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**Attorney General Steve Marshall Presents Eastwood Middle School
With 2018 Safe Schools Initiative Award of Excellence**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall today presented Eastwood Middle School with an Attorney General’s Safe Schools Initiative Award of Excellence for State Board of Education District 4. Schools were selected as winners for 2018 from each of the eight state school board districts as well as private schools for each* state region.

“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. “The Alabama Safe Schools Awards of Excellence is an important tradition of the Attorney General’s Office, to recognize schools throughout our state for dedication and excellence in keeping students safe. 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 Eastwood Middle School was selected as one of the 10 winning schools in Alabama for 2018. In making this decision, judges cited a great overall safety plan, noting many things that distinguished Eastwood Middle School: strong collaboration with law enforcement and local emergency officials, excellent crisis management and training, and strong mentoring initiatives.”

Principal Eric Hines said, "School safety is imperative and only achieved when stakeholders collaborate to provide safe spaces for our students to learn and grow. Eastwood Middle is fortunate to have faculty & staff, students, TCS Central Support and a plethora of Law Enforcement including Tuscaloosa City and County Police who daily answers the call to keep our schools safe."

Attorney General Marshall is presenting awards for the 2018 Safe Schools Initiative Award of Excellence winners to the 10 winning schools this spring. Other winning schools throughout the state include Orange Beach Elementary School in Baldwin County, Richland Elementary School in Lee County, Nichols-Lawson Middle School in Talladega County, Prattville Junior High School in Autauga County, Decatur High School in Morgan County, Hewitt-Trussville Middle School in Jefferson County, Morris P-8 School in Madison County, Saint James School in Montgomery County and the Lakeside School in Barbour County.

**No submissions were received this year for a private school in the Northern region of Alabama.*

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