

Contents

3	Sch	ool Board	Presid	lent's N	Aessage
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- 4 History Blurb
- Founding Member Quotes/Portraits → Role of Creation quote
- **6-7** Where we are Headed/Long-Time Supporter
- **8-9** Board Member Highlights
- **10-11** Alabama's Future Leaders
- **12-13** Where we are Headed Academically / Teacher Testimonials
- 14-15 Alumni Leading in Alabama
- 16-17 Parent Support/Testimonials
- 18-19 Information Gala/Save-the-Date



Who We Are

INTERIM PRESIDENT John Hoyle

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN Jo Bonner

FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIRMAN Tyrone Fenderson

ASMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Add updated list with business/organization they represent, or if retired most recently represented

ASMS FOUNDATION BOARD

Add updated list with business/organization they represent, or if retired most recently represented

Address letters and comments to: Alabama School of Mathematics and Science 1255 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36604 Phone: (251) 441.2152 E-mail: news@asms.net

The Alabama School of Mathematics and Science is a residential public high school for sophomores, juniors, and seniors pursuing advanced studies in mathematics, science, and the humanities.



A Letter from Jo Bonner

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Thirty years ago, a handful of visionary leaders led by then- Alabama State Senator Ann Bedsole took a hard look at where our state ranked in preparing our most academically-motivated students in the all-important area of math and science education and unfortunately, the honest self-evaluation did not paint a pretty picture.

While some areas of the state did have some top-notch math and science instruction, the harsh reality was that there were far-too-many other areas – especially in our state's rural schools and more impoverished areas – that simply were not making the grade.

Knowing something bold had to be done to address this growing inequity, Senator Bedsole and the other concerned citizens who were involved in this effort led the way to advance a bill in the Alabama Legislature to create the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science.

This legislation, signed into law in 1989 by then-Governor Guy Hunt, awarded an initial appropriation of \$300,000 to create a residential campus located in Mobile; the school would be open to academically-talented students from all 67 Alabama counties.

While getting the legislation passed seemed to be a major hurdle – and it was – building a campus from the ground floor up – and having it ready for the first students to arrive two years later – seemed, at times, to be a Herculean task. A few of the early milestones included:

- A one million dollar note was signed at a local bank;
- A School Foundation was formed to begin raising donations from businesses, industries, individuals an other foundations that would eventually purchase a campus and begin furnishing the laboratories and dorm rooms.
- Soon, a 15-acre campus was identified on the former site of Mobile's Dauphin Way Baptist Church; an architect and team of contractors were hired as significant work would have to be done to convert the former church into a residential campus for high school students.
- Faculty and staff were interviewed and hired; promotional materials were designed.

• Finally, late August, 1991, the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science opened its doors; when the first students and their parents arrived, much of the campus was still under construction.

Our story – and how we have evolved into becoming the State of Alabama's premier campus for academically motivated students in the STEM fields – continues to evolve with each new class of future doctors, scientists, teachers, engineers and innovators.

Without question, our success starts with our students, our faculty and our alumni for without them – and their own unique talents and stories – there would be no need for ASMS.

Because of them, a new page in the ASMS journal is literally written each new day. And just as Senator Bedsole and others predicted way back when – we have evolved from a "field of dreams" into a school which is 100 percent committed to producing Alabama's best leaders and most outstanding innovators. These young men and women are literally creating opportunities out of what others might see as challenges and obstacles.

As we begin our 30th year, both our ASMS School Board as well as the Foundation Board, our Administration, Faculty, Parents and, most of all, our Students all share one common goal... to continue making the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science THE place where Alabama's best and brightest want to go to become even better.

Admittedly, the first 30 years have been nothing short of amazing.

Now it is up to each of us to help make certain that our next 30 years are even better.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for ALL that you mean to the ASMS family.

Jo Bonner ASMS Board Chairman

Our History

SUBHEAD

In the late 1980s, a group of concerned citizens banded together in Mobile to develop an advanced high school that could attract students from across the entire state. Many in this group belonged to Mobile United, a service organization focused on solving community challenges.

One of the most notable members of the founding group was Ann Smith Bedsole, the first Republican woman to be elected to the Alabama House of Representatives and a member of the ASMS School Board and Foundation Board of Directors. Other notable supports have included Former Alabama Insurance Commissioner Walter A. Bell, Former Alabama Senator and U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, and Representative Steve McMillian. Former Congressman Jo Bonner currently serves as the ASMS School Board President. Bell and McMillian have also served on both the ASMS School Board and Foundation Board of Directors.

In 1989, the state legislature approved a bill to create ASMS and gave the school's founders \$300,000 in start-up funds to hire faculty and staff and to purchase books and office equipment. Shortly after that, the ASMS Foundation, a non-profit organization located in Mobile that receives donations from businesses, industries, individuals, and other foundations, was created to raise additional funds to purchase a school campus and to furnish labs and dorm rooms. The 15-acre ASMS campus sits on the former site of Mobile's Dauphin Way Baptist Church, although it has been heavily modified and

refurbished. The first students arrived in 1991, while much of the campus was under construction. Since that time, the ASMS Foundation has overseen the renovation of every building on campus as well as the construction of a boys' dormitory and the Ann Smith Bedsole Library.

ASMS benefits from a unique partnership between the state of Alabama and the business and industry communities. A roughly \$6 million operating budget for the school is supplied by the state. The campus, however, is owned and maintained by the ASMS Foundation, which also raises money for the operating budget and other projects. Since the school was established, the foundation has raised nearly \$20 million, much of which has been spent on capital-improvement projects.

The ASMS School Board governs the school. The Alabama governor appoints nine of the board's 21 members. Of those nine appointees, seven are appointed to represent congressional districts, and two are appointed to represent the Mobile-Baldwin County area. Although ASMS receives state funding, the school does not fall under the jurisdiction of the state school board. The ASMS School Board employs a president to administer the school.

Our Founders

STEVE MCMILLEN

I was chair of the House Standing
Committee on Education in the AL
Legislature, so the other Southwest
Alabama legislators asked me to
sponsor the bill, which created the
Alabama School of Math
and Science, and they all
cosponsored it. There were no
major hurdles to passage which
surprised all of us, but the creation of
this fine school was a result of all of
us working together.

ANN BEDSOLE

I sponsored the bill, which established ASMS, in the Senate. Red Blount our Initial Chairman of an Interim Board, John Mincy, and I established a building committee in Mobile, which then gathered 12 inspired Mobilians to sign a note to buy a vacant church, inaugurating the school. In the first year we all pitched in to interview faculty and recruit students.

WALTER BELL

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Committee on Education in the AL
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Long Time Supporters



THE WILLIAMS

We give to ASMS because ASMS gave so much to us. We feel incredibly fortunate that we were able to attend ASMS, and we enthusiastically support the school so that it can continue to enrich the lives of high school students across the state of Alabama.

PATRICK GORMAN

Through our support of ASMS, ExxonMobil is helping to ensure that students from across the state have the resources they need to pursue studies of, and careers in, the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



BETH THOMAS

Some of the best and brightest young people in Alabama are students at the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science. Alabama Power and the Alabama Power Foundation appreciates the opportunity to help invest in these students. They are the leaders of tomorrow.



Board Member Highlights

SUBHEAD



BRAGG VAN ANTWERP

It is important for the State of Alabama to recognize ASMS because of the unique opportunity the school provides to so many extraordinary students from all over this great state – students whose potential might otherwise not be realized in full. Once enrolled, these remarkable young men and women are given the knowledge and tools to leave ASMS poised for success and prepared to become business and community leaders throughout Alabama for years to come.



PAM DOYLE

ASMS provides a high level of academics for the serious life long learner. Students learn the value of living and working with their peers in a dormitory setting, while maturing as responsible individuals. ASMS students have a highest level of ACT averages in Alabama because of the determined students, dedicated staff, and the support of Alabama leaders, alumni, and benefactors. ASMS - Alabama's crowning jewel in education advancement.



ROBIN NELSON

Many students in Alabama looking for advanced studies in mathematics, science, and the humanities choose to apply for acceptance to the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science (ASMS) in Mobile. They do this because they know at ASMS they will receive a world class education, including more challenging classes and hands-on laboratory work. One hundred percent of ASMS graduates go to college with most of them pursuing fields relating to math or science. Many students from ASMS are recognized as National Merit Finalists and earn scholarships for undergraduate studies at the schools of their choice. These are just a few of the reasons we are proud to have the Alabama School of Math and Science in our state.



DR. TONY WALDROP

The Alabama School of Math and Science students who enroll at the University of South Alabama are highly prepared and academically talented. They are taught based on a challenging curriculum that equips them to enter any of Alabama's top universities. In addition to getting a exceptional education in the classroom, ASMS students get a unique experience that prepares them with soft-skill attributes required to succeed in college and beyond — maturity, self-sufficiency and analytic thinking.



THAD WHEAT

Our school provides a unique gateway of endless opportunities to students from all over the State of Alabama. A quality education is a universal equalizer and an ASMS education is a launching pad to success.



MIKE WINDOM

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RICARDO WOODS

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Alabama's Fu



BRIAN CREAR SENIOR

Since coming to ASMS,I was presented with an opportunity to go to USC to learn about marine biology, and a chance to go to the University of California Berkeley to learn about engineering. These opportunities havehelped me decide and showed me that I can be a Civil engineer while using a Microbiology background.

Some of the best learning experiences at ASMS have happened beyond the classroom. I've learned to strength my work ethic, how to study effectively, and how to persevere. Most importantly however, I learned how to have an open mind. Thanks to these qualities and the academic rigor, I will be attending my top choice school for free.

CARLEE TATE
JUNIOR

GWYNNETH MCCALLIS

ASMS doesn't just provide opportunities, but makes them accessible. Ihavenever felt out of the loop and was allowed to pursue the things that I was interested in. ASMS allowed me to travel to a foreign country and to further mywriting skills. It's also given me worldview, pursuing the Humanities in a STEM-Based school gave me a well-rounded education and the ability to approach situations from a STEM perspective as well as Humanities.

iture Leaders



KATHERIN "KATH" CARAWAY SENIOR

BRIAN HERNANDEZ SENIOR

ASMS has given me opportunities to become more independent and investigate topics that interest me. By providing students with a welcoming environment to explore new areas of study and connect with each other, ASMS has helped me discover what I'm passionate about and what I want to do in the future.

Some of the best learning experiences at ASMS have happened beyond the classroom. I've learned to strength my work ethic, how to study effectively, and how to persevere. Most importantly however, I learned how to have an open mind. Thanks to these qualities and the academic rigor, I will be attending my top choice school for free.

Innovating Tomorrow's Leaders

I am developing new research opportunities for our students, from environmental chemical testing using ASMS facilities, to organic chemical synthesis at the University of South Alabama.

KEVIN DOLBEAR CHEMISTRY

For me the future of my biology classes is to focus on developing science literate students and strong science communicators so our students can go out in the world and participate in debates, understand new science breakthroughs and studies, and to jump right into research opportunities in any field!

DR. NATALIE ORTELL BIOLOGY

I plan to expand the Communications program at our school, offering a wider variety of courses that can help students gain a larger understanding of what Communications entails. Next year, I want to teach a course on podcasting that looks at how narrative is structured in an audio form and how to use the technology required to produce a podcast, and in the end, students will make one of their own on a topic of their choosing.

DANIEL COMMANDER ENGLISH Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, a few of the Computer Science courses we offer will be dropped and replaced by others making the CS Department more comprehensive. These added courses will create more variety in the CS Department to expose the students to different CS industries. Students can choose a track that encourages them to understand more about what Web Developers, Security Analysts, Software Developers, and Data Scientists need to know.

GREY GAILLARD COMPUTER SCIENCE

Thanks to my recent Ingalls STEM grant, my Geometry students are going to have "Compass Fridays" in the Spring, where I demonstrate and students draw classical Euclidean constructions and geometric patterns that are both beautiful and mathematically precise. These demonstrations, along with other math tutorials, will soon be made available on YouTube for the public as well!

SARAH BREWER MATHEMATICS

I am currently streamlining all classes to include national proficiency goals by being careful to offer as much immersion and student-centered learning as possible and as is most effective, despite our time constraints. We now also offer the Seal of Biliteracy exam, a national proficiency benchmark recognized in many states and counting towards college acceptance and placement

MURIEL HOEQUIST LANGUAGES

I plan to invite notable writers of TV shows and video games to have Skype conversations with my classes. I want our students to see the creative processes behind the media they enjoy."

Alumni Leadi

I am extremely thankful for ASMS because it prepared me for the academic rigors of both undergrad and law school," says English. "By attending ASMS, I not only felt prepared academically but also socially equipped to navigate any life circumstance that I might encounter. ASMS taught me how to think critically, trust my own ability and to never allow adversity to deter me. I absolutely attribute my life's trajectory to attending ASMS because not only did I meet lifelong friends, but I also gained the academic and life skill necessary to achieve all of my goals

2002 ASMS Alumni Cachavious English is a 2010 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law and now the Chief of Staff for Terry Sewell, U.S Representative for Alabama's 7th congressional district ASMS provided an education I could not have otherwise received, but even more importantly, it created an environment of relationships, both academic and personal, that remains a positive influence to this day.

Wheat has been serving on the ASMS School Board for ___terms.

Being able to stay connected to a place that meant so much to me has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," says Wheat. "Recently, Ms. Godwin, Executive Assistant to the President, put " '96" after my name on the placards we use for seating at the board meetings. I had no idea how much pride I would feel by that small act. It reminds me of how far the school has come since I stepped on campus nearly a quarter of a century ago, and knowing that I have been a part of it both as a student and board member gives me a feeling of ownership in the success of the school that I wish all of the alumni could feel



ng in Alabama

I'm am thankful for ASMS,because I wasexposed to math classes that I would not have been able to take at any other high school in the state," says Williams. "Being able to takecourses like Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Differential Equationsprepared me for success as a math major at Georgia Tech and made the transition from high school to college effortless.

2005 ASMS AlumnaMeoshe Williams (pictured left)is a graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Southern California and current ASMS Mathematics Instructor. Williams has also been a National Board Certified Teacher in Mathematics & Adolescence and Young Adulthood since 2014.

ASMS provided me with opportunities far beyond what would have been available to me, especially in the field of science," says Thompson. "The education, lessons learned, memories, and lifelong friends that ASMS gave me is unparalleled to any other phase of my life. Most of all, attending ASMS is a testament to how much my family values education and the scientific process as a means to understanding truth and improving the world we live in.

Attending ASMS putme on a trajectory I had never imagined. Academically and intellectually, it drove me to appreciate new ideas and become well rounded. I may have focused on the Humanities, but the strong math and science foundation I gained there gave me indispensable skills and understanding. Beyond the academic education, ASMS gave me the life experiences, friends and mentors, and strength of character that (and who) continue to shape me to this day.

2004 ASMS Alumni Trevor Daniels (pictured left) is a graduate of the University of Alabama in Huntsville and founder and Consultant of Noble Mouse Consulting Services in Madison, Ala.

improving the world we live in.

MEOSHE WILLIAMS

1993 ASMS alumna Katherine Thompson is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Samford University and carrently the Program Manager and Geologia for the Remediation Group at Bhate Environmental Associates Inc. In Birmingham AL.

KATHERINE THOMPSON

KATHERINE THOMPSON

Parent Support

WHAT THIS SCHOOL HAS DONE WAS NOT POSSIBLE AT HOME



SCARLETTE & CADY

The Alabama School of Mathematics and Science has had such a positive impact on our family. Since coming to ASMS, my daughter has been challenged academically and given the opportunity to advance particular skills, that could not have been possible at her old school. She has found her people at ASMS and as a mother, I couldn't ask for anything more!

Scarlette Studdard, Current Parent to Cady Studdard ASMS Senior.



KITZIA & MOM

I noticed the difference when my oldest son (Class of 2018) came home for his first school break about 6 weeks after he first went away to ASMS as a tenth grader. The way he talked, what he talked about, the way he carried himself--he was so confident and comfortable in his skin. I notice this same confidence in my daughter, a current ASMS student, when she tells me about what she is learning or what activities she is organizing for SGA. At ASMS, students have to manage their classes, homework, time, extracurricular activities and interests, as well as their personal and social lives. Talk to any student at ASMS and this confidence shines through even though each student has differen experiences, interests, and ways of handling their lives. My youngest son is applying to ASMS this year and I hope that he, too, will get a chance to discover how much he can accomplish.

Barbara Chatametikool -Parent Quote (Past and current parent)



Our oldest child would have never been accepted to Duke University if he had remained at our small town high school. Because of ASMS, his resume was impressive and extensive. He also had the opportunity to speak at a National level Conference out of state, thanks to the instructors. His work ethic and time management skills led him on the path to become the surgical resident he is at this time. Both also had mentors to help them out from the very beginning of the ASMS journey, which turned into life-long friendships, and we are incredibly grateful for that.

Past Students: Brad Pansing and Branson Pansing -Parents: Bryan & Dianne Pansing (Dianne Speaking) If this is too long, cut out first sentence



BRIAN CREAR, SISTER AND DAD

Over the years there have been several Sumter County students who "wanted more", attended ASMS, and appreciate what ASMS has done for them. I'm happy that mykids chose to attend ASMS and that ASMS, in turn, chose my kids!

PEGGY PARTRIDGE

My sondecided to attend ASMS for the challenging curriculum and the culture of the school. His experience at ASMS prepared him very well for college and his career at Georgia Tech Research Institute in Atlanta. I had been working at ASMS for 10 years when Andrew applied to be a student. I knew from my experience with the students, faculty and staff of ASMS that it would be a life changing experience for my son.



BRIANNA MILES MOM

The Alabama School of Math and Science has pushed Brianna academically and socially in ways that I would have never imagined. They give the students an opportunity to take advance classes and AP classes that the traditional high schools can't or don't offer. The thing I like most about ASMS is it offers diversity. Brianna has developed relationships with other students from different ethnic backgrounds which has developed her into a better person.



ROBERT & MADELEINE DOTSON

ASMS provides an immersive environment for my children to strive for academic excellence: instructors committed to their fields, alumni who have distinguished themselves in their career paths, and fellow students to challenge their expectations...a truly unique experience.

Where we are Headed Academically

Where we are Headed Academically Quibus dolori di ipsam facepedit aut acepudi taquiae is nis res nis illaccaborum nobite mossimo volor accus dolorem venis repudam, isquo doluptatur, odipsunt alibusc ipsanis apis rerum faceper natusanim fugianit, sitaepe llicatest dolenis aut excepel labore, simporitatum dus, es et utas doloriti doluptam eaquia nonsed qui as acearum id eium nonsequi dendustores susdam et fugia vel inum nobis dolorit, a et pel inctenias expliquis sant.

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CELEBRATING



YEARS OF Excellence

SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 24, 2019

