



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Larry E. Craven, J.D.
 Interim State Superintendent
 of Education

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**NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH KOREAN OFFICE OF EDUCATION OFFERS
 OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE
 OF EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS**

Montgomery, Ala. – The Alabama State Department of Education is pleased to announce a partnership with the Office of Education from Gyeongsangbuk-Do Province, South Korea, to participate in an exchange of students, interns, faculty and staff to participate in joint research activities, participation in seminars and other short-term academic programs.

There will be a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremony with Interim State Superintendent Larry Craven and the Gyeongsangbuk-Do Office of Education on Wednesday, October 26th at 9:00 a.m. in the State Capitol Auditorium to commemorate this new partnership.

“We are proud and excited to be a part of an international exchange of talent and expertise with the Gyeongsangbuk-Do Office of Education. This opportunity will further allow Alabama to offer and receive a global education that will be used to teach students and enhance professional development for our teachers,” said Craven.

This agreement has been made possible through the leadership of the Alabama Department of Education, Senator Gerald Dial, and facilitated by Mrs. Meesoon Han, Korean Banking Director at BBVA Compass Bank, along with Mr. Lee Yung-Woo, Superintendent of the Office of Education, Gyeongsangbuk-Do Province.

The relationship will begin with Gyeongsangbuk-Do Office of Education sending 18 vocational high school seniors to Faulkner University, for an English Language Program combined with an automotive internship opportunity at Ajin USA, a company in Cusseta AL. The students will arrive in early November and spend three months in the program.

Mrs. Han recently visited with officials from the Hwarang Educational Institute and other institutions in Gyeongsangbuk-Do province who have committed to host Alabama high school youth leaders for a short-term Global Leadership Training in the near future.

The Province of Gyeongsangbuk-Do was formed in 1896 and is divided into 10 cities and 13 counties. The province is home to Hyundai and Kia as well as many Tier I and II Automotive Supplier Companies, and Hyundai Heavy Industries, many of which now have operations in Alabama. It is the 3rd most populous province of South Korea.

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