

May 15, 2018

Steve Marshall
Alabama Attorney General



For More Information, contact:

Mike Lewis (334) 353-2199

Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491

Page 1 of 2

**AG STEVE MARSHALL PRESENTS BOB JONES HIGH SCHOOL WITH
2017 SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**
School Receives This Honor for the Second Year in a Row

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall today presented Bob Jones High School in Madison with the Attorney General’s Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence for State Board of Education District 8, for the second year in a row. Schools were selected as winners for 2017 from seven* Alabama State School Board of Education districts, as well as private schools for three regions of the state.

“In these times, we are all intensely aware of the serious responsibility our schools carry for the safekeeping of our children,” said Attorney General Marshall. “Recent events have been heartbreaking reminders that we must remain vigilant and committed to provide the best protections possible in Alabama’s schools. I am pleased to carry on this important tradition of the Attorney General’s Office, to recognize schools throughout our state for dedication and excellence in keeping students safe. Each day that parents leave their children at school, they are entrusting what they hold most precious into the care of schoolteachers, principals, school resource officers and other staff. With these awards, we honor those who have achieved particularly high standards and set examples that others may follow. We are grateful for their service and commitment to protecting the children of Alabama.”

In presenting the award today Attorney General Marshall said, “The Attorney General’s Office is proud that Bob Jones High School was selected as one of the 10 winning schools in Alabama for 2017. In making this decision, judges noted many things that distinguished Bob Jones High School: two full-time officers on campus provides more interaction with students for building better relationships and more security coverage, a Text to Protect number is available for students and community members to notify law enforcement about potential dangers, and the Student 2 Student and Peer Helpers programs contribute to a supportive and encouraging environment.”

--more--



Principal Sylvia Lambert, Ed.S., said, "I am so excited to accept the Alabama Safe Schools Award of Excellence on behalf of Bob Jones High School for the second year in a row! The safety and security of our school is of the utmost importance to set the foundation for the excellent educational opportunities that we provide our students. We are thrilled with this honor!"

Attorney General Marshall has been presenting awards for the 2017 Safe School Awards of Excellence winners to the 10 winning schools this spring. Other winning schools throughout the state include Opelika Middle School in Lee County, Pine Level Elementary School in Autauga County, Satsuma High School in Mobile County, Nichols-Lawson in Sylacauga, Sumiton Christian School in Walker County, Simmons Middle School in Jefferson County, Austin High School in Morgan County, Coosa Valley Academy in Shelby County and The Lakeside School in Barbour County.

**Alabama has eight public school districts but no submissions were received from District 4.*