

## MEMORANDUM

To: City and County Superintendents  
City and County Principals

FROM: Joseph B. Morton  
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: July 12, 2010

RE: Seventh Annual Statewide Alabama Youth Council

For seven years the Alabama Department of Education (SDE) has supported the work of Mrs. Sue Jones and the FOCUS Program. High schools throughout the state have developed a FOCUS program course through the health education state elective curriculum. The program promotes student-led prevention of adolescent risk behaviors.

On September 14, 2010, the SDE, in collaboration with the Alabama Department of Public Health, Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and the FOCUS Program, will sponsor the Seventh Annual Statewide Youth Council Conference. Young people across the state of Alabama will gather on the campus of Hewitt-Trussville High School in Trussville Alabama. This training will provide youth with tools that will be useful in educating their peers on the importance of reducing risky behavior that lead to teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, especially HIV, and emotional consequences. The keynote speaker will be Ben Glenn, commonly known as “The Chalk Guy”.

I encourage you to send up to 20 student leaders from Grades 10, 11, or 12, and one chaperone from your school system (or a parent) to attend the youth council conference. Educators will receive professional development through the Jacksonville State University Regional In-Service Center. There is no registration fee and lunch will be provided. Attendance at the AYC is limited to 500 students. Registration will open on August 1, 2010. Please register on-line at [www.acptp.org](http://www.acptp.org).

Thank you in advance for your interest in and support of the Seventh Annual Statewide Alabama Youth Council. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Marilyn Lewis, Education Specialist, at telephone number (334) 242-8165 or by e-mail at [mlewis@alsde.edu](mailto:mlewis@alsde.edu).