

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
March 9, 2023

OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

01. Action: Renew one *District of Innovation* for 2023-2024 [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.

District of Innovation: A District of Innovation is a district that has developed a plan of innovation in compliance with this policy and has been approved by the State Board of Education to be exempted from certain administrative regulations and statutory provisions.

Districts and Schools of Innovation may be renewed every five years for an additional five-year period.

Hinds County School District received their original District of Innovation status in 2017. They have requested renewal and completed their renewal application. The renewal application has been reviewed by the District of Innovation Committee and is recommended for continuation.

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

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Back-up Materials for District of Innovation Renewals

Hinds County School District

Hinds County School District received status of District of Innovation in 2018 proposing to implement wall-to-wall Career Academies, expand Project Lead the Way gateway classes in elementary and middle school and expand access to Dual Credit opportunities (including Career and Technical Education) for all students. The approved District of Innovation Plan for the Hinds County School District included 11 goals:

Data for Goals

T=Target, A=Actual

	GOALS	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
1	Attendance Rate	T-95% A-93.6%	T-95% A-95.8%	T-95% *A-93.1%	T-97% *A-90.2%	T-97% A-TBD
2	ACT Average	T-16.0 A-16.5	T-17.0 *A-16.6	T-18.0 *A-16.0	T-18.0 *A-17.0	T-18.5 A-TBD
3	Graduation Rate	T-85.5% A-86.6%	T-87.5% A-91.0%	T-89.5% A-93.1%	T-90.5% A-TBD	T-91.5% A-TBD
4	CTE Enrollment (Grades 9-12)	T-201 A-261	T-263 A-335	T-394 A-488	T-669 A-819	T-1,204 A-TBD
5	CTE Pathways Offered	T-6 A-6	T-6 A-7	T-6 A-8	T-6 A-10	T-6 A-11
6	Industry Recognized Credentials Earned	T-6 A-7	T-7 *A-0	T-7 A-22	T-7 A-10	T-7 A-TBD
7	CTE Completion	T-72% A-73%	T-74% A-76%	T-76% *A-74%	T-78% *A-72%	T-80% A-TBD
8	ACT WorkKeys - Silver or Above (CTE Completers)	T-16% **A-NA	T-32% *A-0%	T-48% A-50%	T-64% A-69%	T-80% A-TBD
9	CTE Dual Credit	T-189 A-156	T-207 *A-201	T-227 *A-208	T-249 *A-216	T-275 A-TBD
10	Student Enrollment (High School)	T-1,900 A-1,765	T-1,920 A-1,768	T-1,940 A-1,740	T-1,960 A-1,716	T-1,980 A-TBD
11	Work-Based Learning	T-10 A-17	T-15 A-16	T-20 A-21	T-50 *A-32	T-75 A-TBD

**=Results impacted by Covid 19*

***ACT WorkKeys testing did not begin until the 2020-2021 School Year.*

The Hinds County School District 2023 District of Innovation renewal application promises to continue to strengthen the career academy model and show the benefits of the model on academic achievement by including proficiency targets for Algebra I, Biology I, English II, and US History. National data illustrates that students who participate in wall-to-wall career academies perform better on academic assessments due to the blending of academics across the career academy model. The addition of these goals will allow the district to measure the impact career academies have on academic proficiency.

Another continued aspect of Hinds' District of Innovation is the focus on Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum. Currently, Gary Road Elementary has been named a PLTW Launch Distinguished School. Elementaries within the district will continue to participate in the PLTW Launch curriculum and middle schools in the PLTW Gateway curriculum.

Implementation of a national elementary and middle model of career academies is a new initiative for Hinds County School District. Elementary and Middle models are created around the same ten National (NSOP) standards used in the High school model but are focused on the needs for elementary and middle school students. For example, middle school standard *NSOP1a, Defined Mission and Goals* describes student aspirations as:

The academy seeks to raise, maintain, and increase the level of students' motivation while in middle school by providing a focus in a program of studies that reflects their own talents, aspirations, and interests.

Also, middle school standard NSOP7d, *Teaching and Learning*, describes:

Advanced academic credit and career exploration options for high school credit are available for middle school academy students. Students are engaged in one or more self-awareness and career exploration experiences integrated in the middle school academy.

In the elementary pre-academy model, the focus is on rigorous curriculum in ELA, mathematics, science, social studies, and career education. Students completing a pre-academy model are on track to matriculate into the intensive middle school model.

The targets for the 2022-2028 District of Innovation goals are listed in the chart below.

	GOALS	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
1	Attendance Rate	95.5%	96.0%	96.5%	97.0%	97.5%
2	ACT Average	19.0	19.5	20.0	20.5	21.0
3	Graduation Rate	93.2%	93.4%	93.6%	93.8%	94.0%
4	CTE Enrollment (Grades 9-12)	1,300	1,350	1,400	1,450	1,500
5	CTE Pathways Offered	11	12	13	14	15
6	Industry Recognized Credentials Earned	100	125	150	175	200
7	CTE Completion	81%	82%	83%	84%	85%
8	ACT WorkKeys - Silver or Above (CTE Completers)	71%	73%	75%	77%	79%
9	CTE Dual Credit	300	325	350	375	400
10	Student Enrollment (High School)	1,800	1,825	1,850	1,875	1,900
11	Work-Based Learning	100	125	150	175	200
12	Algebra I Proficiency	73%	73.5%	74%	74.5%	75%
13	Biology I Proficiency	52%	54%	56%	58%	60%
14	English II Proficiency	42%	44%	46%	48%	50%
15	US History Proficiency	76%	77%	78%	79%	80%

Waiver Requests

Requested Waiver(s) from State or Local Policies, Requirements, or Restrictions	District Rational for Request	Approval	MDE Rational for Waiver Approval or Disapproval
<p>Standard 2.2 With the exception of academic core subjects, the professional staff in each school is comprised of no more than 5% of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) units working outside the area or areas of endorsement. Assistant principals and administrative interns who are not properly endorsed may be included in the 5% FTE working outside their area of endorsement, provided that they do not act in the place of the principal. An appropriate license is required for superintendents, principals, librarians, and guidance counselors.</p>	<p>The Hinds County School District is asking permission to hire professionals from the business community to teach in our career academies. This would include individuals with associate degrees to teach under Expert Citizen Licenses in career and technical education (CTE) classes as well as individuals with bachelor's degrees with experience in the workplace to teach core academic subjects.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The district can use the Expert Citizen License for these individuals.</p>

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<p>Standard 28.5 The total number of students taught by an individual teacher in academic core subjects at any time during the school year shall not exceed 150. A teacher who provides instruction through intra-district or inter-district distance learning or supervises students taking virtual courses will be exempt from the 150-student limitation. A lab facilitator or principal designee will be responsible for the assignment of grades and related activities at</p>	<p>Because of students' enrollment in blended classes, virtual classes, night classes, weekend classes, and internships, we request that teachers have the flexibility to oversee more than 150 students if necessary.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>MDE approves this waiver to allow the district flexibility in their daily schedule to provide innovative planning and instruction.</p> <p>Data will be collected annually to assess the success of the program.</p>

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the receiving school. (Schools Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)			
Standard 13.1 The teaching day must provide at least 330 minutes of instruction per day.	Students will not need to be in school 330 minutes a day unless necessary because of blended and virtual classes and internships. Therefore, we request a waiver of this requirement for some of our students.	No	A waiver for standard 13.1 is impermissible according to Miss. Code Ann. §37-179-1(2)(i) which states that district and all schools participating in a district's innovation plan shall provide overall instructional time <u>that is equivalent to or greater than</u> that required under Sections 37-1-11 and 37-13-67, but which may include on-site instruction, distance learning, online courses, and work-based learning on nontraditional school days or hours.
Standard 13.2 The school district must ensure that during the academic school year a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each one-half (½) unit offered, except for remedial instructional programs, dual enrollment/dual credit, correspondence	Students will not need to be in some secondary classes for 140 or 70 hours due to blended and virtual classes and internships. Therefore, we are requesting a waiver of this requirement for some of our courses and students.	Yes	MDE approves this waiver to allow the district flexibility in their daily schedule to provide innovative instruction. Data will be collected annually to assess the success of the program.

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courses, MS Virtual Public-School courses, and innovative programs authorized by the State Board of Education.			
MS Code 37-15-38 Waiver of the requirement that students earn 10 Carnegie Units before enrolling in dual enrollment/dual credit program	We are asking that students be allowed to begin college coursework before receiving 10 Carnegie Units so that they can begin career pathways in ninth grade and possibly earn an associate degree in addition to a high school diploma.	No	MDE does not have the authority to override IHL policy.
Community College Policy Three absences in a college course per semester	College students are only allowed three absences in a college course per semester. Because of the age of our students and their responsibilities as a child living with parents, we request that they be allowed up to five absences per semester.	No	MDE does not have the authority to override policies established by community college board.
Standard 13 The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction. Any request for an exception to this standard must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action. If the Governor has declared a disaster emergency or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster to	Waiver of 180 instructional days - Mini semesters, flexible entry dates, night classes, and weekend classes For our students to get the maximum credit for CTE, dual credit, and internships, we need to create mini semester (taught over Christmas Break or other holidays), flexible entry dates into classes, night classes, and weekend classes to meet the needs of business and industry partners. We request a waiver from every student being in class 180 days in order to achieve this flexibility.	No	This waiver does not meet the rationale provided by the school district. Additionally, Miss. Code Ann. §37-179-4(d) that states that notwithstanding any statutes to the contrary, the board may approve the requests of districts of innovation to extend the school days as is appropriate within the district with compensation for the

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<p>exist in this state, the local school board may request approval from the State Board of Education to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred eighty (180) days. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-151- 7(3)(c), Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-49, §§ 37-13-61 through 69, § 37-151-5(j), and § 37-151-7(3)(c).</p>			<p>employees as determined locally; (e) establish alternative education programs and services that are delivered in nontraditional hours and which may be jointly provided in cooperation with another school district or consortia of districts (g) use a flexible school calendar.</p>
<p>Standard 13 The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction. Any request for an exception to this standard must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action. If the Governor has declared a disaster emergency or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, the local school board may request approval from the State Board of Education to operate the schools in its district</p>	<p>Funding by Average Daily Membership instead of Average Daily Attendance</p> <p>Because of blended classes, virtual classes, and internships, many of our students may not be in school on days or even semesters. We would prefer to receive our funding based on Average Daily Membership instead of Average Daily Attendance.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>MDE cannot change funding authority as defined by the MS Legislature for school reimbursement. Additionally, this waiver does not meet the rationale provided by the school district.</p>

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<p>Standard 2 All district professional positions requiring licensed staff are filled by staff that are properly licensed and endorsed as required by state law and federal requirements of the <i>Elementary and Secondary Education Act</i> (ESEA). Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-7 7, Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 80.1 and 80.2. State Board Policy Chapter 80, Rules 80.1 and 80.2, and ESEA, and Federal Code.</p>	<p>Elementary teachers teaching high school classes.</p> <p>Because our career academies will be project- based with much hands-on learning, we need instructors with excellent skills managing collaborative learning and learning centers. Our elementary teachers are experts at this. Therefore, we would like to allow elementary teachers to teach at the high school level for three years, and at the end of the three-year period, those teachers will have obtained certification in the subject area he/she is teaching.</p>	No	<p>This waiver is denied because current State Board of Education policy offers a temporary license that can be requested by the LEA for a fully certified teacher teaching out of field. One criterion for the issuance of the one-year temporary license is for the candidate to show progress towards gaining full state certification. In addition, supplemental endorsements for all core subject areas taught at the secondary level may be added by taking and obtaining the required passing score on the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment.</p>

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			<p>Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Licensure Commission) on January 6, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcorn State University • Belhaven University • Delta State University • Mississippi College • Mississippi State University • University of Mississippi • University of Southern Mississippi • William Carey University
<p>Mississippi State Workforce Investment Board and Accelerate Mississippi Expanded Approved National Certification Credentials</p>	<p>As part of each career academy, students will achieve many stackable credentials. Often, these credentials are valued by business and industry in Hinds County, but not recognized statewide. We would like the ability to submit these credentials to the State Workforce Investment Board and Accelerate Mississippi to have them reviewed for approval so that our district can access grant funds and Accountability Model points associated with industry certifications.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Comprehensive Career and Technical Education Reform Act states that the State Workforce Investment Board, through the Office of Workforce Development, shall create, in consultation with the Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi Community College</p>

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			Board, the Mississippi State University Research and Curriculum Unit and other appropriate business and industry stakeholders, a single list of nationally recognized industry certifications for use in the Mississippi statewide accountability system, in diploma endorsement requirements and for reimbursement under Section 37-153-15.