

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
March 19, 2020

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

03. Action: Approval to suspend the administration of all statewide assessments required by state and federal law for the 2019 – 2020 school year and to submit a waiver request to the United States Department of Education (ED) under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: Annual state and federal assessments are required in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-16-1 through 4 and 37-16-9, and §§ 37-177-1 through 21 and 20 USC § 6311(b) (§ 1111 (b) of the ESEA).

President Donald Trump declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak. On March 14, 2020, Governor Tate Reeves issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency for Mississippi. Included in his Proclamation, Governor Reeves directed that pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(c), the provisions of state statutes, rules, regulation or order may be temporarily suspended or modified if compliance with such provisions would prevent, hinder, or delay action to cope with the outbreak.

Due to the unique circumstances arising as a result of COVID-19, such as statewide school closures that have occurred during multiple testing windows, it is not feasible for the MDE to administer any of the required state or federal assessments for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

State and federal assessments included in this recommendation include:

- Pre-K and Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (post-test)
- Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) and MAAP-Alternate (MAAP-A) English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science - Grades 3-8 and High School End-of-Course
- U.S. History
- Statewide sponsored administration of the ACT for 11th graders
- English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)
- Career Planning and Assessment System (CPAS)

This item references Goals 1 and 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018-2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None