# OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items Consent Agenda March 7, 2024

### MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Q. <u>Approval to modify district calendar for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind due to weather-related events</u>

Due to the inclement winter weather and road conditions on January 16-17, 2024, the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (MSDB) are requesting approval to reduce the number of instructional days by two (i.e., from 180 to 178) due to the Governor's state of emergency in accordance with the provisions listed in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63. Further, MSDB is requesting that administrative leave be approved for all staff and teachers in accordance with State Board Policy 99.2.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

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| Aug 1-4                                   | Professional Development Days  |
|---|--|
| Aug 7                                     | First Day of School for Students   |
| Sept 4                                    | Labor Day Holiday  |
| Sep 6                                     | Progress Reports   |
| Oct 6                                     | Report Cards   |
| Oct 9-10                                  | Fall Break   |
| Nov 8                                     | Progress Reports   |
| Nov 20-24                                 | Thanksgiving Holiday   |
| Dec 25-Jan                                | 5 Winter Break   |
| Jan 8                                     | Professional Development Day   |
| Jan 10                                    | Report Cards   |
| Jan 15                                    | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday  |
| Feb 7                                     | Progress Reports   |
| Feb 19                                    | Presidents' Day Holiday  |
| Mar 11-15                                 | Spring Break   |
| Mar 20                                    | Report Cards   |
| March 29-Ap                               | oril 1 Easter Break  |
| April 17                                  | Progress Reports   |
| May 13                                    | Professional Development Day   |
| May 17                                    | Graduation   |
| May 22                                    | Report Cards   |
| May 23                                    | Last Day of School   |
| May 24                                    | Professional Development Day   |
| May 27                                    | Memorial Day   |
| *Note: Sch                                | ool was closed on August 21st due to power                                 |
| and internet                              | outages. The make-up day will be   |
| President's [                             | Day on February 19, 2024.  |
| *Note: Due                                | to the ice storm and road conditions on                                    |
| January 16-1                              | 17, 2024, the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf                             |
| and the Blind                             | d (MSDB) is requesting approval to reduce the                              |
| number of in                              | structional days by two (i.e., from 180 to 178)                            |
| due to the Go                             | overnor's state of emergency. This request is in                           |
| accordance                                | with the provisions listed in the district's State                         |
| Board of Ed                               | ducation-approved 2023-2024 Operations                                     |
| Manual, sta                               | te statutes §37-13-63 and §37-13-64, and                                   |
| State Board                               | d of Education Policy 99.2.  |
|   | lule   |
| Staff Sched                               |  |
|   | First Day for Nurse Supervisor & Counselors                                |
| <b>Staff Sched</b><br>July 25<br>August 1 | First Day for Nurse Supervisor & Counselors<br>First Day for 9 Month Staff |

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

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| 7<br>14<br>21<br>28<br>S<br>5<br>12<br>19            | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>M<br>6<br>13<br>20       | T 2 9 16 23 30 M: T 7 14 21 28 | W 3 10 17 24 w 1 8 15 22 29                                  | T 4 11 18 25 24 T 2 9 16 23 30                      | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>F<br>3<br>10<br>17<br>24                             | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>S<br>4<br>11<br>18<br>25                            |
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| 7<br>14<br>21<br>28<br>S<br>5<br>12<br>19<br>26      | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>M<br>6<br>13<br>20<br>27 | T 2 9 16 23 30                 | W 3 10 17 24 W 1 8 15 22 29 W 5                              | T 4 11 18 25 24 T 2 9 16 23 30 24 T 6               | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>F<br>3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31                       | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>S<br>4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>S<br>1<br>8             |
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| 7<br>14<br>21<br>28<br>S<br>5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>S | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>M<br>6<br>13<br>20<br>27 | T 2 9 16 23 30                 | W 3 10 17 24 W 1 8 15 22 29 W 5 12                           | T 4 11 18 25 24 T 2 9 16 23 30 24 T 6 13            | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>F<br>3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31                       | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>S<br>4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>S<br>1<br>8<br>15       |

Semester 1 Instructional Days - 91
Semester 2 Intructional Days - 89
Total Instructional Days - 180
Semester 1 Teacher Days - 95
Semester 2 Teacher Days - 92
Total Teacher Days - 187

Semester 1 Professional Development Days - 4
Semester 2 Professional Development Days - 3
Total Professional Development Days - 7





Professional Development (no school for students)
First and Last days of school



Progress Reports/Report Cards



# Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind



Superintendent of Education • Jeremy E. Stinson, Ph.D. Principal, Mississippi School for the Deaf• Tara C. Brister, Ed.D. Principal, Mississippi School for the Blind • Eddie L. Spann, Ed.S.

#### Justification - Administrative Leave for MSDB Employees

Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind was closed due to winter weather on January 16-17, 2024, after Governor Tate Reeves declared a state of emergency on January 14, 2024. The closure was due to icy road conditions in the Metro area after the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 15th. The roads in the Metro area were passable for staff on January 18-19, 2024, but many of the roads on which buses travel were not, so MSDB students participated in virtual learning while the staff worked in-person both days. In addition, most of the MSB dorms and the Lifeshare House were flooded due to bursted sprinkler heads, and the City of Jackson was beginning to have low water pressure incidents, which solidified our decision for students to finish the week virtually.

Due to the ice storm and road conditions on January 16-17, 2024, the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (MSDB) is requesting approval to reduce the number of instructional days by two (i.e., from 180 to 178) due to the Governor's state of emergency. This request is in accordance with the provisions listed in the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63 and State Board Policy 99.2.

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

# Office of the Governor



#### **PROCLAMATION**

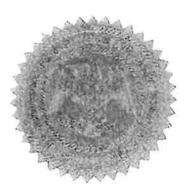
WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi will be impacted by extreme freezing temperatures and severe winter weather, including snow and freezing rain beginning Sunday, January 14, 2024, and continuing throughout the week, and thus state assistance may be necessary to support statewide local governments' response and recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, the extreme freezing temperatures and severe winter weather pose a threat to the life and safety of the residents of the impacted areas of the state, as well as their property; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the health and safety of the residents and the protection of their property within the affected areas, and in the public interest, all steps should be taken to protect people and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Recves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Mississippi Constitution and Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(b)(17), and in the public interest and for the general welfare, do hereby proclaim a State of Emergency to exist in the areas of the State of Mississippi affected by, or areas that may be affected by, these extreme freezing temperatures and severe winter weather. The provisions of this proclamation shall exist and remain in effect until such time as this threat to public safety shall cease to exist as prescribed by Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(b)(17).

FURTHER, all agencies of the State of Mississippi shall discharge their emergency responsibilities as deemed necessary as set forth in the State of Mississippi's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-eighth.

TATE REEVES GOVERNOR



Go to previous versions of this Section

1

# 2020 Mississippi Code Title 37 - Education Chapter 13 - Curriculum; School Year and Attendance School Year and Attendance § 37-13-63. Minimum length of school term

Universal Citation: MS Code § 37-13-63 (2020)

- 1. Except as otherwise provided, all public schools in the state shall be kept in session for at least one hundred eighty (180) days in each scholastic year.
- 2. If the school board of any school district shall determine that it is not economically feasible or practicable to operate any school within the district for the full one hundred eighty (180) days required for a scholastic year as contemplated due to an enemy attack, a man-made, technological or natural disaster or extreme weather emergency in which the Governor has declared a disaster or state of emergency under the laws of this state or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, the school board may notify the State Department of Education of the disaster or weather emergency and submit a plan for altering the school term. If the State Board of Education finds the disaster or extreme weather emergency to be the cause of the school not operating for the contemplated school term and that such school was in a school district covered by the Governor's or President's disaster or state of emergency declaration, it may permit that school board to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred eighty (180)

days; however, in no instance of a declared disaster or state of emergency under the provisions of this subsection shall a school board receive payment from the State Department of Education for per pupil expenditure for pupils in average daily attendance in excess of ten (10) days.

**Disclaimer:** These codes may not be the most recent version. Mississippi may have more current or accurate information. We make no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained on this site or the information linked to on the state site. Please check official sources.

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#### Part 3 Chapter 99: State Schools

Rule 99.2 School Calendar Approval and Modification

The State Board of Education shall approve the academic calendars for state schools.

In order to facilitate response to natural disasters or other emergencies, adjustments to SBE-approved calendars may be made with the approval of the State Superintendent of Education or his/her designee, with subsequent ratification by the State Board of Education at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 37-1-3 (Adopted 8/2020)