults who will be needed in the workforce by 2025 in order for the state to be competitive nationally and internationally.

The state's economy has the potential for impressive growth but requires this new generation of better-educated Alabamians in order to capitalize. This is a moment of opportunity for students and for creative and energetic leaders who play a crucial role in shaping education outcomes.

The Business Education Alliance of Alabama www.beaalabama.org was created in 2013 to assist in providing the best education opportunities and skills training available for Alabama's public school students. The BEA's mission is to stimulate the thoughtful study and constructive discussion of key policy issues facing Alabama and to jumpstart solutions to the problems that face us by promoting interactions between the public and private sectors.

###