




MEMORANDUM

To: School District Superintendents

From: Ken Stamps, Staff Officer III
Office of Accreditation 

Date: February 8, 2017

Subject: **2017 Parent of the Year Program**

The State Board of Education strongly promotes the active involvement of parents in their children's education in all Mississippi public schools. It is undeniable that regardless of socioeconomic status, parent involvement and support has a powerful affect on the success of our schools, the improvement of student performance, and largely, the extent of positive support that schools receive from the community. The critical importance and positive impact of parent involvement upon our schools was acknowledged with the enactment of Miss. Code Ann. §37-3-73. This law authorized the State Board of Education to establish an awards program to publicly recognize each year the dedication and commitment of parents who have partnered with their local schools to help ensure the success of their school improvement efforts.

The *Parent of the Year Program* invites each district to select an outstanding parent who has made a significant commitment to their local school through their dedication to students and their generous gifts of time and other resources. The District's candidate for *Mississippi Parent of the Year* should be submitted to the Office of Accreditation using the enclosed application form. Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of parents, teachers, and school administrators. A finalist will be selected from each Congressional District, and from these finalist, the *2017 Mississippi Parent of the Year* will be named.

Thank you for promoting parent involvement in your district that results in substantial benefits for everyone. We appreciate your efforts to acknowledge these parents and the important role they play in the success of our schools. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact me at (601) 359-3764 or kstamps@mdek12.org. Please note that the application deadline is March 31, 2017.

Enclosure

c: Paula A. Vanderford, Ph.D.



**MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION**

**2017 Mississippi Parent of the Year
Program Application**

Ensuring a bright future for every child

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

MARCH 31, 2017 5:00 p.m.

Parent of the Year Nomination
Office of Accreditation
Mississippi Department of Education
P. O. Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205

(attach picture)

(please type)

Nominee's Name

School District

County

Congressional District (1, 2, 3, or 4)

Telephone

Email Address

Employment

Children's names, ages, occupations (if students, list name of school and grade level)

If married, spouse's name and occupation

Superintendent's signature _____

(Required)

Date _____

Nominee's School Improvement Efforts (Maximum length: two (2) double-spaced pages)

Describe the school improvement efforts of the *Parent of the Year* nominee in his/her school district. Include awards and other special recognitions received. Describe involvement in service-oriented activities, including categories of involvement (such as homeroom activities, Parent Teacher Organizations, district work, community work, financial involvement, athletics, etc.). Be specific in describing projects, awards and recognitions. Make sure all titles of awards, projects and programs are explained. Include dates of involvement, current and previous.

Letters of Support (*Limit of three letters*)

Include three (3) letters of support from among any of the following: superintendent, principal, colleague, PTA/PTO president, student or civic leader. Please attach to application.

Please note:

- Submit one (1) original and four (4) copies of the completed application form and the three (3) letters of support.
- Provide all information requested in the application form. Do not change or add to the application.
- When describing projects, awards and other recognitions, be sure to describe in detail and make sure all titles of programs and awards are explained.
- Limit your answers to two (2) double-spaced pages as requested. In order to provide all applicants with an equal opportunity, only the number of pages requested will be accepted. Material beyond the first two (2) pages, will not be presented to the Selection Committee.
- The original application must include one (1) photograph for publicity purposes. Attach one (1) picture to the original application. Please **do not include a picture on the four (4) copies** of the application. If selected *Parent of the Year*, additional pictures may be requested.
- The application package must be received by **5:00 p.m.** on **March 31, 2017**.

2017 Parent of the Year Timeline

- February 7, 2017** Applications are provided to school district superintendents.
- March 31, 2017** Nominations must be received in the Office of Accreditation by 5:00 p.m.
- April 2017** The Selection Committee will meet and select the *2017 Parent of the Year*.
- June 15, 2017** *2017 Parent of the Year* will be recognized by the State Board of Education