

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
November 20, 2025

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

- C. 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. Policy AC – School District Organization Plan
2. Policy AE – School Year (Academic Year)
3. Policy AEA – School Calendar
4. Policy AEAA – Vacations
5. Policy AEAB – Holidays

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached.



Section: A – School District Organization

Policy Code: AC

Policy: School District Organization Plan

SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PLAN

This school board shall organize a school so as to avoid unnecessary duplication and shall determine what grades shall be taught at each school and shall have the power to specify attendance areas and to designate the school each pupil shall attend. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-311.

NOTE: District should include current practice as part of this plan.

This school district shall maintain a uniform system of free public schools consisting of grades one through twelve, which may be divided between grammar schools, junior high schools and high schools or any combination thereof, on such basis and in such grades as the board of trustees of the school district involved, in its discretion, shall deem necessary and desirable. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-1.

This school district shall implement the Mississippi Early Childhood Education Program under the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 37-21-6.



Section: A – School District Organization

Policy Code: AE

Policy: School Year (Academic Year)

SCHOOL YEAR (ACADEMIC YEAR)

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. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63 (1).

DISASTER EMERGENCY

If this school board determines 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 manmade, technological or natural disaster, or extreme weather emergency in which the Governor has declared a disaster or state of emergency or the U.S. President 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. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63 (2).

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. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63 (2).

The Mississippi Public School Accountability Process Standard for this policy is standard 13.



Section: A – School District Organization

Policy Code: AEA

Policy: School Calendar

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The State Board of Education shall review and approve a school calendar annually.

The minimum school term shall be at least one hundred eighty (180) days of school in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction for not less than sixty percent (60%) of the instructional day, as defined by the school board for each school in the school district. Please see student handbook for the instructional day of each school.

The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard for this policy is standard 13.



Section: A – School District Organization

Policy Code: AEAA

Policy: Vacations

VACATIONS

The school board endorses the concept of earned vacation personal on extended employment or contracts. Such vacation for twelve month staff shall be two (2) weeks. Utilization of vacation time will be permitted upon approval of the superintendent.



Section: A – School District Organization

Policy Code: AEAB

Policy: Holidays

HOLIDAYS

All public schools of this state may observe such legal holidays as may be designated by the local school board, and no sessions of school shall be held on holidays so designated and observed. However, all schools shall operate for the full minimum term required by the law exclusive of the holidays authorized by this section. The holidays thus observed shall not be deducted from the reports of the superintendents, principals and teachers, and such superintendents, principals and teachers shall be allowed pay for full time as though they had taught on those holidays. However, such holidays shall not be counted or included in any way in determining the average daily attendance of the school. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-69.