



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

October 2, 2018

Alabama
State Board
of Education

Office of Designation, Private Sector Programs Division
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
U. S. Department of State
ECA/EC/D, SA 44, Room 668
Washington, DC 20547-4406

Governor Kay Ivey
President

Dear Teacher Exchange Program Designation Office:

Jackie Zeigler
District I

Pursuant to this memorandum, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) approves the **Alabama Korea Education and Economic Partnership (AKEEP)** for designation by the U. S. Department of State as an Exchange Visitor Program Sponsor for the Teacher Exchange Program and Foreign Educator Training Program.

Betty Peters
District II

Pursuant to Alabama Act 2016-217, the Center for the Alabama Korea Education and Economic Partnership (AKEEP) is endorsed by the Alabama Legislature and housed under the care of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. AKEEP has successfully led a Global Leadership Program as a reciprocal exchange program and has developed an accredited global workforce course for the ALSDE entitled "Working in Multicultural Environment: Korean." This program provides multi-ethnic diversity education for the community by inviting foreign artists and offers the STARTALK Program, an initiative of the National Security Agency, which is a critical Korean language and culture education program.

Stephanie Bell
District III

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

To strengthen AKEEP's mission, we fully support the designation of the Foreign Teacher Exchange Program and Foreign Educator Training Program. This initiative will enhance **Alabama's academic performance and inclusive educational environment**. It will also benefit the foreign country's education as the foreign educators will gain valuable experience from Alabama's education system.

Ella B. Bell
District V

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
District VI
Vice President

To provide for the initiative, the ALSDE has outlined a process for credentialing a foreign teacher for certifying and/or teaching Alabama's public schools. Additionally, AKEEP has developed a Foreign Educator Training Program to prepare those qualified foreign educators to be successful in supporting Alabama's students and schools and gaining from the cultural exchange program.

Jeff Newman
District VII
President Pro Tem

Sincerely,

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.
District VIII

Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

EGM:MH:LAK

cc: Ms. Meesoon Han, Executive Director, AKEEP
Dr. Jim Purcell, Executive Director, Alabama Commission on Higher Education