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## Atkinson new principal of Helen Keller School

By AZIZA JACKSON

Home staff writer

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**TALLADEGA** — Educator and administrator Christy Atkinson has been named principal of the Helen Keller School of Alabama.

On July 1, Atkinson will assume her position at HKS and be responsible for provid-

ing quality education to children and young adults ages 3 to 21 who are both deaf and blind or have other disabilities.

"I am thrilled to have been invited to join the AIDB team," Atkinson said. "This is a dream come true for me."

Atkinson earned her administration certification and Ed.S. in counseling and guidance

from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a master of education degree in counseling from the University of Montevallo.

She also earned her bachelor of science in elementary education from UAB and earned national board certification in early childhood education through young adult school counseling.

"We are very pleased to have someone of Mrs. Atkinson's caliber joining the AIDB leadership team," Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind President Terry Graham said.

"She has a stellar academic background and has proven to be very entrepreneurial in her educational and administrative endeavors.

"I believe that her academic experience combined with visionary grant writing efforts will prove to be a winning combination of skills to lead the Helen Keller School into the future."

Atkinson said she hopes to add to AIDB's 150-year legacy

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of providing quality education and service programs by establishing partnerships and friendships with AIDB stakeholders, and assisting faculty and staff in meeting the needs of HKS students.

"Being able to invest in the lives of students and their families by promoting individual self-advocacy and enabling students to reach their full potential is such a tremendous blessing and honor," Atkinson said.

Contact Aziza Jackson at  
ajackson@dailyhome.com.