

June 2, 2009
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ALABAMA'S SCHOOL DISTRICTS WEBSITES: WHAT INFORMATION DO THEY CONTAIN?

June 2, 2009 – Birmingham, AL – The Alabama School Community Information Network (ASCIN) conducted a review of Alabama's school district web sites to determine what kinds of information are published on those web sites. This review was conducted in March and April, 2009. All but one of Alabama's 132 school districts operates a web site.

Recognizing the positive outcomes of sharing information about our public schools with the community, the ASCIN commends the "Top Twelve" districts in Alabama, whose web sites contained 20 or more of the 34 pieces of information sought during the review. Those districts are: [Shelby County Schools](#), [Madison City](#), [Blount County](#), [Mobile County](#), [Montgomery County](#), [Elmore County](#), [Florence City](#), [Hoover City](#), [Baldwin County](#), [Calhoun County](#), [Huntsville City](#), and [Morgan County](#).

"The great news is that all but one of Alabama's 132 school districts currently operate a web site", said Trisha Crain, author of the review. "The biggest hurdle, establishing a web site, has already been conquered. Adding information to a web site is a much easier process."

Crain said she hopes that this review will lay a better foundation for establishing what types of information school districts share with their school community. "It gives these districts that are just beginning to share information a model to go by."

Crain has also offered the services of the ASCIN, free of charge, to any district wishing to establish a workflow to add more information to their web site.

Because district web sites are often works in progress, many have added information since the initial review, and the ASCIN plans to update this review in September, just after the 2009-2010 school year begins.

The full article and results are available at www.ascin.org/TransparencyProject.htm.