

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**March 21, 2018**

**OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**

02 Action: Approve Districts of Innovation for 2018-2019 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. Section 37-179-1, et. Seq., the purpose of a District of Innovation shall be to better prepare students for success in life and work and may include at a minimum goals and performance targets for the following:

- Reducing achievement gaps among groups of public school students by expanding learning experiences for students who are identified as academically low-achieving
- Increasing pupil learning through the implementation of high, rigorous standards for pupil performance
- Increasing participation of all students or subgroups of students in various curriculum and instructional components designed to enhance student achievement
- Increasing the number of students who are college- and career- ready
- Reducing the number of students that exit high school in need of remediation
- Motivating students by expanding curriculum choices and learning opportunities for all students

Innovative Districts approved by the State Board of Education may request exemptions from existing regulations. Section 37-179-3 addresses areas which the State Board of Education could consider for exemptions. Districts may request a waiver exemption from the State Board of Education if the waiver is needed to support innovative practices **and does not** violate federal regulations.

Districts must meet the requirements of the current Mississippi Accountability Standards unless specifically described in the innovative plan and approved by the State Board of Education. Districts are not allowed to request a waiver from state and federal assessment requirements.

This item references Goal 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached