

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**May 26, 2022**

**OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION**

M. Approval of Accredited Nonpublic-Status for Innova Preparatory School

Background Information: Based on Policy 1.3 of the *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2021*, initial accreditation of a nonpublic school requires any newly applying school to be fully operational and to substantiate compliance with all accreditation requirements of the State Board of Education. Sufficient data necessary to substantiate compliance with all accreditation standards must be available at the time of the initial accreditation audit. Each nonpublic school voluntarily seeking initial accreditation must have conducted a program of educational services for a period of at least one (1) calendar year prior to the date of proposed State Board of Education accreditation.

Innova Preparatory School, a special purpose school located in Hattiesburg, MS, began operation in February 2021. The school serves students in the Pinebelt Area that have a dyslexia, language disorder, ADHD, autistic, or some other learning disability diagnosis. The mission of the school is to provide a safe, nurturing, co-educational learning environment where students with concurrent talents, gifts and learning differences receive the social, emotional, and behavioral support they need to thrive in and beyond the classroom. Innova Preparatory School is dedicated to meeting students where they are and helping them get to where they need to be.

Innova Preparatory School is staffed with a full-time principal, a certified School Counselor, a Psychomotrist, 11 certified teachers (two of which are currently seeking certification in Dyslexia Therapy, and 4 assistant teachers. The school currently enrolls 59 students in grades Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Recommendation: Approval

Backup material: None