



THE HUB

The Alabama Supercomputer Authority Newsletter

DEBRA WALLACE NAMED ASA'S NEW CEO, WALTER OVERBY NAMED BOARD CHAIRMAN

On January 1, 2021, Alabama Supercomputer Authority (ASA) announced that Debra Wallace has been named Chief Executive Officer. In addition, Walter L. Overby was named Chairman of the Board. Both announcements followed the approval of the ASA's Board of Directors succession plan on October 15, 2020. ASA operates the Alabama Research and Education Network (AREN) to connect educational entities through technology for internet access, cybersecurity, and research.



With more than 30 years' experience in the fields of accounting, technical administration and education, Wallace previously served as ASA's Director of Business Development, supporting the

agency in both financial and business operations. Since joining ASA in 2008, she has served in a variety of leadership roles in accounting, client services, and E-rate. Debra is the first CEO to be promoted from within the agency along with being ASA's first female CEO.

Overby named Chairman of the Board has more than 35 years of senior management experience, including serving as the Chief Executive Officer of ASA for the past sixteen months.

"Debra is the right leader for ASA," said Andy Hornsby who retired as Board Chairman on December 31, 2020. "Debra's experience in all aspects of ASA positions this organization for continued growth and stability."

"I am very excited to assume this new role," said Debra Wallace. "ASA has made significant progress in recent years to advance technology in education in the State of Alabama. I look forward to working with the educational entities along with elected officials to continue ASA's work."

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Notes From Nichole

Nichole Gipson
Program Administrator, Member Services

FY2021 E-RATE APPLICATION FILING WINDOW OPENS

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) opened the FY2021 E-rate Application Filing Window on January 15, 2021. ASA will file Category 1 applications for all schools and libraries that are members of our E-rate Consortium. If you would like to become a member of ASA's FY2021 E-rate Consortium and have not submitted a signed Letter of Agency (LOA), please click the appropriate link below for access to the form. Email completed forms to docs@asc.edu or fax to 334-242-0637. The FY2021 Filing Window will close on March 25, 2021.

[K12 Letter of Agency](#)


[Library Letter of Agency](#)

FY2021 ASA AREN CONSORTIUM SURVEY

On December 17, 2020, ASA distributed the FY2021 AREN Consortium Survey to K12 school districts. Each school system should have received a link to the survey via Survey Monkey. The survey assists ASA with planning and sizing the Network for the upcoming E-rate year, keeps us abreast of any technology initiatives or projects school systems are planning and allows us to project the potential bandwidth needs for FY2021.

If you have not yet taken the survey, please click [this link](#) to access it. Thanks to all of the school districts that have already completed the survey. These responses are extremely beneficial to ASA in completing our FY2021 E-rate Application.



 <p>ASA Services to All Educational Entities FY21 Base Level Bandwidth* July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 at No Charge <small>*Base level bandwidth is based on usage</small></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Client Type</th> <th>BW Provided</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>K12 – Districts</td> <td>1500 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K12-High Schools</td> <td>1000 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K12-Middle Schools</td> <td>250 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K12-Elementary Schools</td> <td>100 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Libraries</td> <td>100 – 250 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Colleges</td> <td>1500 Mbps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Universities</td> <td>1500 Mbps</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Client Type	BW Provided	K12 – Districts	1500 Mbps	K12-High Schools	1000 Mbps	K12-Middle Schools	250 Mbps	K12-Elementary Schools	100 Mbps	Public Libraries	100 – 250 Mbps	Community Colleges	1500 Mbps	Universities	1500 Mbps	<p><u>Services Provided with Internet Access</u></p> <p>Managed Firewall Services, Content Filtering, Email, VPN, Spam & Virus Protection, 24x7 HelpDesk/NOC, Video Bridging (Zoom Support), Web/Application Hosting</p> <p><i>If you are interested in receiving quotes for Internet Access, WAN, and/or Core Moves, please email your requests to Tyler Carr at tcarr@asc.edu.</i></p>
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The Alabama Legislature will convene on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at noon. Like the 2020 session, this session will be a trying time for our governor, lawmakers, advocates, and the public because of the ongoing Covid-19 epidemic. Nonetheless, by law, the Alabama Legislature must work and vote to pass the two state budgets for FY22: the Education Trust Fund and the General Fund.

The Alabama Supercomputer Authority receives an appropriation from the Education Trust Fund (ETF). ASA's leadership, along with the relationships throughout the state with K12 entities, community colleges, public libraries, and universities has allowed us to experience much success over the past couple of years and we expect the same this year. For this fiscal year, ASA will be poised to continue our hard work ensuring that ASA meets the needs of the students in the State of Alabama with increased bandwidth and internet security for schools. Stay tuned for more information from ASA as the 2021 session unfolds.



Welcome **NEW ASA EMPLOYEE**



Heather Camp will serve as ASA's Chief Financial Officer

Alabama Supercomputer Authority is pleased to announce the appointment of Heather Camp as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) effective February 1, 2021. As CFO, Heather will be responsible for finance, accounting, human resources, and budget operations and planning. As a senior member of the executive team, Heather will report directly to CEO, Debra Wallace.

Heather is a Certified Public Accountant and has more than 18 years of experience in state government financials. She holds an MBA from Auburn University. Heather and her husband Charles welcomed baby girl, Hope, back in September. We look forward to welcoming Heather Camp to the ASA family and know she will be a great asset to our team.



Alabama Supercomputer Authority

Advancing Alabama through Technology

NEW LOGO, SAME DEDICATION

Alabama Supercomputer Authority is excited to introduce its newly designed logo. The unique pyramid-like shape from our original logo is easily recognizable and is one that has symbolized ASA since its inception. ASA proudly incorporates the state outline with the original shape to create the new logo to better convey ASA's crucial role as an agency that serves the state by Advancing Alabama through Technology.

The Alabama Supercomputer Authority has a long history of technical leadership and service to the state. This role has expanded from a supercomputer and a few network connections to multiple computing clusters, a massive network, and a whole host of information technology services. ASA is well known and respected for the quality technical solutions, excellent support personnel, and advantageous cost structure it provides. With this newly designed logo and ASA's continued dedication to excellence in technology, we are ready to facilitate the continued advancement of technology in the State of Alabama.



We are eager to share with everyone what is going on at ASA, but would love to hear all the GREAT things that are happening in our Alabama Schools and Libraries.

If you have some good news that you would like to see published in our newsletter, please send it to newsletter@asc.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you.