



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Deshler Middle School Joins Cohort 18 of the A+ College Ready College and Career Readiness Program**

**Montgomery, Ala.** – Deshler Middle School is one of 16 schools statewide to join Cohort 18 of the A+ College Ready College and Career Readiness Program. A+ College Ready, in partnership with the Alabama State Department of Education, is a statewide initiative that partners with secondary schools to develop a diverse pipeline of students prepared for success in college, career, and life through expanding access to Advanced Placement (AP) and other challenging coursework in grades 6-12. Participating schools receive high-quality training, incentives, supplies, curricular materials, student study sessions, AP exam subsidies, and other ongoing support. Deshler Middle School will participate in this grant partnership through May, 2028.

“Deshler Middle School is proud to be selected as one of 16 schools in Cohort 18 of the A+ College Ready College and Career Readiness Program,” said Scott King, Principal at Deshler Middle School. “This partnership will allow us to provide students with rigorous instruction and a challenging curriculum, better preparing them for success in high school and beyond. We are excited for this opportunity to inspire academic excellence and help our students reach their full potential.”

“In order for students to be successful in life after K-12 schooling, they need to be challenged and supported in school,” **said Tammy Dunn, Vice President for Academic Affairs, A+ College Ready.** “This commitment to high expectations and rigor in the classroom will have a lasting impact on these students for years to come.”

**Schools joining A+ College Ready Cohort 18 are:**

Central School  
Deshler Middle School  
Floretta P. Carson Visual and Performing Arts Academy  
Fort Payne High School



Gulf Shores Middle School  
Handley High School  
Handley Middle School  
Madison County Elementary School  
Moody Jr. High School  
Oakman Middle School  
Oneonta High School  
Oneonta Middle School  
Opelika High School  
Springville High School  
St. Clair County High School  
Sylacauga High School

#### **More about A+ College Ready Requirements:**

The ALSDE / A+ College Ready Program provides extensive training and support for teachers and students in high school and middle school through our AP Training and Incentive Program (APTIP) and our Middle School Training and Incentive Program (MSTIP). In high school, AP students participate in virtual study sessions led by experienced master teachers, have reduced exam fees, and can earn financial incentives based on academic success. In middle school, students can earn financial incentives for demonstrating growth and/or achievement between the 7th and 8th grade years. For teachers this includes:

- Weeklong summer training institutes
- Additional days of professional development throughout the year
- Ongoing support from expert content directors
- Financial stipends based on academic results
- Provision of classroom resources needed to implement AP and A+ College Ready developed curricular frameworks.

#### **ABOUT A+ COLLEGE READY**

A+ College Ready, a program of A+ Education Partnership, holds the unshakeable belief **ALL** students can achieve at high levels. This proven program partners with secondary schools to develop a diverse pipeline of students prepared for success in college, career, and life. A+ College Ready's high-quality, content-specific teacher training and rigorous curricula are fully aligned with the Alabama Courses of Study and the College Board's AP requirements. We support 58 total courses in math, science, English, social studies, computer science, art, and Spanish, comprising 34 non-AP courses and 24 AP courses. Since 2008, A+ College Ready has partnered with almost 500 Alabama middle and high schools. In addition to the aforementioned programs, A+ College Ready also supports teachers through the Individual AP



Teacher Training & Incentive Program (ITIP), a program for individual AP teachers who are new to teaching an AP course or wish to expand access to and success in their AP courses.

A+ Education Partnership works to create an Alabama where every student has access to a world-class education, regardless of circumstance. Driven by our relentless belief in every child, we partner with educators, communities, and policymakers to advocate for and expand access to a high-quality education so that every student can thrive. For more information, please visit [aplusala.org](http://aplusala.org)