

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
April 15, 2021

OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

02. Action: Approval of Districts and Schools of Innovation for 2021-2022 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

02.B. Action: Approval of district of innovation status for the Corinth School District [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

The Office of Secondary Education is requesting approval to renew Corinth School District as a district of innovation. *Innovate Personalized Educate: Moving to a Higher Degree of Learning* will continue the work from the past five years as a result of the *Forward First* plan. Teacher turnover rate in the district has dropped to 9.7% over the four years of innovation. A five-year trend of ACT scores shows Corinth students outperforming the state average. The number of students earning dual credit has increased from 86 to 220 over the life of the innovation.

This item references Goal 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018-2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**District of Innovation
Corinth School District
Renewal for 2021-2022**

As the Corinth School District moves forward over the next five years implementing *Innovate Personalize Educate: Moving to A Higher Degree of Learning* the District proposes to continue with all of the programming described and implemented as a result of the *Forward First* plan approved by the Mississippi State Board of Education in designating the Corinth School District as a District of Innovation. Listed below is a summary of those programs and activities:

- Internationally Benchmarked Curriculum
 - Cambridge Primary
 - Cambridge Secondary
 - Cambridge Advanced
- Modified School Calendar Quarter System
 - Targeted Remediation Intersessions
 - College Credit Intersessions
 - Technical Courses/Workplace Internships
- Differentiated Diplomas Expanded
 - Dual Credit/Enrollment Options
 - Credit by Demonstrated Mastery
- Career Academy with Industry Experts
 - College and Career Access Specialist
 - Corinthian Pillars Learning Projects
 - Experiential Learning
- Important Cultural Shifts and Support for Teaching and Learning
 - Blended-Learning for Literacy Instructional Block- K – 3rd grade
 - Yellow Dog Hotspots
 - Recruiting and Retaining Teachers
 - Building Staff Capacity
 - Differentiated Teacher Compensation

The District has successfully implemented these programs and activities resulting in students and teachers demonstrating academic success. It is the District’s belief that we can build on these successes and create further opportunities for our students, staff and community.

Process Standard	Requested Waiver	Rationale for Waiver Request
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	Many of the Cambridge International Exam courses need teachers that are rich in content knowledge. These individuals often can deliver the content and manage the classroom without a license.

Process Standard	Requested Waiver	Rationale for Waiver Request
	<p>who are not properly endorsed may be included in the 5% FTE working outside their area of endorsement, provided they do not act in the place of the principal. An appropriate license is required for superintendents, principals, librarians, and guidance counselors.</p>	<p>Experiential and project-based learning classes will be taught by business, community, and industry leaders who do not hold educational licenses and have expert knowledge often not available in the pool of applicants with MS teacher licensure.</p>
<p>Standard 2.3</p>	<p>The school district employs in each school a licensed librarian or media specialist who devotes no more than 1/4 of the workday to library/media administrative duties.</p>	<p>The role of the library/media center is changing in middle/high schools. This position would be better suited with someone with varied technology skills than library science. Since most librarians today are certified via the alternate route the individuals employed should be able to perform the library tasks.</p>
<p>Standard 13.1</p>	<p>The teaching day must provide at least 330 minutes of instruction per day. (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-67)</p>	<p>Experiential and project-based learning will be included in many of the courses that are credit bearing at Corinth Middle and High School. These types of learning will require students to be involved in activities outside of school that could take the place of a regularly scheduled class. Therefore, the teaching day might not always include 330 minutes of instruction at all schools and for all students.</p>
<p>Standard 13</p>	<p>Provides guidance on academic year, day, seat-time, and programming.</p>	<p>These waivers are needed to reorganize the academic year and day at the secondary level to provide enhanced learning experiences.</p>
<p>Standard 13.4</p>	<p>The school district must ensure that during the academic school year a</p>	<p>Credit by Mastery, competency Based, and Experiential</p>

Process Standard	Requested Waiver	Rationale for Waiver Request
	<p>minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each one-half (1/2) unit offered except for remedial instruction, dual enrollment/dual credit, correspondence courses, MS Virtual Public School courses, and innovative programs authorized by the MDE.</p>	<p>Learning are not based on seat time but mastery or completion of a task or a project. These are all components of this project and credit will be awarded for courses without meeting these requirements.</p>
Standard 13.5	<p>The summer school/extended year program meets all applicable requirements of the regular school program. (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-49)</p>	<p>The District will no longer offer summer school/extended using the traditional model by most schools. We request the three-week intersessions be used for meeting these purposes.</p>
Standard 14.1	<p>Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A.</p>	<p>A Differentiated Diploma system is being proposed as a part of the innovative model. These models do not rely solely on Carnegie unit measures. A student must meet the minimum state requirements for a high school diploma. The district may differentiate diplomas as outlined in the Endorsement Options and may consider additional local requirements beyond the state minimum.</p>
Standard 14.2	<p>Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit exams.</p>	<p>Corinth students will take both the state assessment and the Cambridge Exams in order to meet federal requirements. Cambridge exams may count as exit exams.</p>
Standard 17.8	<p>The school district is in compliance with state and/or federal requirements for the following programs: Gifted Education</p>	<p>The school proposes to offer gifted education enrichment opportunities to the entire student population in Grades 2-8 through the use of Joseph</p>

Process Standard	Requested Waiver	Rationale for Waiver Request
		<p>Renzulli's Schoolwide Enrichment Model. All children will benefit from enrichment instead of just the intellectually gifted. All students will have access to high quality instruction that offers enrichment opportunities.</p>
<p>Standard 26</p>	<p>The curriculum of each high school at a minimum consists of required and approved courses that generate at least 33 ½ Carnegie units annually. Any request for an exemption from teaching the courses listed in Appendix B must be submitted in writing to the CSA.</p>	<p>Corinth will still offer more than 33 ½ credits they will look different in title from the 33 ½ in the MS approved list. MDE will approve the course that Corinth uses as substitutes for MS courses.</p>
<p>Miss. Code Ann. § 37-19-7</p>	<p>Scale of teachers' salaries; experience increases; salary supplement for certain school employees.</p>	<p>The Corinth School district may use their local funds to establish a performance-based pay system as long as guidelines are approved by the Corinth School board with an established consistent policy for awarding performance pay.</p>