

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
August 19, 2021

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION
OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

02. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-24: *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2021*, specifically Process Standard 2.4 – Student Support Services, and Miss. Admin. Code 7-163: *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2021*, specifically Process Standard 2.4 – Student Support Services [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: The proposed revisions to Standard 2.4 are to ensure that students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 have access to student support services by a qualified individual who is licensed and trained on the specific services and activities being provided. Student support service personnel's job title shall reflect training, expertise, and licenses. Professional School Counselor shall provide student support services (academic, career, and social/emotional) to students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 through a comprehensive school counseling program 80% of their contractual time (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-79).

The Commission on School Accreditation (CSA) met during a regularly scheduled meeting on August 2, 2021 and voted unanimously to request the SBE to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2021*.

The proposed revisions to the *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2021* align the school counselors title with the proposed revisions to the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2021*.

This item references Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Proposed Revision to Process Standard 2.4

Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2021

2.4 ~~Student support services (appraisal, academic, and/or personal advisement, and educational and/or career planning and referral) are provided in each school by qualified student support personnel.~~ The Professional School Counselor shall provide student support services (academic, career, and social/emotional) through a comprehensive school counseling program to all students. The Professional School Counselor must spend a minimum of 80% of their contractual time in direct and indirect services. Other student support personnel may only provide those services and activities in the area(s) that each individual is specifically qualified, ~~trained, and certified~~ to provide. ~~and will use only job titles that reflect same.~~ All student support services personnel shall use an appropriate job title that reflects the area of training, expertise, and licenses. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-79

Proposed Revision to Process Standard 2.4

Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2021

2.4 Each school will design and implement student support services appropriate its particular situation and students. Student support personnel may include ~~guidance counselors~~ **Professional School** Counselors and/or other appropriately licensed student support staff, including nurses, social workers, psychometrists, psychologists, etc. Student support personnel may only provide those services and activities in the area(s) that each individual is specifically qualified to provide. Qualified personnel may be defined as those professionals who provide a specialty service to those students aside from the regular classroom teacher. These specialty services include but may not be limited to areas such as appraisal, academic, and/or personal advisement and educational and/or career planning, etc.

Proposed Revision to Process Standard 2.4

Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2021

2.4 The Professional School Counselor shall provide student support services (academic, career, and social/emotional) through a comprehensive school counseling program to all students. The Professional School Counselor must spend a minimum of 80% of their contractual time in direct and indirect services. Other student support personnel may only provide those services and activities in the area(s) that each individual is specifically qualified, trained, and certified to provide. All student support services personnel shall use an appropriate job title that reflects the area of training, expertise, and licenses. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-79

Proposed Revision to Process Standard 2.4

Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2021

2.4 Each school will design and implement student support services appropriate to its particular situation and students. Student support personnel may include Professional School Counselors and/or other appropriately licensed student support staff, including nurses, social workers, psychometrists, psychologists, etc. Student support personnel may only provide those services and activities in the area(s) that each individual is specifically qualified to provide. Qualified personnel may be defined as those professionals who provide a specialty service to those students aside from the regular classroom teacher. These specialty services include but may not be limited to areas such as appraisal, academic, and/or personal advisement and educational and/or career planning, etc.