

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**August 17, 2017**

**OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION**

C. Accredited Nonpublic-Status for CARES School – Saucier

Background Information: On August 18, 2016, the Mississippi State Board of Education granted CARES School – Saucier temporary nonpublic accreditation status as a satellite school based on nonpublic school accreditation policy 2.3. CARES School – Saucier is seeking permanent nonpublic accreditation status as the temporary accreditation will expire at the end of this month.

Based on nonpublic school accreditation policy 2.3, an accredited nonpublic school will be assigned an accredited status when the school is in compliance with each of the applicable accreditation requirements and Nonpublic standards.

CARES School, Inc., in Jackson opened the CARES School in Saucier as an individualized educational, behavioral, and residential treatment program for students ages 6-18 who often display either emotional and/or behavioral difficulties in school and/or at home. Students at CARES of Saucier School are placed by local public school districts that do not have appropriate services for these students and may be placed by the Department of Human Services and/or parents. Students receive specialized programming addressing their academic needs, which is coordinated with the Mississippi College– and Career–Readiness Standards to prepare students to successfully return to their local schools.

CARES of Saucier School is staffed with a part-time principal, 2 full-time special education teachers, 2 teachers, 2 therapists, and 7 residential advisors. Currently, 16 students are enrolled. The school has collaborative agreements with Biloxi, Hancock County, Harrison County, Jackson County, Long Beach, Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, Pass Christian, Pearl River County, and Stone County School Districts.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None