

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**December 19, 2024**

**MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

- D. Approval to adopt policies required by state statute for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to be placed on the District Policy Service website established by the Mississippi School Boards Association

Background Information: To adopt policies required by state statute for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind's web page maintained on the Mississippi School Boards Association.

1. Section: IHE – Promotion and Retention

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached



**District:** Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
**Section:** I – Institutional Program  
**Policy Code:** IHE – Promotion and Retention

## **PROMOTION AND RETENTION**

The Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind promotion and retention policy allows students to progress through grades based on their mastery of the Mississippi College and Career Readiness standards, applicable to those pursuing a Traditional Diploma. Promotion or retention will be based on the following criteria:

- Students must demonstrate mastery of the required course content, defined as achieving at least sixty percent (60%) proficiency across all learning activities and subjects as per the MSDB grading policy.
- The required content for each grade incorporates the objectives from the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards and specialized curricula designed for the school's unique student population.
- Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities must meet the standards of a modified curriculum, individually developed by an IEP (Individualized Education Program) committee, according to their transition plan.

Promotion decisions will consider, in part, the teacher's recommendation, the student's performance in each subject or course, attendance, scores on relevant Mississippi state assessments, and requirements of the Mississippi Literacy-Based Promotion Act.

Minimum requirements for promotion:

Grade K	Should pass 70% of the district objectives in language arts and math.
Grade 1-2	Must pass 70% of the district objectives in language arts and math and exhibit an adequate level of reading proficiency as measured on a standardized instrument.
Grade 3	Must pass language arts and math with a 60 or above and exhibit an adequate level of reading proficiency as measured on the state approved reading assessment. If a student passes the state approved reading assessment but does not pass language arts or math with a 60 or above, the student is retained. <i>Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, if a student's <b>reading deficiency</b> is not remedied by the end of the student's Third-Grade year, as demonstrated by the student scoring above the lowest two (2) achievement levels in reading on the state annual accountability assessment or on an approved alternative standardized assessment for Third Grade, the student shall not be promoted to Fourth Grade (MS Code 37-177-9).</i>



- Grade 4-6      Must pass language arts, science, math and social studies with a grade of 60 or above.
- Grade 7-8      Must pass language, math, science and social studies with a grade of 60 or above.

Promotion to grades 9-12 is based on the accumulation of Carnegie units in accordance with the following schedule:

9th	0
10th	7
11th	14
12th	20

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS**

The State Department of Education shall establish goals for the performance of children with disabilities that will promote the purpose of IDEA and are consistent, to the maximum extent appropriate, with other goals and standards for children established by the State Department of Education. Performance indicators used to assess progress toward achieving those goals that, at a minimum, address the performance of children with disabilities on assessments, drop-out rates, and graduation rates shall be developed. Every two (2) years, the progress toward meeting the established performance goals shall be reported to the public. '37-23-133 and ' 37-23-1 (1999)

For information on the awarding of a special diploma or an occupational diploma, please refer to MS Code ' 37-16-11.

#### NOTES:

1. According to a 1998 Attorney General Opinion, automatic fail provision of an absences policy may not apply against legal, excused absences. Such absences policies may not be applied against absences resulting from disciplinary suspensions if absences policies are applied to truant children who are otherwise passing, the district must afford the child procedural due process. (Attorney General Opinion, Carter, 1-9-98) (#183) (97-0817)
2. Please refer to the current edition of Mississippi Public School Accountability standards for information on Performance Standards and Graduation Requirements.
3. The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard for this policy is standard 21.

LEGAL REF.: MS CODE as cited  
*Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*