

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**January 17, 2019**

**OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND READING**

- B. Approval of methodology to award competitive grants to school districts to support kindergarten through 3rd grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention during Summer Reading Camps

Background and Purpose:

In an effort to improve literacy outcomes for K-3 students across Mississippi, the Mississippi Legislature passed the *Literacy-Based Promotion Act* (LBPA) so that every student completes third grade reading at or above grade level. The purpose of the K-3 Literacy Support Grants is to support the implementation of the Literacy-Based Promotion Act and improve literacy outcomes for students in grades K-3 through summer learning opportunities such as Summer Reading Camps.

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from school districts. Only two (2) applications per school district will be considered.

Funding Source: State funds

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Competitive

Grant amounts will not exceed \$50,000 per school or \$100,000 per district. Funds will be awarded based on the following methodology:

Districts selected to receive a grant through a competitive RFP process must:

- Develop and submit Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) School Literacy Plan, which must include a detailed narrative about the K-3 literacy program, performance goals, explicit data components, and instructional practices based on the five components of reading;
- Use curriculum and intervention supported by evidence-based research;
- Collect pre and post data to determine student progress;
- Meet annual performance goals and outcomes to be eligible for continued funding; and,
- Participate in required MDE webinars.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None