

**OFFICE OF CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**April 17, 2025**

**OFFICE OF CHIEF OPERATIONS**

04. Action: Approval of the MDE Contracts [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kym Wiggins)
- 04.A. Action: Contract with Studer Education to provide comprehensive strategic planning and performance scorecard for the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) (Lance Evans)
- 04.B. Action: Contract with Gay, Jones, and Kuhn, PLLC to provide supplementary legal counsel and policy and guidelines support to the Office of Special Education relative to the enforcement of and compliance with Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Jennifer Boykin)
- 04.C. Action: Renew contract with selected vendors for Fiscal Year 2026 for the Mississippi Recipes for Success Coordinator(s) MRS [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 04.D. Action: Renew contract with Research and Curriculum Unit, Mississippi State University for Fiscal Year 2026 for the operation of the Mississippi Career and Planning and Assessment System, Third Edition (MS-CPAS3) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Pla] (John Ferrell)
- 04.E. Action: Approve employment agreement for Dr. Washington Cole, IV to continue to serve as the Interim Superintendent for the Noxubee County School District [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Ferrell)
- 04.F. Action: Approve employment agreement for Dr. Jennifer Wilson to continue to serve as Interim Superintendent for the Holmes County Consolidated School District [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Ferrell)
- 04.G. Action: Approve employment agreement for Dr. Earl Watkins to serve as Interim Superintendent for the Yazoo City Municipal School District [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Ferrell)
- 04.H. Action: Approve employment agreement for Dr. Stanley K. Ellis to serve as Interim Superintendent for the Humphreys County School District [Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Ferrell)

These items reference Goals 1, 2, 4, and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached