



# THE HUB

*The Alabama Supercomputer Authority Newsletter*

## **CONGRATULATIONS WAYNE!**

Wayne McVay retired as the Facilities Director of the Alabama Supercomputer Center (ASC) in Huntsville with over twenty-eight years of service. He was instrumental in the daily management of the ASC and a great representative of ASA. We appreciate his years of service and dedication to ASA and wish him the best.



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## **FY2023 AREN CONSORTIUM ANNOUNCEMENT**

On November 1, 2022, ASA sent out the AREN Consortium Announcement to tech coordinators and library systems across the state. The announcement stated that ASA will file a state consortium application to fund and provide Managed Internet Access Services for E-Rate Funding Year 2023, which is from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.

# ASA Year in Review

2022 has been an amazing year here at ASA! We have worked very hard to advance the State of Alabama through technology.

Listed below are some of our efforts:

- We currently provide internet services (and other services including Next Gen Firewalls, Content Filtering, Cybersecurity, etc.) to over 780 sites including K-12 Schools, Libraries, Community Colleges and Universities all over the state of Alabama
- Filed 181 E-rate applications on behalf of our AREN Consortium members and received over \$19M in funding commitments
- Increased bandwidths for many of our current AREN Members
- Developed a social media presence on LinkedIn and Facebook for our clients and stakeholders
- Made many on-site visits to libraries and K12s throughout the state to include, the Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering and the Dauphin Island Sea Lab
- Visited with several State of Alabama Legislators and other governmental officials to share our vision for advancing technology in education
- Represented ASA at many state and national conferences
- Awarded our professional services contract to GDIT in December 2022





# Client Services

Nichole Gipson  
Client Services Director

## E-Rate Funding Year 2023

It's that time of year again! The E-rate Funding Year (FY) 2023 Application Filing Window will open on January 18, 2023, and close on March 28, 2023. If you are new to the E-rate program and have not setup a user account in the E-rate Productivity Center (EPC), please contact USAC's Customer Service Center at (888) 203-8100 for assistance with setting up your profile. EPC account administrators should update their profiles before the Administrative Window closes on January 16, 2023.

ASA has already begun collecting data in preparation for filing our FY23 E-rate Application for Category One Services (Managed Internet Access and Managed WAN Services) for all public K12 school districts and libraries that will participate in our E-rate Consortium for FY23. If you would like to participate in ASA's FY23 E-rate Consortium but have not submitted a signed Letter of Agency (LOA), please click the link below for access to the appropriate form. Your signed LOA authorizes ASA to include your school district or library in our E-rate application. Completed forms should be emailed as soon as possible to docs@asc.edu or faxed to 334-242-0637.

<https://www.asc.edu/about/e-rate-information>



Debra Wallace (L), Crystal Maylin (R)

# ASA 2022 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Crystal Maylin, COO



# NEWS IN GOVERNMENT

CARY HILL

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

## 2022 ELECTIONS

The November 8, 2022 election results proved that most Alabamians are happy with the leadership from Governor Kay Ivey and Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth by being re-elected handily. The legislature will see many new faces to begin this quadrennium (four-year term). In the Alabama House of Representatives there are 31 out of 105 newly elected members. In the Alabama Senate there are six new members. With the start of a new quadrennium there will be leadership changes.

The full Legislature will meet on January 10, 2023 to get their committee assignments. It's an exciting time for ASA as we await the new additions to the legislature!

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT - CRYSTAL MAYLIN

Not only is she our Employee of the Year for 2022 and the Employee Spotlight, but Crystal Maylin was promoted to our Chief Operations Officer recently. As the COO, she is responsible for the overall business operations of ASA, and she will work with CEO Debra Wallace to implement the strategic vision and mission of our agency.

"Crystal has excellent leadership skills, and she is the right person to fill this role" said Debra Wallace.

"I am proud to be part of such an amazing organization that works hard to support education in Alabama" said Crystal Maylin.



Crystal Maylin, COO

**1. How long have you worked for ASA?** For almost 6 years

**2. How long have you worked for the State of Alabama?** 15 years

**3. What do you like most about working for ASA?**

Helping students and teachers get the resources they need

**4. What advice do you give to new employees?**

Everyone is an important part of the puzzle; it takes all of us to be complete.

**5. What is on your bucket to do list?**

To travel to all 50 states and see the amazing artwork God created.

**6. What is the best advice you have ever received?**

Do everything for the glory of God, not to please man.



Debra Wallace, CEO

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to 2023! Let me begin by summarizing the 2022 year. With eleven ASA employees in Montgomery and Huntsville and 65 contract employees at the Alabama Supercomputer Center in Huntsville, we improved education in Alabama. Our network connections grew, E-rate applications were filed and funded, the Security Operations Center and the Network Operations Center were renovated. We continued to have 99% availability with our network, which is an outstanding accomplishment. High Performance Computing for seventeen universities led to much needed research in the medical and science fields. Application development projects continued to grow with great success; one such project, the Adult Ed project for the Alabama Community College System is nationally recognized in this field.

As I look at 2023, I am optimistic that we will continue the good work for education in Alabama.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debra Wallace".

## February Tech Talk:

February 21, 2023

12:30pm-1:30pm

We will be discussing the E-Rate process and giving a virtual tour of the Security Operations Center.

If you would like to receive an invitation to attend our Tech Talk Sessions, please send an email to [newsletter@asc.edu](mailto:newsletter@asc.edu).

