

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**September 29, 2022**

**MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

- D. Approval of Dropout Prevention Plan for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

**Executive Summary**

The Office of Academic Education is requesting approval of the 2022-2023 Dropout Prevention Plan for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

# Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan



2022 - 2023



**Dr. Jeremy Stinson, Superintendent**

On behalf of the Mississippi Schools for The Deaf and the Blind, I hereby submit a local Dropout Prevention Plan to provide goals, activities and services necessary to meet the three overarching goals of the state dropout prevention plan: 1) Increase the state graduation rate; 2) Reduce the state dropout rate; and 3) Reduce the truancy rate.

I hereby certify that our school district will evaluate our district dropout prevention plan on an annual basis to determine appropriate changes needed for future school years.

I hereby certify that our District School Board has reviewed and approved this plan for submission to the Mississippi Department of Education.

**Dropout Prevention Team Leader:**

Name: Dr. Antonio Magee Title: School Administrator

Mailing Address: 1253 Eastover Drive, Jackson, Mississippi, 39211

Telephone #: 601-984-8009 Fax #: 601-984-8020

**District Superintendent:** Dr. Jeremy Stinson

  
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(Signature)

**School Board Chair:** Mrs. Rosemary G. Aultman

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(Signature)

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan

**SECTION I**

Needs Assessment Outcomes

### **Needs Assessment Outcomes**

Assessments and surveys were utilized to collect data on predictive indicators that contribute to the dropout rate and to identify the subgroup(s) that exhibit these dropout variables. An analysis of the district's Mississippi Student Information System (MSIS) provides reports on students' absences (students who had 5 or 12 or more absences). The student information system early warning system report, annual family survey, discipline referrals, and the district's demographic information were used to indicate an array of reasons why students drop out of school or fail to graduate from high school. Some of the factors that contribute to students' potential to drop out are attendance, low academic skills, family problems and multiple grade failures in elementary school.

***Objective 1:*** Provide school-level teacher training on selection and use of appropriate interventions of the MTSS.

***Objective 2:*** Provide support through school counseling services to students identified through the Early Warning System (EWS).

***Objective 3:*** Train instructional leadership using best practices for instruction, intervention, and data analysis to guide instruction.

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan

**SECTION II**

District Level Plan

District Team Members	Position
Dr. Jeremy Stinson	Superintendent
Dr. Antonio Magee	Transition Director /Dropout Prevention Contact
LaQuandra Jones	Director of Special Education
Eddie Spann	MSB Principal
Teresa Thomas	MSB Counselor
Paula McClain	MSD Principal
Pam Jones	MSD Counselor
Dr. Angela Givhan	Special Services Assessment Coordinator
Crystal Newsome	Special Services Coordinator
Tyler Griffin	Special Services Coordinator

**DISTRICT GOAL 1:** *Reduce the number of students in grades K-2 at risk of failing during the 2022-2023 school year by 10% by January 2023.*

Action	Responsible	Implementation Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Person(s) Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What tasks will be done to meet the goal?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons that will aid in tasks</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Review of Early Warning Systems Course Performance to identify students at –risk of failing and provide tutorial through pullouts and/or refer to MTSS.	Instructional strategist	October 2022	EWS training in SAMS for administrators and counselors	Teachers, counselors, parents. students	
Review of behavior and attendance in EWS to identify students at-risk. Identify students chronically absent during 2022-2023 school year. Begin daily check in and check out for students.	Counselors	September 2022	NA	MSIS clerk, counselor, students, parents	
Provide individual academic success, behavior, or attendance plans for students and/or refer to MTSS. Meet weekly with students to review plans and provide guidance or develop plans for improvement.	Instructional strategist/ counselors	November 2022	Individual academic success plan template, attendance plan template, behavior plan templates	Student, counselor, teacher, parent, Instructional Strategist	
Provide additional training on the MTSS process for school level teams and staff.	Instructional strategist	October 2022	Updated MTSS guidance, intervention software, list of behavior interventions, BIPS	Counselors, students, teachers, principals, Instructional Strategist	
<b>Plan to Progress Monitor</b>					
<i>Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal</i>	<i>Adjustments to Potential Barriers What could get in the way of task completion? How will you overcome them?</i>			<i>Frequency</i>	
Review progress reports, report cards, MTSS portfolio, and/or academic success forms monthly to assess academic improvement.	Consistency in reporting, internal audit			Monthly	
Check-in logs and attendance and/or behavior records.	n/a			weekly	
Needs assessment, mid-year, and end of year MTSS program evaluation.	n/a			3x per year	



**DISTRICT GOAL 2:** *Increase the graduation rate of exceptional education students at risk of meeting graduation requirements by 10% by May 2025.*

Action	Responsible	Implementation Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Person(s) Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What tasks will be done to meet the goal?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons that will aid in tasks</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Develop small career focus groups in middle school based on individual success plans.	Counselors, teachers	January 2023	Activities for focus groups, career portfolios	Counselors, teachers, students, parents, transition coordinator	
Assign academic advisors to high school students obtaining the traditional diploma option to provide academic support and guidance.	Teachers	December 2022	Training for advisors Session conversation starters	Counselors, teachers, students, librarian, transition coordinator	
Implement career coach groups in the 9 <sup>th</sup> grade based on the transition plans and IEP	High School counselors, transition coordinator	January 2023	Speakers, current career research	Counselors, teachers, students, parents, transition coordinator	
<b>Plan to Progress Monitor</b>					
<i>Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal</i>	<i>Adjustments to Potential Barriers What could get in the way of task completion? How will you overcome them?</i>			<i>Frequency</i>	
Pre and post career inventory assessment, IEP	Assess to students while in a virtual setting; contact students by phone and email			2x per year	
Detailed progress reports	Check in/Sign in sheets/logs			Weekly	
Needs assessments, surveys, IEP	Results from surveys			3x per year	

**DISTRICT GOAL 3:** *Develop partnerships with a minimum of two community agencies annually to provide education services and/or workforce training for students ages 17-21.*

Action	Responsible	Timeline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Person(s) Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What tasks will be done to meet the goal?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons that will aid in tasks</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Identify agencies and service providers who will assist students in academic and career development.	Transition coordinator counselors, CCR teacher	December 2022	Contacts for agencies, identify students,	Agency, counselor, students, parent	
Assist students enrollment process and monitor attendance and completion	Counselors, principal	February 2023	Program application, contact information	Student, counselor, parents	
<b>Plan to Progress Monitor</b>					
<i>Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal</i>	<i>Adjustments to Potential Barriers</i> <i>What could get in the way of task completion? How will you overcome them?</i>			<i>Frequency</i>	
Call logs, emails, meeting agendas, minutes, sign-in sheets of meeting with agencies	Consistency of participation from agencies; flexible scheduling			2x per year	
Call logs, emails, individual meeting documentation, check- in signatures	Locating and contacting students			Bi-weekly	

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan

**SECTION III**

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Action Plans

Schools

Mississippi School for the Blind (Grades 6-12)

Mississippi School for the Deaf (Grades 6-12)

**Mississippi School for the Blind  
Early Warning System Action Plan**



School Team Members	Position
Eddie Spann	Principal
Teresa Thomas	Counselor
Krystyn Newton	MSIS Coordinator
Cybil Richmond	Teacher

List of Data Analyzed
Early Warning System (SAMS)- Attendance, Behavior, Academic
Teacher/Office Referrals

**ATTENDANCE SMART GOAL**

**Increase student average daily attendance by 10% by December 2022.**

Action Steps	Responsible	Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Persons Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Develop an attendance procedure that will create better checks and balances on monitoring period-by-period attendance against the morning absentee list, which will be completed and delivered to teachers by 9:00 a.m. each morning.	Principal	September 2022	NA	Principal Teachers MSIS Clerk Counselors	
Parents or guardians will be contacted each day a student is absent and will document on district/school call log.	Secretary	September 2022	NA	Principal MSIS Clerk Secretary Parent	
Students that have missed three (5) or more unexcused days during any 9-week period will check in with counselors on a daily basis.	Secretary, counselors	October 2022	NA	Principal MSIS Clerk Secretary Counselors Student	
Attendance plans will be developed for students with 10 or more absentees.	Administrator	October 2022	NA	Principal Counselors Student	
Progress Monitoring					
Date	Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal		Potential Adjustments		
December 2022	Agenda Sign- In Sheets		n/a		

December 2022	Reviewing term course grades all subjects	n/a
On-going	Teacher Observations Administrative meeting minutes	n/a

**BEHAVIOR SMART GOAL**

**Decrease the number of student discipline referrals by 10% by May 2023.**

<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Resources/Professional Development Needed</b>	<b>Persons Involved</b>	<b>Date Achieved</b>
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.?</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Implementation of individual and/or group counseling sessions on positive behaviors for students with three (3) or more referrals.	Counselors, administrator	January 2023		Principals Teacher Students Counselors	
Training faculty and staff on district/ school-wide expectations, minor and major referrals, and reinforcement system. Training teachers on implementing PBIS activities/ lessons in lesson plans.	Counselors, administrator  Leadership team	January 2023		Teachers  Staff  Administration  PBIS Team	
Refer students with multiple referrals to District Behavior Specialist and Counselor for services.	Counselors	September 2022		Administration	
<b>Progress Monitoring</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal</b>			<b>Potential Adjustments</b>	

On- Going/ Bi-weekly time frame	Discipline data from SAM Spectra	Timeframe may adjust from bi-weekly to weekly depending upon status of discipline percentage
January 2023	Reviewing number of referrals that have been submitted on a biweekly basis	Implementing incentives for teachers to prevent early burnout.
December 2022	Reviewing discipline data in SAM Spectra	n/a

**COURSE PERFORMANCE SMART GOAL**

**Decrease the number of students who are at risk of failing by 10% by January 2023.**

<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Resources/Professional Development Needed</b>	<b>Persons Involved</b>	<b>Date Achieved</b>
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.?</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed.</i>
Implement student data review into weekly Professional Learning Community meetings.	Principal	Bi- weekly	Professional development on analyzing data to meet goals	Administrators, teachers	
Implement a Tier I Academic Support Plan for all students at-risk of failing.	Teachers	monthly	Form	Teachers, administrators	
Utilize Early Warning System to identify students at-risk of failing to discuss in PLCs.	Counselors, administrator	September 2022	NA	Counselors, teachers, administrators	
Counseling provided to students who are failing at the end of each 4.5 week grading period.	Counselors	October 2022	NA	Counselors, students, teachers	

**Progress Monitoring**

Date	Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal	Potential Adjustments
On- going/ Bi-weekly time frame	Teacher data sheets.	Timeframe may adjust from bi-weekly to monthly as it decreases.
October 2022/ each grading period (4.5 weeks)	Academic Support Plan forms completed with strategies utilized in Tier I	na
Monthly	EWS list	n/a
Bi-weekly	Counselor logs	Time frame may need to be adjusted based on the severity of students' academic issues.

**Mississippi School for the Deaf  
Early Warning System Action Plan**





School Team Members	Position
Paula McClain	Principal
Pam Jones	Counselor
Arness Georgetown	Dean of Students
Krystyn Newton	MSIS Coordinator

**ATTENDANCE SMART GOAL**

**Decrease the number of students who are chronically absent by 10% in the 2022-2023 school year.**

Action Steps	Responsible	Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Persons Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.??</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Daily parental contact of students who are not in attendance compliance.	Teacher, MSIS clerk, parent liaison, counselor, administrators	October 2022	Call log	Parents, students, teachers, administrator, counselors	
Identify students who were chronically absent during the previous school term.	Teacher, counselor, administrator	August 2022	N/A	Parent liaison, parent, student, administrator, LSC	

Create a plan to address tardiness	Administrator	September 2021	N/A	Student, parent, administrator	
Progress Monitoring					
Date	Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal			Potential Adjustments	
weekly	Call log/ average daily attendance; weekly meeting			Inadequate phone numbers	
On-going	Meeting			Inadequate addresses, frequent moving	
On-going	Plan, meeting agendas, sign-in sheets			No barriers	
weekly	Call log/ average daily attendance; weekly meeting			Inadequate phone numbers	

**BEHAVIOR SMART GOAL**

**Decrease the number of discipline referrals by 10% by May 2023.**

Action Steps	Responsible	Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Persons Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.??</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Modify school-wide expectations on being behavior and PBIS incentive	Counselor, administrator	Jan 2022	Professional development, reward system for PBIS, social-emotional training	Professional development, reward system for PBIS, social-emotional training	
Identify students who had the greatest number of referrals	Teachers, administrator, counselor	On-going	Data from MSIS	Data from MSIS	

Counselor chat room for students enhancing college and career readiness and future employment	Counselors, administrator, teachers	On-going	Professional development for teachers on social emotional warning signs book study	Professional development for teachers on social-emotional warning signs book study	
Progress Monitoring					
Date	Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal		Potential Adjustments		
May 2023	Correspondence from REACH MS, meeting agendas, observations		None		
On-going	Teachers and principal observations		None		
On-going	Observations and referrals		Traditional setting		

**COURSE PERFORMANCE SMART GOAL**

**Decrease the number of students who were at risk of failing by 10% by January 2023.**

Action Steps	Responsible	Deadline	Resources/Professional Development Needed	Persons Involved	Date Achieved
<i>What task will be done? How will progress be monitored? How will you measure outcomes?</i>	<i>Who will do it?</i>	<i>By when?</i>	<i>What do you need to complete this step? (People, money, tools, resources, etc.)</i>	<i>Persons involved in completing the task and ensuring the task is completed.??</i>	<i>Date implemented or completed</i>
Teachers meet weekly in grade level and/or subject area teams to discuss best practices for low-performing students and differentiated instruction	Administrator, teachers	Weekly	Work samples, lesson plans, call logs,	Students, administrators, teachers, parents	

Identify student who were at-risk prior to Covid-19	Administrator, teachers	September 2022	Counselor failure list	Parent, student, teacher, counselors, and administrators	
Place student in MTSS	Teachers, counselor	October 2022	Counselors, MTSS Team, administrator	Students, counselors, and administrators	

Progress Monitoring

Date	Evidence to Determine Progress Toward Achieving Goal	Potential Adjustments
Weekly	Observations, meeting minutes, weekly grades	N/A
Quarterly	Documentation of PLC, report card, observations, data	N/A
Quarterly	Academic performance and behaviors, MTSS meeting agendas, minutes, work samples	N/A