OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
March 17, 2022

OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

02.   Action: Renewal of two Districts of Innovation for 2022-2023 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: Mississippi Admin. Code 7-3: 28-7, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.7, established the process and procedures for District and Schools of Innovation. Innovative programs are intended to better prepare students for success in life and work. Innovative programs focus on reducing achievement gaps by expanding learning experiences for students; increasing the number of students who are college- and career-ready; reducing the number of students that exit high school in need of remediation; and motivating students by expanding curriculum choices and learning opportunities for students. Districts and Schools of Innovation may be renewed every five years for an additional five-year period.

The Booneville School District and the Grenada School District received their original District of Innovation status in 2016. Both Districts of Innovation have requested renewal and completed their renewal application. Renewal applications have been reviewed by the District of Innovation Committee and both applications are recommended for continuation.

This item references Goal 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018-2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

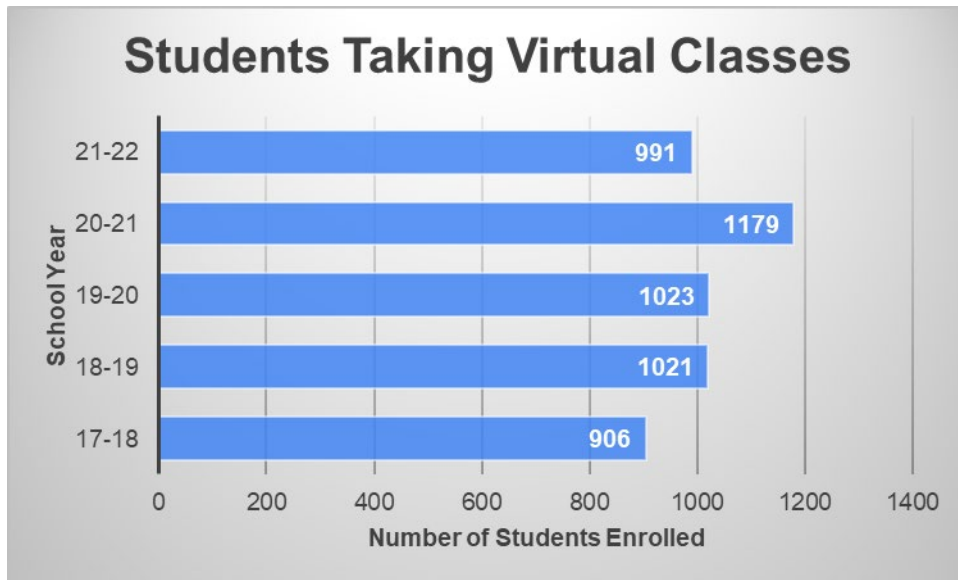# Backup Materials for District of Innovation Renewals

Booneville School District District of Innovation Renewal
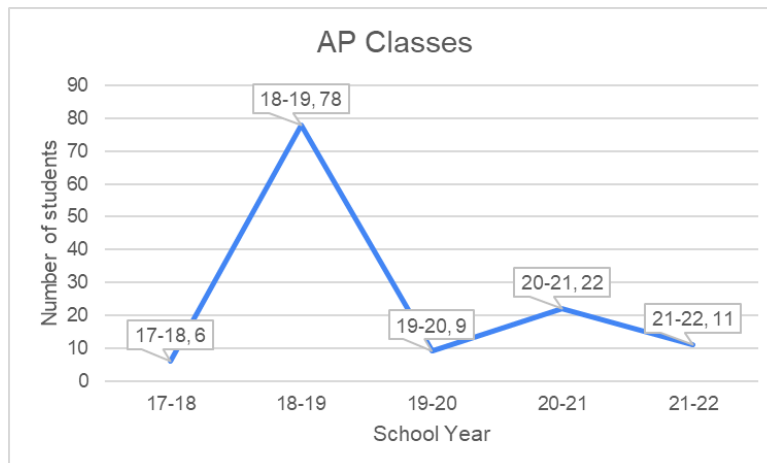### Goals from 2016 Application
- To expand academic course offerings through online courses not available on campus and ensure students are college ready.
- To provide online Advanced Placement (AP) courses as well as other academic courses online to students.

Data for Goals
The Booneville School District has averaged each year approximately 1,000 students from other school districts that have taken online courses.

The number of students taking AP courses virtually has varied throughout the years.

Throughout the years of the program, three CTE courses have been offered: Marketing, Cyber Foundations 2 and Advanced Technical Writing

Updates or changes to Goal

- (Continued Goal) To expand academic course offerings through online courses not available at other schools and districts and ensure students are college ready.
- (New Goal) To develop an option for Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses to be delivered in an engaging, meaningful, and online format to reach students who do not have access to such courses.
- (New goal) To incorporate the usage of VR/AR technology into current and future online courses provided by Booneville School District.
- (New goal) To create a virtual online high school that would allow students who are not enrolled in a current school district to enroll with the Booneville School District virtually.

Over the next five years, the district would like to extend the collaborative nature of the program by creating virtual reality courses based on the advanced manufacturing and furniture courses that can be offered to any student in the state. This will expose more students to high demand workforce sectors as well as increase the district's ability to expand technology integration in relation to career and technical courses. The district continues to expand industry partnerships and create pathways from the classroom to the workforce.

Requested waiver(s) from State or Local Policies, Requirements, or Restrictions	District Rationale for Waiver Request	Approval	MDE Rational for Waiver Approval or Disapproval
Accountability score for online students be separated from Booneville High School (BHS).	We would like to pilot an online virtual high school. Accountability grade would need to be separate so that BHS would not be punished and accurate data can be collected.	No	MDE cannot give waivers for the accountability model.
Allow special MOCA session to approve online CTE courses for Fall 2022-23.	This would allow the online CTE courses to begin in the Fall of 2022.	Yes	MDE has held several special MOCA sessions in the past.

Grenada School District District of Innovation Renewal

Having worked diligently to break down traditional barriers, our Walls to Windows innovative plan will continue to reduce achievement gaps, increase learning and participation in programs that inspire achievement and continue to develop college and career ready students. This plan will provide opportunities for all students with emphasis on first-generation college bound students as well as our underrepresented student population.

Original Goal 1 - Reducing achievement gaps

Grenada School District determined through surveys and data analyzation, that there was a need for pre-K services to address the reduction of achievement gaps. Grenada School District (GSD) established Learning Blocks, a pre-K program designed to contribute to the success of students entering kindergarten by enabling them to score at an early kindergarten level or above. At the end of pre-kindergarten, it is recommended that students obtain a scale score of 498 or above on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (MKAS) test.

In 2018-2019, the initial screening showed Grenada Early Learning Collaborative 4-year-old students scoring an average score of 447 in the fall and 672 in the spring. The target for pre-K is to score 498 or higher in the spring to gain 70% mastery of Early Literacy Skills. As you can see, Grenada Early Learning Collaborative exceeded the target by 174 points.

With the expansion of the pre-K program, we were able to increase our entering Kindergarten MKAS scores. Grenada School District is now performing above the state average for the fall and the spring, which should put our students on track to be proficient readers at the end of third grade.

GSD has also shown great strides in our pass rate on the third-grade English Language Arts (ELA) assessment. The achievement of our pre-K program contributes to our third-grade pass rate. We continue to have a pass rate above the state average.

By reducing the achievement gaps, GSD has increased ELA proficient and advanced numbers, improved rankings, and remains above the state average. This accomplishment ensures proficient readers and increases college and career readiness.

Updates or changes to Goal

- Over the past five years, our pre-K program has included afterschool care.
- Over the past five years, our pre-K program has included a summer program, allowing us to serve this population year-round.
- Increased number of classes served by Grenada Early Learning Collaborative.

Expected outcomes over the next five years:

- Increase the number of students performing above the state average on MKAS2 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment with a goal of an overall average of 745 scale score in the spring.
- Increase enrollment by adding one additional four-year-old Head Start class in the Grenada Early Learning Collaborative, serving approximately 20 additional students.
- 95% student pass rate on the Third Grade Reading Assessment.
- Increase ELA proficiency by 5% each year and remain above the state average.
- Partner with community daycare facilities to provide professional development support and collaboration with appropriate learning strategies.

Explain how the target population of your DOI/SOI has been impacted by this goal:

Our mission of innovation begins at a very young age, younger than most suspect. As a part of Grenada School District's innovation plan, we have had the opportunity to establish our pre-K program, Learning Blocks, to serve three- and four-year-old students.

Our Kindergarten MKAS scores were falling below the state average; therefore, we saw a need to expand our early childhood education program to broaden early literacy skills for Grenada students. Beginning in 2015, GSD's pre-K Learning Block program has grown by leaps and bounds and has shown positive impact for Grenada students both academically and socially.

Learning Blocks began serving three classes of four-year-old students, and over the past six years, we have increased to eight classrooms and expanded to serving both three- and four-year-old students at Grenada Elementary School! Our three-year-old classes are the only ones in the state. In the first year of our Learning Blocks program, we enrolled 60 four-year-old students. Now, we serve 56 three-year old students at Grenada Elementary School. Grenada Early Learning Collaborative serves 80 students at Grenada Elementary School and around 60-80 students at Grenada Head Start Center, therefore, impacting 140-160 four-year-old students annually.

We have invested in award-winning technology specifically designed for pre-K students. Our classrooms are developmentally appropriate and designed to encourage children to learn through hands-on experiences. All classes have certified teachers and degreed assistants with early childhood training.

In 2016, we received an Early Learning Collaborative grant. This grant opportunity has allowed us the funds to continue expansion to encompass Grenada Head Start Center. Our partnership with Head Start has produced valuable collaborations, including common lesson plans and assessment tools as well as weekly professional learning community (PLC) meetings. We follow the Mississippi Department of Education's Early Learning Guidelines and Standards. Our teachers receive over fifteen hours annually of professional development and work closely with coaches from MDE. We are continuing to grow Learning Blocks into a world-class program to prepare all students to succeed.

Original Goal 2- Increased learning and participation in programs that inspire achievement

Grenada School District has found great benefit from hands-on learning initiatives. A program that uses such innovations in real-world situations and problem-solving is the Project Lead the Way program. For the past five years, **Project Lead the Way** (PLTW) has been implemented in every school in the Grenada School District, offering students learning scenarios that employ technology skills and career exploration opportunities.

Data for each of the first four years

Grenada Elementary School Math Proficiency

	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	School	State	Rank	School	State	Rank	School	State	Rank
15-16	52	33	11	51	32	10	38	30	33
16-17	56	40	15	53	36	14	46	34	23
17-18	65	46	12	74	44	6	39	34	40
18-19	72	51	9	78	49	4	59	39	13
19-20	COVID			COVID			COVID		
20-21	68	35	3	58	33	12	52.5	34	11

Grenada Middle School Math Proficiency

	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	School	State	Rank	School	State	Rank	School	State	Rank
15-16	34	33	52	46	34	21	41	40	27
16-17	44	38	41	58	44	17	55	37	12
17-18	59	46	28	57	49	34	62	41	7
18-19	57	48	33	59	51	36	58	45	20
19-20	COVID			COVID			COVID		
20-21	43.7	35	30	50	42	34	50	34	18

Algebra I			
	School	**State**	**Rank**
5-16	51	26	28
16-17	42	31	42
17-18	56	47	35
18-19	69	49	20
19-20	COVID		
20-21	52	33	14

Science Proficiency

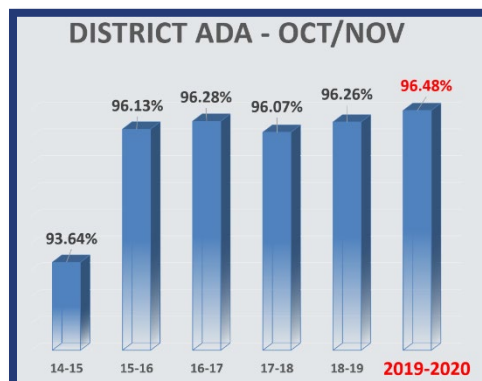|	Grade 5			Grade 8			Biology I		
	School	**State**	**Rank**	**School**	**State**	**Rank**	**School**	**State**	**Rank**
15-16	69	60	34	64	57	32	65	55	43
16-17	76	64	22	70	60	28	63	61	60
17-18	74	68	47	79	64	15	73	63	38
18-19	73	56	19	68	53	21	68	57	36
19-20	COVID			COVID			COVID		
20-21	80	54	6	63	48	22	63	43	16

By increasing learning and participation in programs that inspire achievement, GSD has remained above the state average in Math and Science proficiency numbers. PLTW courses have also helped raise average daily attendance (ADA) by increasing student interest in attending school.

Project Lead the Way Launch (Pre-K through 5th Grades)

	Total Enrollment	PLTW Launch
16-17	1907	
17-18	1914	
18-19	1872	PLTW Launch is integrated throughout our entire enrollment for pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.
19-20	1825	
20-21	1731	
21-22	1750	

Project Lead the Way (6th through 12th Grades)

	Total Classes	Total Enrollment	Specific Courses Offerings
16-17	5	2428	Initial Course Offerings • Launch • Science of Technology • Design & Modeling • Principles of Biomedical Science • Introduction to Engineering Design
17-18	9	2545	4 additional offerings • Middle Engineering: Automation & Robotics • Middle Engineering: Medical Detectives • Biomedical: Human Body Systems • Principles of Engineering
18-19	9	2501	
19-20	9	2473	
20-21	10	2323	1 additional offering added • Aerospace Engineering
21-22	11		1 additional offering • Computer Science Principles
22-23	12		1 additional offering planned for 2022-2023 • Cybersecurity

DISTRICT ADA - OCT/NOV

93.64% (14-15), 96.13% (15-16), 96.28% (16-17), 96.07% (17-18), 96.26% (18-19), 96.48% (2019-2020)

Updates or changes

- Added PLTW Aerospace Engineering and PLTW Computer Science Principals.
- Add PLTW Cybersecurity in 2022-2023 school year.

Expected Outcomes over the next five years

- Continued increase in student participation in PLTW by 5% each year.
- Continued increase in the number of students achieving proficient and advanced in Math and Science, moving the district at least 7 points to an A status.
- Sustain 11 PLTW course offerings and add 1 for a total of 12.
- Increase ADA to 96.5%.
- Continue training teachers in PLTW so there is no lapse in teacher certification.
- Completion of Balloon Quest.
- PLTW Engineering courses become dual credit courses through Mississippi State University.

Explanation of how the target population has been impacted by this goal

Grenada School District's Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program began in the 2016-17 school year, which was the district's first year of Innovation status. GSD implemented PLTW in an intentional plan developed to address identified student and community need. The project-based PLTW program ensured GSD students experienced engaging, career-focused, curriculum-rich experiences at each phase of the educational journey.

Grenada School District is the first and only district in Mississippi to implement Project Lead the Way (PLTW) in every school, allowing all students in the district an opportunity to not only to broaden learning, but to integrate more technology skills and allow career exploration opportunities in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.

PLTW programs created partnerships with business and industry that enhanced the real-world career experiences occurring in the classroom. Novipax, a subsidiary of the Global Atlas Corporation, supported the PLTW Engineering program with grants, provided field experiences for students and teachers at the manufacturing plant, and employees made regular visits to the classroom.

The PLTW Biomedical program was supported by an advisory board of experts from across the medical community to provide insight into careers in the medical field. A generous grant from Entergy expanded student access to explore, experiment, and solve problems in the elementary Discovery Lab. Impacting the next generation of global thinkers, Lockheed Martin funded the addition of PLTW Cybersecurity to the Computer Science pathway for Grenada High School (GHS) students. These partnerships reflect GSD's commitment to provide students with valuable transportable skills and to build critical career opportunities for students in the community, region, state, nation, and world.

Through PLTW programs, GSD shared best practices with the larger community of educators and leaders. Teachers from schools around the state have observed classrooms, learned from teachers, and toured GSD's Discovery Lab (featuring PLTW Launch), the Grenada Middle School's PLTW Gateway classrooms, as well as Grenada High School's PLTW Engineering Lab and PLTW Biomedical Lab.

Other outreach included:
- 2017 Community Career Open House
- Partners in Education
- 2017 Mississippi State University (MSU)
- MSU Bagley College of Engineering: College and Career Connections
- MSU President Keenum: PLTW Classroom Visits
- 2018 PLTW Program Showcase
- 2019 Launch Training Event for 4 districts: Vicksburg-Warren, Hinds County, Desoto County, Grenada County
- Partnership with Entergy
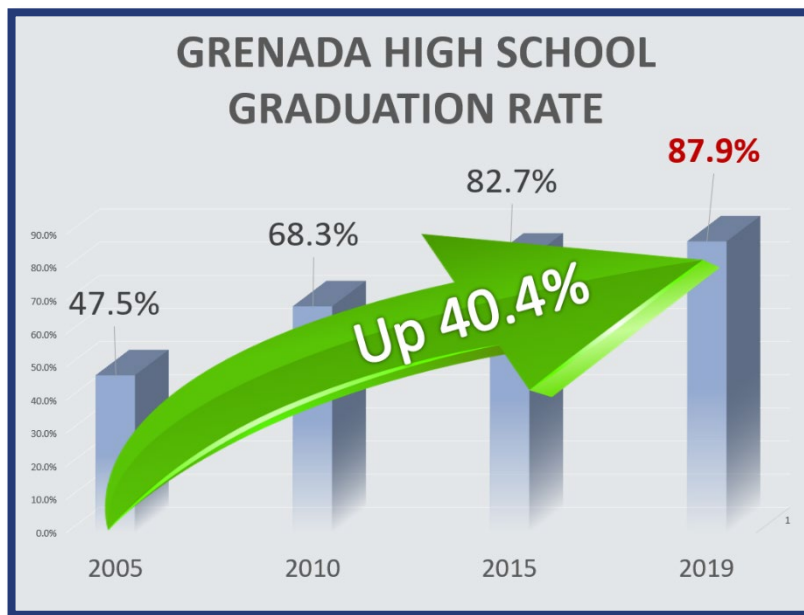- 2019 Regional Showcase

Over the last three years, Grenada Elementary School Grades 4-5 (GES 4-5) was awarded PLTW Launch Distinguished School status. In 2019-20, expansion of the program was made possible by a grant from Entergy that helped the school obtain materials for additional hands-on learning activities. However, GES 4-5 and Entergy didn't stop there.

Grenada Upper Elementary School (GUES) hosted a multi-district PLTW Launch Transformational Training event sponsored by Entergy. At this event, 24 teachers from Desoto County School District, Hinds County School District, Vicksburg-Warren County School District, and Grenada School District became PLTW Launch Classroom Teachers. This training event highlights the shared commitment of GES 4-5 and Entergy to prepare students for success in life and work and to lend a helping hand to educators across the state.

Preparing teachers to transform their classrooms really paid off! After completing the training, teachers went back to their home districts and schools to create dynamic learning experiences for students. This collaborative undertaking had far reaching benefits as South Park Elementary in the Vicksburg-Warren School District and Gary Road Elementary in the Hinds County School District also earned the PLTW Launch Distinguished School award.

Original Goal 3 – Developing College and Career ready students
Pathways to Possibilities exposes students to multiple career possibilities through career interest assessments, visiting community businesses or industry, contact with professionals or experts, and by directly learning about careers in specifically designed classes.

GRENADA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

Up 40.4%

47.5% (2005), 68.3% (2010), 82.7% (2015), **87.9%** (2019)

Data for each of the first four years

High School College and Career Readiness Courses

	ACT Prep	Dual Credit		Career & Technical	
	Enrollment	# of Courses	Enrollment	# of National Certifications	Enrollment
2016-2017	36	5	187	16	240
2017-2018	34	8	215	38	208
2018-2019	86	10	238	34	223
2019-2020	186	14	263	COVID	357
2020-2021	162	11	238	49	346

Accountability Results

	Grenada Elementary School		Grenada Middle School		Grenada High School		Grenada School District	
	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level
2015-2016	355	C	347	C	668	B	568	C
2016-2017	386	B	422	B	661	B	621	B
2017-2018	436	B	425	B	688	B	648	B
2018-2019	476	A	430	B	696	B	660	B
2019-2020	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid
2020-2021	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid	Covid

Updates or changes

- The Counseling Department is more readily available to students and provides extensive services to students on an individual level.
- Realizing that an Early College would only reach a certain demographic, GSD changed focus to establishing a Middle College. The GHS Middle College will place an emphasis on providing resources and support systems for students who would be first-generation college students as well as underrepresented students.
- After a comprehensive evaluation of ACT Aspire, the district chose to continue with CASE assessments to better align with state benchmarks to improve MAAP assessments as well

as expand programs for ACT prep, including paying for all 10th graders to take the ACT, ACT workshops and prep courses.

Expected Outcomes over the next five years

- Expansion of the Middle College
- Increase in Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment by 5% each year
- Continued increase in Career and Technical national certifications and enrollment by 5% each year
- Graduation rate increase of 1% annually for an overall goal of 93%
- Accountability Result: 8 points for GSD to be an A, 7 points Grenada Middle School (GMS) to be an A
- Increase the Acceleration component on accountability model 1% annually for an overall goal of 39 points
- Internships with Milwaukee Tools for students in Welding and Carpentry
- ACT overall composite score to increase by 5% each year

Explanation of how the target population has been impacted by this goal.

GSD has increased career exploration by all students, PreK – 12, through community business and industry visits, professional and expert contacts, and specific classes and/or units of study designed to gain knowledge of college and careers.

Waiver Requests

Requested waiver(s) from State or Local Policies, Requirements, or Restrictions	Rationale for Waiver Request	Approval	MDE Rational for Waiver Approval or Disapproval
13.1 Waiver from seat time	Due to non-traditional scheduling of the middle college students at the high school level, exemption from the 330 minutes of instructional per day would allow students flexibility to attend both high school and college classes during the academic day.	Yes for Middle College students only	Students at Middle College need additional flexibility to handle transportation and the differing schedule at Holmes Community College. Data will be collected annually to assess the success of the program.

27 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch and Gateway curriculum will be blended with the Mississippi Science Curriculum in grades 5 and 6.	The Mississippi Core Curriculum for Science blended with PLTW will increase rigor and improve performance on state tests.	Yes	PLTW may be used to fully implement the MS Science College and Career Readiness Standards Data will be collected annually to assess the success of the program.