

# Higher Expectations, Higher Achievement

2014-2015 SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT



MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

Ensuring a bright future for every child

**Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.**  
State Superintendent of Education



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State Superintendent of Education

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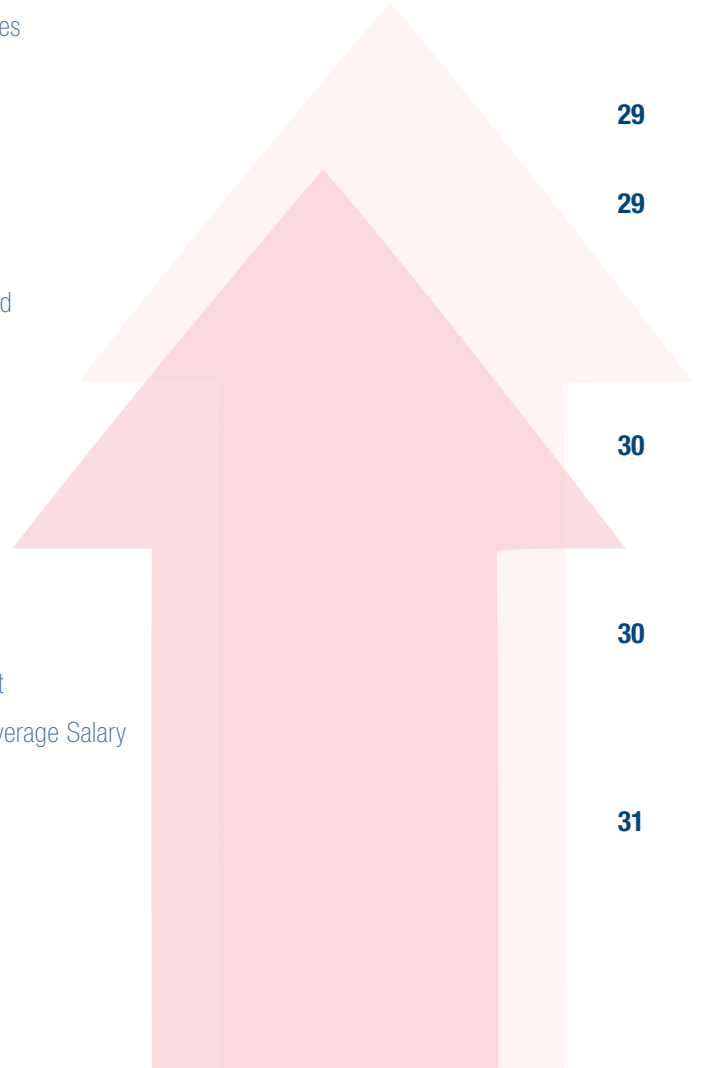
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## Message from the State Superintendent of Education

On behalf of the Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE), I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Education for the 2014-2015 academic school year. In accordance with the requirements of Section 37-3-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, this report contains pertinent financial, statistical and other important information at the state and local school district levels.

This report also highlights many of the achievements of 2014-2015 as the state begins to see the results of bold reform efforts to improve education in Mississippi. With college and career-ready standards for all students, aligned assessments to measure progress, and an accountability system focused on student growth and achievement, we have moved into a new era of public education in Mississippi.

As evidenced by the data in this report, the collective effort of our communities, schools and state leaders is having a positive and significant impact on student achievement. I look forward to our continued momentum as we work to support our school districts as they prepare students to be successful in college, the workforce and life.

Along with the members of the SBE, the staff of the Mississippi Department of Education, and the students, teachers and school leaders of Mississippi, I appreciate your continued support of public education in our state.

If you would like to view this report online, please visit [www.mde.k12.ms.us](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us).

Sincerely,

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.

State Superintendent of Education



Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.

# Mississippi State Board of Education

The Mississippi State Board of Education's vision is to create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens. The Board's five primary goals are: All students are proficient and show growth in all assessed areas; every student graduates from high school and is ready for college and career; every child has access to a high-quality early childhood education program; every school has effective teachers and leaders; and every community effectively uses a world-class data system to improve student outcomes.



**Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair**  
Term expires July 2020  
2nd Supreme Court District  
Representative



**Dr. Karen Elam**  
Term Expires July 2021  
3rd Supreme Court District  
Representative



**Rosemary G. Aultman, Vice-Chair**  
Term expires July 2022  
At-Large Representative



**Johnny Franklin**  
Term Expires July 2016  
1st Supreme Court District  
Representative



**Buddy Bailey**  
Term expires July 2023  
Administrator Representative



**William Harold Jones**  
Term expires July 2017  
At-Large Representative



**Kami Bumgarner**  
Term expires July 2018  
Teacher Representative



**Charles McClelland**  
Term expires July 2019  
At-Large Representative



**Dr. Jason S. Dean**  
Term expires July 2024  
At-Large Representative



**Dr. Carey M. Wright**  
State Superintendent of Education

# 2014-2015 FACTS & FIGURES

## NUMBER OF SCHOOLS:

ELEMENTARY: 515  
SECONDARY: 213  
COMBINED: 173

**TOTAL = 901**



TOTAL EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDS (EEF) DISPERSED TO TEACHERS:

**\$13,401,525**

NUMBER OF TEACHERS RECEIVING EEF PROCUREMENT CARDS TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES: 34,275



TOTAL SCHOOL SUPPLY FUNDS DISPERSED TO EACH TEACHER:

**\$391**

AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL: \$9,394

**\$43,308**

AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY:

TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CURRENT OPERATION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS:

**4.69%**

## NUMBER OF DISTRICTS 144



STUDENT AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE:

**454.096**

STUDENT DAILY MEMBERSHIP:

**490,225**



NUMBER OF TEACHERS:



**32,230**

NATIONAL RANKING FOR PERCENT OF TEACHERS WHO ARE NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS:

**4TH**



## Mississippi Department of Education 2014-2015 Highlights

The Mississippi Department of Education is charged with supporting local school districts to help them to attain the State Board of Education's vision and goals. The Board's bold vision for a world-class education system and the agency's philosophy of operating in the best interest of students drive the MDE's work. The MDE believes that students of all abilities and backgrounds can learn and have the capacity to compete in a global economy.

In December 2014, the Mississippi State Board of Education unveiled its 5-year Strategic Plan for 2016-2020, which set the roadmap for changing the trajectory of public education in Mississippi.

### **Mississippi State Board of Education Strategic Plan Goals:**

1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

## GOAL ONE

# All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas

### Kindergarten Readiness

Mississippi administered its first-ever statewide assessment of learning in kindergarten in the 2014-2015 school year, which showed the majority of the state's youngest students made significant gains over the course of the academic year. The state average score for the fall test was 501 and climbed to 680 after the spring test. Every district in the state showed progress among their kindergarten classes, with district averages ranging from 595 to 762 on the spring test.

Research from a four-year study show that 84 percent of students at the beginning of kindergarten with a score of 530 or above on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment are on track to become proficient readers by the end of 3rd grade. While the fall results showed that more than 65 percent of students entered kindergarten lacking prerequisite skills, that percentage dropped to 9 percent after the spring test.

To view the results, visit <http://reports.mde.k12.ms.us/report1/r2014-15.aspx>



### 3rd Grade Reading Assessment

Schools throughout Mississippi put a laser-focus on literacy to help students meet the requirements of the Literacy-Based Promotion Act. Starting in 2014-2015, the law required that 3rd graders pass a reading test to qualify for promotion to the 4th grade. After the final administration of the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment, more than 92 percent of students achieved a passing score. The law set the passing score "above the lowest achievement level," which means students near the passing score still need intervention and support in the 4th grade to develop their reading skills. The same is true for students who got promoted with a good cause exemption and those who were retained in the 3rd grade.

To view the results, visit

<http://reports.mde.k12.ms.us/report1/r2014-15.aspx>



## National Assessment of Educational Progress

Mississippi showed a significant increase in 4th grade reading on the 2015 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), bucking the national trend of flat or declining performance. Compared to 2013 scores, Mississippi was the only state that had a significant increase in 4th grade reading, was one of 13 states that had a significant increase in 4th grade math and was the only state that saw significant increases in both reading and math for 4th grade. Reading and math scores for 8th grade also defied national trends. These scores remained steady as national scores declined.

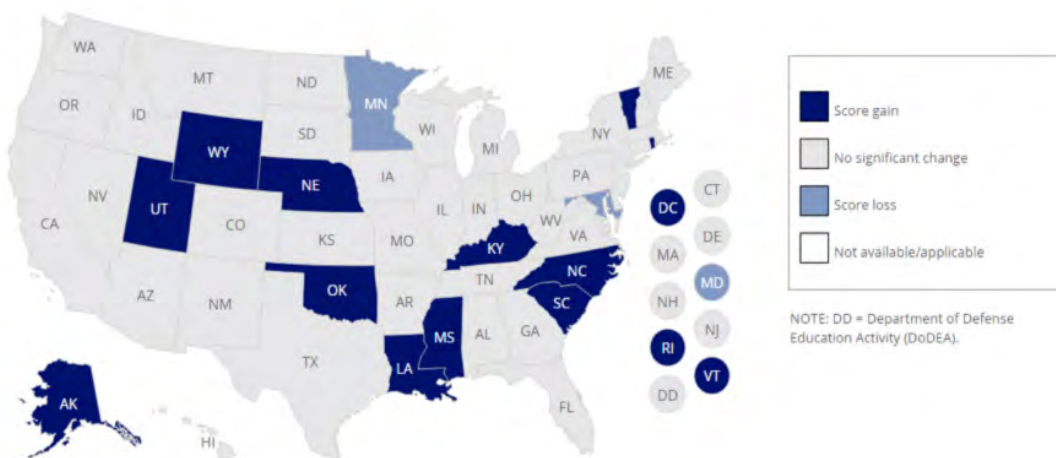
Overall, 4th grade reading proficiency rates rose from 21 to 26 percent, and math proficiency increased from 26 to 30 percent. In the 8th grade, proficiency levels for reading remained flat at 20 percent and math increased from 21 to 22 percent. It is worth noting that most 4th graders had the benefit of receiving instruction based on the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards since kindergarten. Mississippi's 8th graders were introduced to the higher standards in the 5th grade or later, so they were not expected to meet the more rigorous learning goals while in elementary school.

To view the results, visit, [www.nationsreportcard.gov](http://www.nationsreportcard.gov)

### NAEP Grade 4 Mathematics Score Gains 2013 to 2015



### NAEP Grade 4 Reading Score Gains 2013 to 2015



## English Language Arts and Mathematics Exams for Grades 3-8 and Algebra I and English II

Mississippi students took new tests in the 2014-2015 school year that were aligned to the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards. As expected, the number of students meeting or exceeding expectations for college and career readiness was low. However, the number of students who scored in the “approaching expectations” category was significant. With continued support and instruction, these students are capable of meeting the higher academic standards. Mississippi’s results followed national trends for states that administered new assessments aligned to college and career ready standards.

The new test results close the “honesty gap” between the percentage of students achieving proficiency on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and the percentage meeting grade-level expectations on Mississippi’s state assessments. In previous years, on less challenging tests, Mississippi students showed passing levels in the 50-70 percent range, while NAEP tests showed proficiency levels were actually in the 20-25 percent range.



The 2014-2015 results provide a new starting point for measuring student progress over time. Moving forward, Mississippi will continue to assess students on tests aligned to high academic standards.

Level	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS		MATH	
	Percent meeting or exceeding expectations	NAEP Proficient	Percent meeting or exceeding expectations	NAEP Proficient
Grade 3	29 percent		33 percent	
Grade 4	30 percent	26 percent	27 percent	30 percent
Grade 5	28 percent		25 percent	
Grade 6	29 percent		25 percent	
Grade 7	31 percent		20 percent	
Grade 8	31 percent	20 percent	28 percent	22 percent
English II	49 percent			
Algebra I			27 percent	

To view the results, visit <http://reports.mde.k12.ms.us/report1/r2014-15.aspx>



### **Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP)**

The Mississippi Department of Education led the development of a new statewide testing system called the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP). Starting in the 2015-2016 school year, students will take MAP assessments for English language arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and high school Algebra I and English II. Dozens of Mississippi educators helped build the computer-based tests, which will be administered as single end-of-course exams. Like the state assessments that were administered in 2014-2015, MAP tests are aligned to the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards.

### **11th Grade ACT**

For the first time, every high school junior took the ACT college readiness test in 2015. Statewide, 9 percent scored college ready in all four tested subjects of English, Reading, Math and Science. ACT results for 2015 public school graduates show 11 percent met the college-ready benchmark, compared to 28 percent nationally. The results underscore the need to expand access to more rigorous learning opportunities including Advanced Placement courses and dual credit/dual enrollment courses and for programming high school students in the right sequence of core courses that will help them perform better on the ACT. Taking courses including Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics courses including Algebra II and beyond substantially increases a student's readiness for college-level work and workforce training programs

To view the results, visit <http://reports.mde.k12.ms.us/report1/r2014-15.aspx>

## GOAL TWO



# Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career

## Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards

The Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards are a set of learning targets in English language arts and mathematics for kindergarten through the 12th grade. These high academic standards will ensure students have the academic knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, career and life. Adopted in 2010, the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards drive the learning that takes place in every public school in the state. How the standards are taught – the curriculum or methods and materials used – is decided at the local level, as it was with previous standards.

In keeping with the periodic review process of academic standards, the Mississippi Department of Education launched an online public comment forum in 2015 to collect feedback about the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards. Close to 1,400 participants contributed more than 8,500 items of feedback over the course of the three-month forum. An overwhelming majority – more than 90 percent – indicated their approval of the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards. About 49 percent of those who weighed in on the standards were teachers, about 17 percent were parents, 15 percent were administrators or school district staff, and about 6 percent represented the community at-large. A total of 112 school districts were represented in the comments, or nearly 78 percent of the state's 144 districts.

Of the 10 percent of respondents who indicated they would like to see some sort of change in one or more of the standards, most wanted a standard moved to a different grade level. No one suggested removing a standard. The English language arts standards that received the most feedback were in kindergarten. The math standards that received the most feedback were in Algebra I, with requests to either move certain standards to another grade or rewrite the standard.

Teams of content experts, teachers from K-12 and postsecondary institutions and parents worked with MDE staff to review all of the feedback and propose revisions for improving the overall quality and appropriateness of the standards to promote college and career readiness for all students. Any changes to the standards would be implemented in the 2016-2017 school year.

## Advanced Placement Initiative

Between 2009 and 2014, Mississippi saw a 6.3 percent increase in the number of AP exam takers and a 9.7 percent increase in qualifying scores on AP exams. Though AP participation is on the rise, Mississippi ranks last in the nation for the percent of students taking AP exams, with 15 percent of students taking at least one AP exam, compared to the national average of 36 percent. There is also a disparity around the state in the level of access students have to AP courses, with some high schools not offering any AP courses. Research shows that AP courses benefit students regardless of how well they score on the corresponding AP exam. Students who master AP courses are three times more likely to graduate from college.



## Golden Triangle Early College High School

Mississippi's first early college high school opened at the start of the 2015-2016 school year. The Golden Triangle Early College High School (GTECHS) welcomed a freshman class of 62 students from five school districts including Columbus, Lowndes, Noxubee, Starkville-Oktibbeha and West Point. These students have the opportunity to earn college credits while earning a high school diploma.

Located on the Golden Triangle campus of East Mississippi Community College (EMCC), GTECHS is a partnership of the five school districts, EMCC, the Mississippi Department of Education and Mississippi State University. GTECHS targets students who are first-generation college students and may need additional support to be successful in college, such as academic or financial assistance. Up to five early college high schools a year can be approved in Mississippi.





### **Increased Pathways to Graduation**

High school seniors have been provided with additional options to meet graduation requirements if they don't pass one or more exams in the Subject Area Test Program (SATP) and don't meet previously approved alternative options. Students in 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 may use their end-of-course SATP score with their overall course grade or a combined minimum score from the four required tests to apply for graduation. This option gives students another way to demonstrate that they have mastered their coursework without making the requirements for graduation contingent upon the outcome of any one particular test. SATP tests are administered to students who have completed Algebra I, Biology I, English II, and U.S. History. Under the new policy, SATP test results will continue to be included in the state accountability model. Starting in the 2016-2017 school year, SATP scores will constitute 25 percent of a student's final grade.

## GOAL THREE

# Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

### Early Learning Collaboratives

The Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013 enabled the Mississippi Department of Education to award grants to 11 Early Learning Collaboratives (ELCs) throughout the state. These collaboratives opened more than 1,700 new 4-year-old pre-kindergarten slots in 66 preschools in the 2014-2015 school year. At the end of the school year, more than half of these 4-year-olds met or exceeded the expected performance level for kindergarten readiness, according to results from the first year of assessments. Pre-K students in the ELCs took the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment in fall 2014 and spring 2015. The spring 2015 scores indicated that 59 percent of the collaborative students were at or above the end-of-year score that is indicative of a basic level of mastery of the literacy skills needed for kindergarten. To view the results, visit <http://reports.mde.k12.ms.us/report1/r2014-15.aspx>

Additionally, as a part of a study conducted by the Social Science Research Center at Mississippi State University, some 1,350 children were screened for developmental, social and emotional factors. Among the children who were screened, 679 received referrals for developmental delays, social-emotional delays, or both developmental and social-emotional delays.

Early Learning Collaboratives include partners from Head Start programs, public school districts, parochial schools, and community organizations. The MDE continues to seek funding and support to expand access to early childhood education throughout the state.

### Early Learning Collaboratives:

- Clarke County Early Learning Partnership
- Coahoma County Pre-K Collaborative Initiative
- Corinth-Alcorn Prentiss Early Learning Collaborative
- Desoto County Early Learning Collaborative
- Gilmore Early Learning Initiative Collaborative
- Lamar County Early Learning Collaborative
- McComb Community Collaborative for Early Learning Success
- Petal Early Learning Collaborative/Petal Excel By 5
- Picayune School District
- Sunflower County Early Learning Collaborative
- Tallahatchie Early Learning Alliance





## **Pre-K Guidelines, Teaching Strategies and Professional Development**

The Mississippi Department of Education continued its work toward building a high-quality early childhood education infrastructure for the state. Under the leadership of the MDE's newly established Office of Early Childhood Education, guidelines for 3- and 4-year-old pre-K programs were revised and aligned to kindergarten guidelines. Additionally, the Office of Early Childhood Education created and published teaching strategies for 4-year-old programs that may be used by any early learning provider in the state. Pre-K teachers statewide may also participate in the MDE's full schedule of professional development offerings. The MDE is continuing to work with stakeholder groups to develop a statewide kindergarten transition plan, a family engagement plan, a comprehensive school readiness definition and a stronger connection between pre-K and K-3 initiatives.



## GOAL FOUR



## Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

### **Superintendents' Academy**

The Mississippi Department of Education in 2014-2015 launched its first Superintendents' Academy, an advanced leadership training program to assist district leaders in their efforts to improve student outcomes. The academy has been a priority of the MDE and the Mississippi Board of Education, and in 2013, the Legislature appropriated \$500,000 to establish the academy. Superintendents from 19 school districts across the state reviewed the latest technology for enhancing student learning, participated in advanced leadership training from some of the nation's foremost trainers of company executives, and trained to improve the speed and quality of management decision making. The Superintendents' Academy is continuing in 2015-2016 with 22 participants in its second cohort.

### **Principals' Training**

The Mississippi Department of Education provided leadership and instructional training to approximately 40 principals from some of the lowest-performing schools in the state. Plans are underway to establish a Principals' Academy modeled on the successful Superintendents' Academy.

### **Literacy Training**

More than 10,000 kindergarten through 3rd grade teachers and elementary school principals across the state have completed phase I Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training, which is part of a statewide system of support to equip school administrators, teachers, parents and communities to effectively promote literacy. The training was implemented after the passage of the 2013 Literacy-Based Promotion Act, which focuses on grade-level reading from kindergarten through 3rd grade. Teachers also received support from 50 Literacy Coaches who served 87 schools throughout the state. In 2015-2016, the number of Literacy Coaches increased to 74 serving 124 schools.

## Regional Professional Development

The Mississippi Department of Education piloted a Regional Service Delivery Model for providing professional development to educators throughout the state. The model allows for schools and districts to request and receive customized, on-site training for their teachers at no cost. Thus far, 13 professional development coordinators have been hired who specialize in content areas including math, literacy, English language arts and special education. This delivery system will be expanded as MDE continues to provide year-round professional development to educators statewide.

## Educator Accountability System

The 2014-2015 school year marked the second year of full implementation of the Mississippi Teacher Evaluation System and the third year of implementation of the Mississippi Principal Evaluation System. Certified teachers and school administrators are evaluated using these systems. New evaluation systems have also been developed for counselors, librarians, speech-language pathologists and student service coordinators. Currently, the Educator and Leader Effectiveness Steering Committee is reviewing all of the educator evaluation systems. The committee will provide guidance on improvements to the evaluation processes, components and rubrics to ensure that the systems are fair, accurate and act as catalysts for professional growth.



## GOAL FIVE

# Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

### Major Grant to Enhance Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

The Mississippi Department of Education will receive \$6.6 million over the next four years to enhance the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) designed to help the state make data-informed decisions to improve student learning and outcomes, as well as to facilitate research to increase student achievement and close achievement gaps. Mississippi was one of 16 states out of 43 applicants to receive a grant from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). The MDE will share the grant with the National Strategic Planning & Analysis Research Center (NSPARC), an interdisciplinary research center at Mississippi State University. NSPARC's research is used by policymakers to look at outcomes and help design and evaluate programs for workforce development, education, and economic development.

### Accountability System

The Mississippi Statewide Accountability System assigns letter grades from A through F to every school and district in the state. The system takes into account multiple factors including statewide assessment results, student growth and graduation rates.

Grades for 2014-2015 will be reported in 2016. For the second year in a row, the Mississippi Department of Education received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education that will allow schools and districts to keep their letter grades from 2013-2014 if those grades are higher than what they receive for 2014-2015. Both grades will be made public for transparency, though the waiver grades will be considered the official grades.

2013-2014	With Waiver	Without Waiver
Total A districts	19	3
Total B districts	43	15
Total C districts	48	68
Total D districts	39	63
Total F districts	1	0

**There will be no waiver applied to grades assigned for the 2015-2016 school year.** Therefore, grades reported for 2015-2016 will establish a new starting point for evaluating school and district performance.



### **Literacy Target Schools**

Trend data from the statewide English language arts assessment identified 87 schools that needed support to improve student outcomes. These schools are called literacy target schools. Literacy coaches were assigned to all literacy target schools to help teachers become more effective teachers of reading. Part of their job is teaching educators how to use data to adjust instruction to help struggling readers. As a result of their work, the percentage of students in literacy target schools passing the 3rd Grade Reading Assessment increased from 73 percent on the first test administration to 84 percent after the final test administration. This 11 percent increase exceeds the statewide increase of 7 percent from the first to last test administration.

### **Kindergarten Readiness Data Identifies High-Quality Pre-K Programs**

Beginning in fall 2015, schools started to collect information about the pre-kindergarten programs their kindergarteners attended. This information will be cross referenced with students' Kindergarten Readiness Assessment scores to identify the pre-K programs that produced the highest scoring students. These programs will be surveyed to identify best practices that can be replicated at programs whose graduates achieved lower scores. The Kindergarten Readiness data will shape future professional development offerings for early childhood education providers and inform instructional supports or interventions for students.

### **ACT Results**

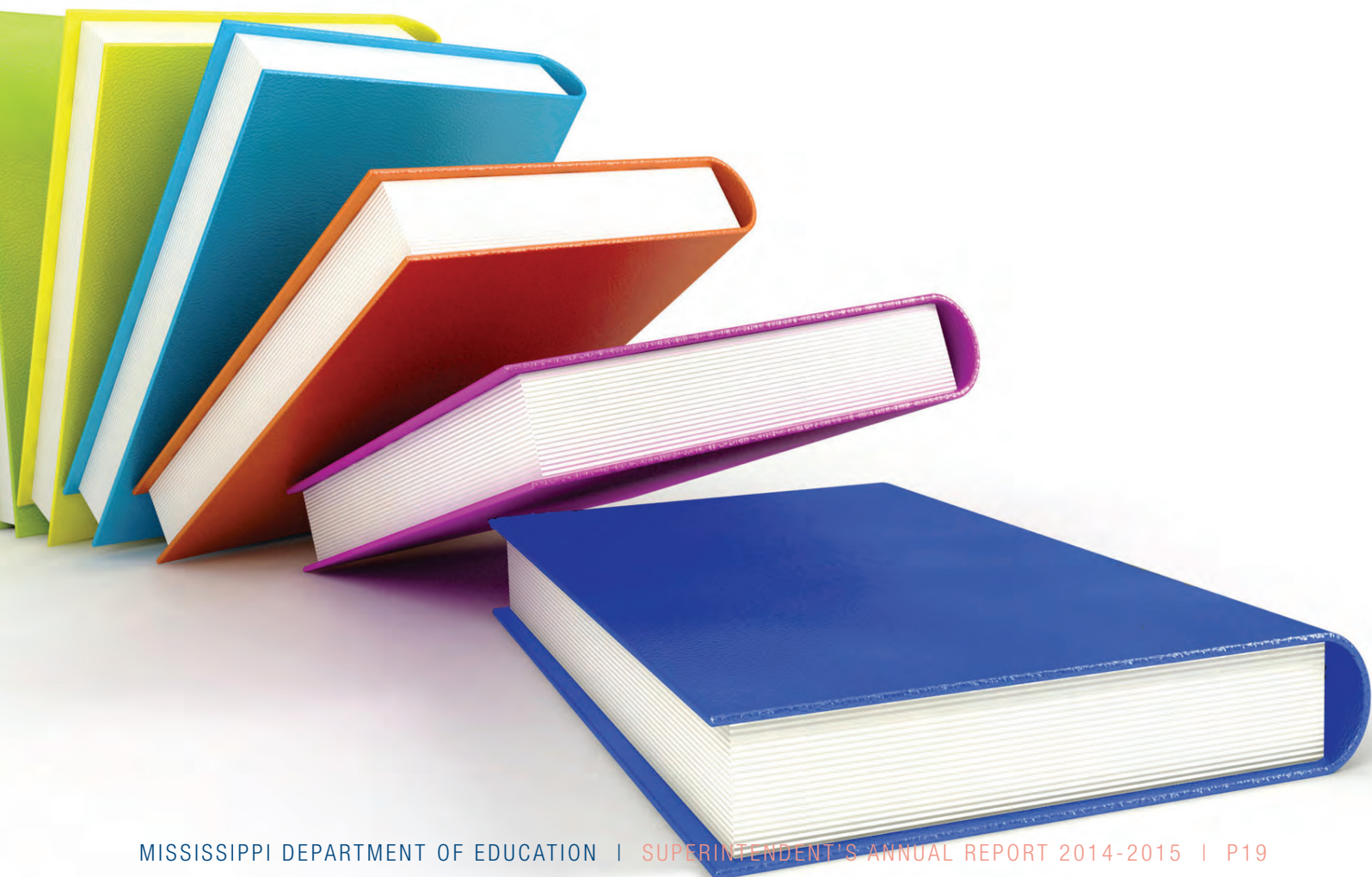
The results of the 11th grade administration of the ACT college readiness test were used to help schools examine course-taking patterns and to identify students who would benefit from the placement in courses to strengthen their skills and prevent the need for developmental courses in college.

## New Legislative Initiative

### **Educational Scholarship Account**

The 2015 Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Act provided up to \$6,500 for 434 Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) for parents of students with disabilities who want to remove them from a public school to seek educational services elsewhere. The program launched on July 1, 2015. As of November 30, 2015, 286 people had active ESA accounts. Account holders must be a Mississippi resident, have a child with an active Individualized Education Program (IEP) from a public school within the previous 18 months of their application, and sign an agreement to adhere to the rules of participation. The agreement requires parents to provide an organized, appropriate educational program with measurable annual goals to their child and, to the extent possible, to provide an education in the areas of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science.

For more information, visit [www.mde.k12.ms.us/OSE/ESA](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OSE/ESA)



# Notable State and National Honors

## **Title I Distinguished Schools**

The Mississippi Department of Education honored 20 Title I Distinguished Schools in 2015 for exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years or for making effective strides in closing the achievement gap. The Title I program provides funding to schools across the country for students at risk of failure and living at or near poverty. Two of the schools were announced as National Title I Distinguished Schools – Bassfield High School in the Jefferson Davis County School District and O’Bannon Elementary School in the Western Line School District.

**Bassfield High School, Jefferson Davis County School District**

**O’Bannon Elementary School, Western Line School District**

**Saucier Elementary School, Harrison County School District**

**Ruleville Middle School, Sunflower County Consolidated School District**

**Heidelberg Junior High School, East Jasper School District**

**Thrasher High School, Prentiss County School District**

**Delisle Elementary School, Pass Christian School District**

**Woodley Elementary School, Hattiesburg Public School District**

**Jonestown Elementary School, Coahoma County School District**

**West Lowndes Middle School, Lowndes County School District**

**Key Elementary School, Jackson Public School District**

**Byhalia Middle School, Marshall County School District**

**Wesson Attendance Center, Copiah County School District**

**North Panola High School, North Panola School District**

**East Hancock Elementary School, Hancock County School District**

**Richland High School, Rankin County School District**

**Finch Elementary School, Wilkinson County School District**

**Denman Junior High School, McComb School District**

**Southeast Lauderdale Elementary School, Lauderdale County School District**

**Seminary High School, Covington County School District**

## Casey Elementary School Named 2015 National Blue Ribbon School

Casey Elementary School in the Jackson Public School District was named a National Blue Ribbon School, making it one of the 335 public and private schools recognized nationwide to achieve the honor in 2015. The National Blue Ribbon Schools program distinguishes and honors schools for helping students achieve at very high levels and for making significant progress in closing the achievement gap. Casey embraces the Whole Schools Initiative that uses the arts as a vehicle for promoting high-quality instruction and learning for all students.



Casey Elementary celebrated being named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School. Pictured with Casey students are (from left) Jackson Public Schools Chief Academic Officer of Elementary Schools Dr. Michelle King, JPS Superintendent Dr. Cedrick Gray, former Casey Principal Leslie Coleman, and current Casey Principal Rhoda Yoder.



## National Board Certified Teachers

The number of National Board Certified Teachers in Mississippi rose to 3,849 in 2014-2015, with 130 additional teachers achieving NBCT status. National Board Certification demonstrates that teachers have attained the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare students for 21st century success. Mississippi ranks 4th in the nation for the percent of teachers who are NBCTs and 7th for the total number of NBCTs. The state of Mississippi provides Board-certified teachers an annual stipend of \$6,000. The MDE received a \$1.2 million grant in 2015 from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to enhance literacy and literacy coach training for National Board Certified Teachers.



## 2015 Mississippi Teacher of the Year



Anna Morris, a 2nd grade teacher at Oak Grove Lower Elementary School in Lamar County Schools, was selected as the 2015 Mississippi Teacher of the Year. Morris has been teaching for 10 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master's degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in Mild to Moderate

Disabilities from William Carey University. She also obtained a Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certification from the TEFL International Mediterrani Escola in Barcelona, Spain. As an educator, Morris is passionate about project-based learning within "Maker's Culture" and student-centered designs. She is her school's Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports Committee Coach and frequently collaborates with fellow educators and designs events to celebrate achievement. Morris has worked with children in eight different countries and five continents.

## 2015 Parent of the Year

Sissy Lynn, the mother of two children in Madison County Schools, was named the 2015 Mississippi Parent of the Year. Lynn is a passionate supporter of public education and uses her talents to spread positive news about the Ridgeland zone of Madison County Schools. Lynn has held various Parent Teacher Organization positions and has been a daily presence in the Ridgeland schools since her son, now in 6th grade, was in kindergarten. She was selected twice as the Ann Smith Elementary Parent of the Year (2011 and 2014) and was the 2015 Highland Elementary Parent of the Year. Lynn and her husband Randy were named 2014 City Makers of the Year, the City of Ridgeland's top award, for their service and dedication to Ridgeland's public schools.



## Milken Educator Award

Cagney Weaver, a 4th grade teacher at North Bay Elementary School in the Biloxi School District, received the \$25,000 Milken Educator Award, [www.MilkenEducatorAwards.org](http://www.MilkenEducatorAwards.org).

This prestigious honor recognizes up to 40 of America's most outstanding educators. Weaver has immersed herself in training to teach the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards, serves on the school leadership team and supervises student teachers. She completed a year-long National Board Certification.



## 2015 Mississippi Administrator of the Year

Dr. Patrick Gray, principal of Oak Grove Middle School in Lamar County Schools, was selected as the 2015 Mississippi Administrator of the Year. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in



English Literature from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Master of Education degree from William Carey College, and an Ed.S. degree and Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi. An educator for 15 years, Gray is a member of several professional organizations including

National Writing Project, National Council of Teachers of English, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. He has been recognized as a "Master Teacher" and leader in the Lamar County School District and has led professional development sessions on effective writing strategies and middle school management.



## Mississippi Math, Science Teachers Earn National Recognition

The Mississippi Board of Education recognized the 2014-2015 state finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) Program. The program, established in 1983 by the White House, allows each state to select up to five state finalists in mathematics and up to five state finalists in science. One of the state finalists in each content area will be selected as the Presidential Awardee for the state, which is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. The Mississippi finalists are:

**Virginia (Virge) Cornelius**, a math teacher at Lafayette High School in the Lafayette County School District. She earned her undergraduate degree in Mathematics and art from Smith College, and she holds a Master of Education degree from Harvard University. She taught for 10 years in Massachusetts before moving to Oxford in 2000. She teaches primarily Algebra I and Advanced Placement calculus. In addition, she has served as a reader, table leader, and question leader for the AP Calculus national exam. Cornelius has been designated as a STAR Teacher five times, and she was awarded the Siemens AP Excellence Award in 2009. Several of Cornelius's former students are high school math teachers. She teaches in the same department with two of them.



Cornelius also taught fellow PAEMST finalist,

**Laura Zarandona**, a math teacher at the Mississippi School for Math and Science. She graduated from high school in

Kenmore, Washington, before attending Rhodes College and earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. While at Rhodes, Zarandona ran a mentoring program and coached a Math Counts team at a local elementary school. Those experiences led her to the Mississippi Teacher Corps. She earned a Master of Arts degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Mississippi in 2005 while teaching in the Hollandale School District. She joined the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science in 2008.

The Mississippi Board of Education honored the Mississippi teachers who are finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) Program. From left are, Dr. Carey Wright, state superintendent of education, Susie Oglesby, Amanda Rogers, Virge Cornelius, Dorothy Thomas and Dr. John Kelly, chairman of the Board. Not pictured are teacher finalists Carl Lucas and Laura Zarandona

Zarandona taught another PAEMST finalist, **Carl Lucas**, an Algebra instructor and head basketball coach at Simmons High School in the Hollandale School District, where he attended high school. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics at Mississippi Valley State University, where he later returned to earn a Master of Education degree in teaching. Prior to teaching in the Hollandale School District, Lucas served as head basketball coach and as an Algebra I instructor at Leflore County High School in Itta Bena from 2009 to 2012.

**Susanna (Susie) Oglesby**, who teaches science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) classes at New Hope High School in Lowndes County School District, moved from Guatemala to Columbus, Miss., where she was raised by her grandparents. She graduated from Mississippi State University. With aspirations of being a marine biologist, Oglesby took a biology lab workshop on the coast of Mississippi at the Dauphin Lab Research Center. There, she met two science teachers who had a passion for teaching students and who believed that it is up to the next generation to change the world. Being with these amazing teachers gave her an “a-ha” moment of understanding that teaching students to care about the world would have an impact on our society.

**Amanda Rogers** teaches advanced geometry, advanced mathematics, and AP Calculus AB to 9th through 12th graders at Petal High School in the Petal School District. During her 12-year career as a secondary mathematics teacher, Rogers has taught courses ranging from 8th grade math to AP Calculus. Rogers earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Education degree in secondary education from William Carey University. She is a National Board Certified teacher in adolescent and young adulthood mathematics, and she is also certified by the College Board to teach AP Calculus AB. To provide students with the opportunity to compete nationally, Rogers is currently working to build the advanced and AP course offerings and enrollment at her school.

**Dorothy Thomas** teaches Algebra I and foundations of Algebra at Pontotoc High School in Pontotoc City School District. Thomas received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Mississippi Valley State University. She later received a Master of Education degree in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in mathematics from the University of Mississippi. She received her education specialist in educational leadership from the University of Mississippi. Thomas is a National Board Certified Teacher of early adolescent mathematics and a member of the Mississippi Professional Educators, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

# District Financial Information

## 2014-2015 Statewide Receipts for Public Schools

### Source of Federal Funds

Wildlife Refuge	\$	94,314
E-Rate		14,130,820
Impact Aid - Maint. & Operation		1,676,430
Flood Control		117,623
Mineral Leases		2,477
Other Unrestricted		10,294,343
Impact Aid Const. PL 81-815		-
Title III - Lang Instr. For LEP & Immig		1,251,658
Title I		182,839,759
School Improvement 1003g		384,815
State Assessment		-
Title VI		4,254,337
Social Services		22,146
EHA-Special Education		113,600,154
Adult Education		1,089,397
Vocational & Technical Education		6,211,437
Child Nutrition		248,392,795
Title II		32,402,747
Work Force Investment Act		204,263
Education Jobs		-
Title X-C Ed. for Homeless Children &		604,866
21st Century		10,712,154
Restricted - Disaster Relief		7,456,942
Restricted - ARRA		1,720,882
TVA		6,332,407
National Forest		1,821,781
Other - Restricted		26,766,598
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL SOURCES</b>		<b>\$672,385,143</b>

### Source of State Funds

Homestead Exemption	\$	34,647,557
Severance Tax		177,967
Chickasaw Funds		20,776,890
Drivers Education		2,515,854
MAEP & Per Capita		2,146,369,002
School Ad Valorem Tax Reduction		-
Education Enhancement Fund		20,860,617
Vocational & Technical Education		38,188,644
Public School Building Fund		-
Adult Education		237,345
Child Nutrition		2,802,041
Educable Children		5,788,053
Other		52,490,852
<b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 2,324,854,822</b>

### Source of Local Funds

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$	1,301,457,811
Other Taxes		4,338,269
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes		15,310,178
Tuition		9,790,479
Transportation Fees		2,163,108
Earnings on Investments		5,702,435
Food Service		44,457,164
Student Activity		57,453,847
Community Service		2,282,584
Other Revenue from Local Sources		35,351,093
Gaming Revenue		11,429,299
<b>TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE</b>		<b>\$ 1,489,736,267</b>

### TOTAL REVENUE RECEIPTS

**FROM LOCAL, STATE & FED SOURCES** **\$ 4,486,976,232**

TOTAL REVENUE RECEIPTS FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL	
TOTAL FEDERAL	14.99%
TOTAL STATE	51.81%
TOTAL LOCAL	33.20%
	100.00%

### Additional Revenue

Intermediate Sources	\$	362,636
Operational Sixteenth Section		47,271,464
Sixteenth Section Principal		22,796,897
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL REVENUE</b>		<b>\$ 70,430,997</b>

### Nonrevenue Receipts

Sale of Bonds		\$97,309,590
Proceeds of Loans		47,933,999
Inception of Capital Leases		24,876,991
Insurance Loss Recoveries		16,572,570
Sale of Assets		1,330,274
<b>TOTAL NONREVENUE RECEIPTS</b>		<b>\$188,023,423</b>

**TOTAL REVENUE & NONREV. RECEIPTS** **\$ 4,745,430,652**

# District Financial Information

## 2014-2015 Statewide Expenditures for Public Schools

### INSTRUCTION & OTHER STUDENT EXPENDITURES

1105 - 1109	PREKINDERGARTEN	\$	20,695,181.69	
1110 - 1199	INSTRUCTION		1,822,558,339.67	
1210 - 1299	SPECIAL PROGRAMS		436,229,220.22	
1310 - 1399	ADULT/CONTINUING EDUCATION		3,195,205.50	
1410 - 1499	SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMS		1,940,367.00	
1910 - 1919	ATHLETICS		73,103,479.61	
1920 - 1929	STUDENT ACTIVITIES		33,647,812.18	
1930 - 1999	OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS		5,044,272.38	
2110 - 2119	ATTENDANCE		12,306,981.78	
2120 - 2129	GUIDANCE SERVICES		94,623,476.55	
2130 - 2139	HEALTH SERVICES		33,144,336.87	
2140 - 2149	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES		17,314,349.71	
2150 - 2159	SPEECH PATHOLOGY		45,352,374.50	
2160 - 2169	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER		1,544,414.62	
2190 - 2199	OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES - STUDENTS		7,208,223.88	
2210 & 2290	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION		116,660,438.62	
2220 - 2229	EDUCATIONAL MEDIA SERVICES		92,201,526.29	
<b>TOTAL INSTRUCTION &amp; OTHER STUDENT EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>2,816,770,001.07</b>	66.84%

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

2310 - 2319	BOARD OF EDUCATION SERVICES	\$	27,725,917.31	
2320 - 2329	EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		47,547,567.05	
2330 - 2339	SPECIAL AREA ADMINISTRATION		61,278,657.75	
2500 - 2599	BUSINESS SERVICES		60,878,540.72	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>197,430,682.83</b>	4.69%

### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

2410 - 2499	SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	\$	250,718,298.28	
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>250,718,298.28</b>	5.95%

### OTHER EXPENDITURES - INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

2610 - 2699	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	\$434,492,436.26	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
2710 - 2799	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	\$199,552,939.54	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
2800 - 2899	CENTRAL SUPPORT SERVICES (TECH)	\$44,168,580.51	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES - INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>678,213,956.31</b>	16.09%

### OTHER EXPENDITURES - NONINSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

3100	FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS	\$254,787,213.50	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
3200	ENTERPRISE OPERATIONS	300,648.36	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
3300	COMMUNITY SERVICES OPERATIONS	\$2,059,501.91	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
3900 - 3999	OTHER NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$13,845,427.28	<i>(Excludes Capitalized Equipment)</i>	
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES- NONINSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>270,992,791.05</b>	6.43%

<b>TOTAL CURRENT OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES (Functions 1000-3999)</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>4,214,125,729.54</b>	100.00%
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<b>CAPITALIZED EQUIPMENT (Exp. Functions 2600 - 3999)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>51,727,485.15</b>
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### NONREVENUE TRANSACTIONS

4100 - 4999	16th Section Land Mgmt & Improvement	\$	9,720,652.87
5100 - 5999	Facility Acquisitions & Construction		166,770,971.58
6100 - 6999	Interest Paid on Debt (obj.830)		55,235,260.22
6100 - 6999	Debt Service Payments (excluding obj. 830)		220,284,447.05
7500 - 7599	Repayment to Funded Bond Escrow Agent		7,032,285.00
7600 - 7699	Pymt to QZAB Debt Escrow Agent		10,228,867.47
7900 - 7999	Other Debt Service		1,588,950.55
<b>TOTAL NON REVENUE TRANSACTIONS</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>470,861,434.74</b>

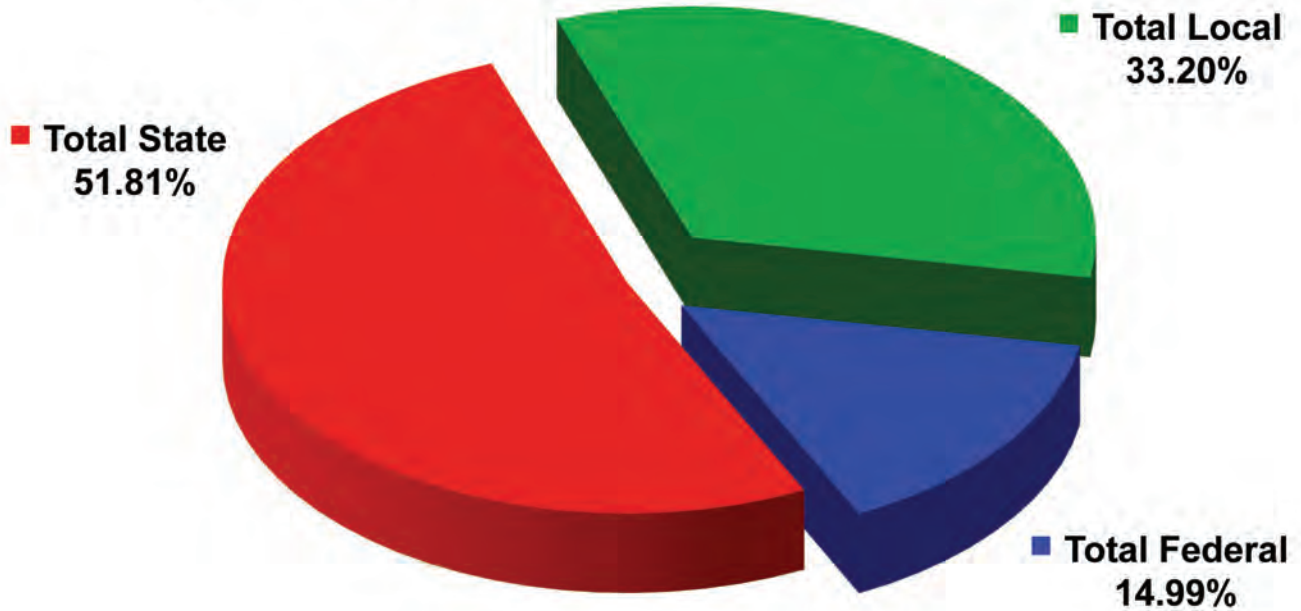
<b>TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURES &amp; NONREVENUE TRANSACTIONS</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>4,736,714,649.43</b>
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Note: Expenditure categories per SDE definition. State level administrative costs are not included in totals.

# District Financial Information

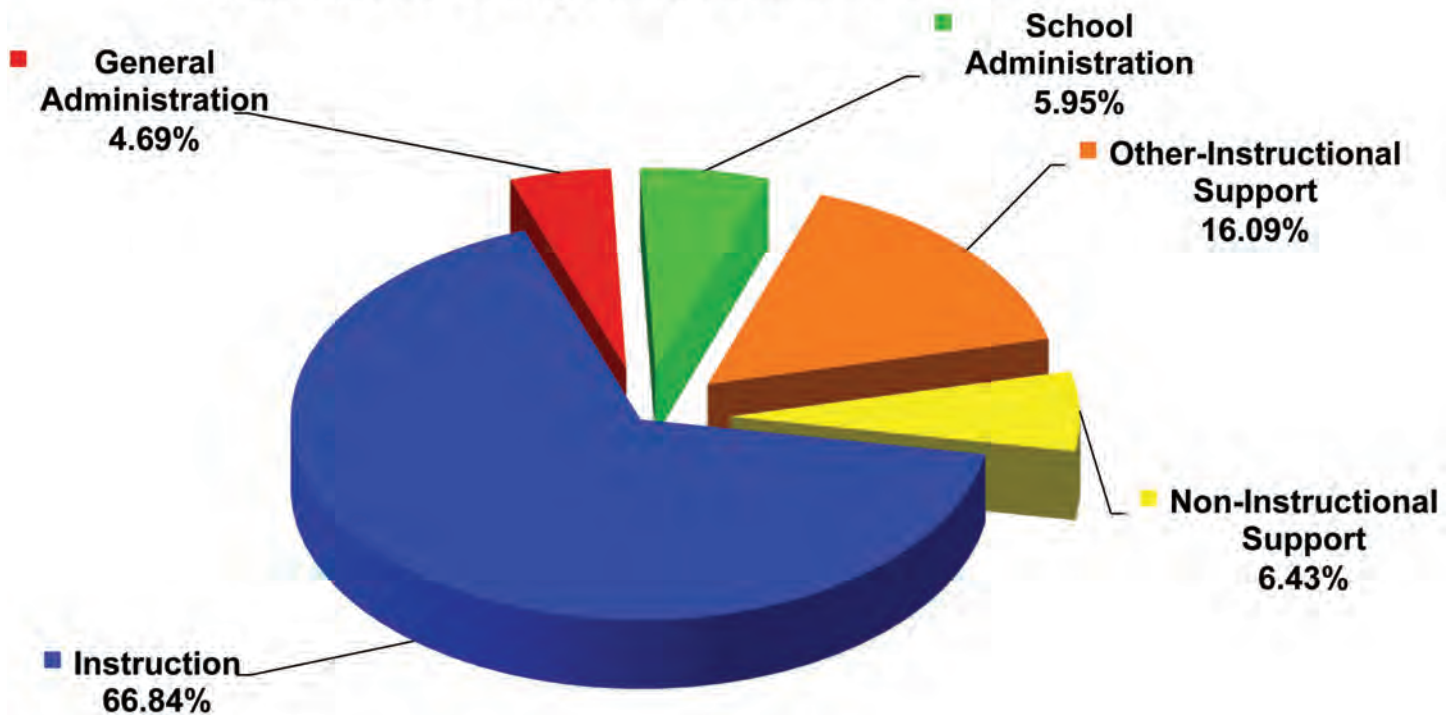
## Federal, State and Local Sources Revenue for Public Schools

(All Funds - Rev. Functions 1000, 3000 & 4000)



## Federal, State and Local Sources Expenditures for Public Schools

(All Funds - Exp. Functions 1000-3999)





[www.mde.k12.ms.us/MBE/R2016](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/MBE/R2016)

## District Financial Information

### ► **Expenditures for Public Schools by Functional Areas**

Report details public school expenditure amounts by functional area by school district. For each district, the report shows the percentage of each functional area to the total operational expense. The report also lists the percent ranking for each district for each functional area.

### ► **Expenditure Per Pupil Average Daily Attendance**

Report shows the average daily attendance for each district. The report also details the expenditure amount per pupil using all funds and expenditure functions 1000-3999. Instructional costs for each district per pupil are listed and include all funds and instructional expenditures. Additionally, the per pupil expenditure amount for transportation is listed by district. The report lists the ranking by district for each of the three per pupil categories. Statewide, the average per pupil expenditure is \$9,394.

### ► **Revenue by Source by District**

Report shows the amount of revenue each district received from local, state, federal and intermediate sources. By district, the report shows the percentage of each revenue source to the total revenue. The report also lists the percent ranking for each revenue source by districts. The total column shows the revenue received from all sources. The last column lists the ranking by district for the total revenue amount.

### ► **District Assessment and Tax Levies**

Report shows assessed value and homestead information for each district. The report details the breakdown of mills levied for specific purposes as well as the total millage. Districts that have assessed value in two different counties are listed twice to show the assessment and millage by county.

### ► **Career and Technical Education**

Career and Technical Education programs administered by the Office of Career and Technical Education and Workforce Development prepare all students for new jobs, roles, technologies, and responsibilities in order to develop a competent workforce to support and enhance Mississippi's economy. The delivery system is effective and responsive to changing needs of business and industry. This report shows agencies that received CTE federal and state funds and Mississippi Department of Employment Security Industry Employment Projections that reflect the expected future number of Mississippi workers to be employed in the labor market within a 10-year time period. The projections are compared with the total number of CTE programs taught in Mississippi during school year 2014-2015.

### ► **Safe and Orderly Schools**

The Safe and Orderly Schools School Safety Report includes counts on personnel trained and other accomplishments. The Transportation Report shows data for privately owned and publicly owned vehicles. The State Public School Building Fund Report contains information about capital improvements of schools in the state.





## District Student Information

### **Average Daily Attendance by District**

The Average Daily Attendance (ADA) information is reported from the Mississippi Student Information System for Months 1-9. ADA is the average number of pupils present each day school was in session during the period of the report. Statewide, the total ADA is 454,096.

### **Net Membership by Grade**

Net membership is the number of students belonging to a school unit at any given time. The membership is an ever-changing number and is found by adding the total number of student entries and total student re-entries, and subtracting the number of withdrawals. This report is for reporting period for month 01. Statewide, the total net membership is 490,225.

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## District Personnel Information

### **Instructional Personnel by District**

Data included in this section represents salary information reported by local school districts via the Mississippi

Student Information System. This includes employees of the school district who are professionally trained and licensed to provide instruction and services to students enrolled in the school district.

### **Classroom Teacher Count and Average Salary**

Report represents salary information reported by local school districts, via the Mississippi Student Information System, which includes the total number of teachers, average pupil daily attendance per teacher, and the average classroom/instructional personnel salary. There are 32,230 teachers statewide. The average teacher salary is \$43,308.



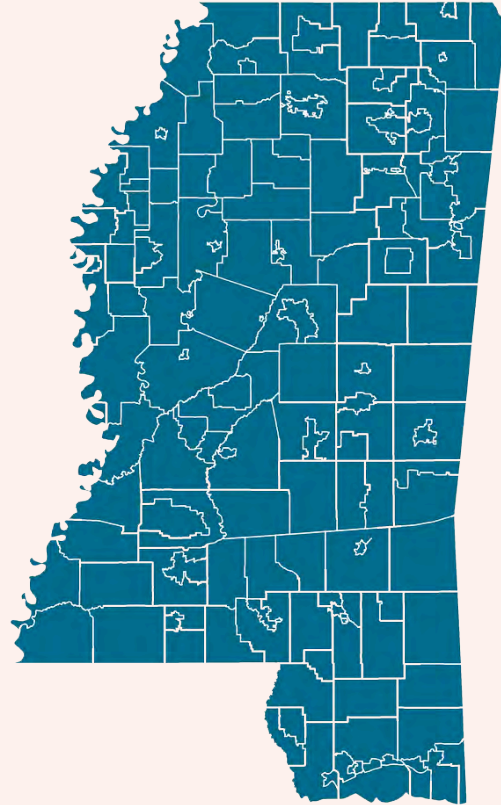
# District List 2014-2015

**Aberdeen School District**  
**Alcorn School District**  
**Amite County School District**  
**Amory School District**  
**Attala County School District**  
**Baldwyn Public School**  
**Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District**  
**Benton County School District**  
**Biloxi Public School District**  
**Booneville School District**  
**Brookhaven School District**  
**Calhoun County School District**  
**Canton Public School District**  
**Carroll County School District**  
**Chickasaw County School District**  
**Choctaw County School District**  
**Claiborne County School District**  
**Clarksdale Municipal School District**  
**Cleveland School District**  
**Clinton Public School District**  
**Coahoma Agricultural High School**  
**Coahoma County School District**  
**Coffeeville School District**  
**Columbia School District**  
**Columbus Municipal School District**  
**Copiah County School District**  
**Corinth School District**  
**Covington County School District**  
**Desoto County School District**  
**Durant Public School District**  
**East Jasper School District**  
**East Tallahatchie School District**  
**Enterprise School District**  
**Forest Municipal School District**  
**Forrest County AHS**

## Mississippi School Districts

View district directory at

[www.mde.k12.ms.us/mississippi-school-superintendents](http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/mississippi-school-superintendents)



**Forrest County Schools**  
**Franklin County School District**  
**George County School District**  
**Greene County School District**  
**Greenville Public School District**  
**Greenwood Public School District**  
**Grenada School District**  
**Gulfport School District**  
**Hancock County School District**  
**Harrison County School District**  
**Hattiesburg Public School District**

Hazlehurst City School District  
Hinds County School District  
Hollandale School District  
Holly Springs School District  
Holmes County School District  
Houston School District  
Humphreys County School District  
Itawamba County School District  
Jackson County School District  
Jackson Public School District  
Jefferson County School District  
Jefferson Davis County School  
Jones County School District  
Kemper County School District  
Kosciusko School District  
Lafayette County Schools  
Lamar County School District  
Lauderdale County Schools  
Laurel School District  
Lawrence County School District  
Leake County School District  
Lee County Schools  
Leflore County School District  
Leland School District  
Lincoln County School District  
Long Beach School District  
Louisville Municipal School District  
Lowndes County School District  
Lumberton Public School District  
Madison County School District  
Marion County School District  
Marshall County School District  
McComb School District  
Meridian Public School District  
Monroe County School District  
Montgomery County School District  
Moss Point School District

Natchez-Adams School District  
Neshoba County School District  
Nettleton School District  
New Albany School District  
Newton County Schools  
Newton Municipal School District  
North Bolivar Consolidated School District  
North Panola School District  
North Pike School District  
North Tippah School District  
Noxubee County School District  
Ocean Springs School District  
Okolona School District  
Oxford Public School District  
Pascagoula School District  
Pass Christian School District  
Pearl Public School District  
Pearl River County School District  
Perry County Schools  
Petal Public School District  
Philadelphia Public School District  
Picayune School District  
Pontotoc City Schools  
Pontotoc County Schools  
Poplarville School District  
Prentiss County School District  
Quitman School District  
Quitman County School District  
Rankin County School District  
Richton School District  
Scott County School District  
Senatobia Municipal School District  
Simpson County School District  
Smith County School District  
South Delta School District  
South Panola School District  
South Pike School District

**South Tippah School District**  
**Starkville-Oktibbeha School District**  
**Stone County School District**  
**Sunflower County Consolidated School District**  
**Tate County School District**  
**Tishomingo County Municipal School District**  
**Tunica County School District**  
**Tupelo Public School District**  
**Union County School District**  
**Union Public School District**  
**Vicksburg-Warren School District**  
**Walthall County School District**

**Water Valley School District**  
**Wayne County School District**  
**Webster County School District**  
**West Bolivar Consolidated School District**  
**West Jasper School District**  
**West Point Consolidated School District**  
**West Tallahatchie School District**  
**Western Line School District**  
**Wilkinson County School District**  
**Winona School District**  
**Yazoo City Municipal School District**  
**Yazoo County School District**





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