

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

PROCESS STANDARDS

ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

1. School board members complete required basic and continuing education programs in order to effectively perform their duties in the manner prescribed by law. {MS Code 25-41-1 et. al; 25-61-1 through 17; 37-3-4(5); 37-6-7, 9, 11, and 15; and 37-7-306(1-4)}
 2. School board policies that comply with state and federal statutes, rules, and regulations serve as the basis of operation for the district, and current copies of school board policies are published and available for public review. {MS Code 25-41-7; 25-61-1 through 17; 37-9-1 through 75; 37-9-101 through 113; 37-7-301(p)(w); and Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964}
 3. The school board assigns all executive and administrative duties to the superintendent, who is properly licensed and chosen in the manner prescribed by law. {MS Code 37-6-3(3-4); 37-9-7, 13, 14; 37-61-9; and 37-151-5(h)}
 4. The school district employs an appropriately licensed full-time principal at each school. {MS Code 37-9-7, 37-9-15, and 37-151-5(g)}
 5. The school district employs in each school a licensed librarian or media specialist who devotes no more than one-fourth of the workday to library/media administrative activities. {MS Code 37-17-6(3)(a-e)}
 - 5.1 If the student enrollment is 499 or less, a half-time licensed librarian or media specialist is required.
 - 5.2 If the student enrollment is 500 or more, a full-time licensed librarian or media specialist is required.
 6. Student support services (appraisal, academic, and/or personal advisement, and educational and/or career planning and referral) are provided in each school by qualified student support personnel. {MS Code 37-9-79}
 - 6.1 DELETED.
 - 6.2 DELETED.
- Note: Student support personnel may only provide those services and activities in the area(s) that each individual is specifically qualified to provide. All student support personnel will use appropriate job titles that reflect their area of training, expertise, and license. For example, a Social Worker will be referred to as the School Social Worker and may not use the title of or be referred to as the School Guidance Counselor.**
7. The school district employs a school business officer/administrator whose qualifications meet the criteria established by the Mississippi Department of Education and whose primary job responsibilities are conducting, supervising, and/or directing the financial affairs and operations of the school district. (SB Policy 6900)
 8. All district professional positions requiring licensed staff are filled by staff that are properly licensed and endorsed as required by state law and federal requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB). {MS Code 37-9-7} (SB Policies 7801 and 7802, NCLB, and Federal Code)
 - 8.1 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. An appropriate license is required for superintendents, principals, librarians, and guidance counselors. (Refer to process standards 3, 4, 5, and 6.)
 - 8.2 Secondary teachers endorsed in an academic subject area may teach in their academic subject area in departmentalized elementary grades 5 and 6. (SB Policy 7407)
 - 8.3 Assistant principals and administrative interns who are not properly endorsed may be included in the 5% FTE working outside their area of endorsement, provided that they do not act in the place of the principal.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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9. The school district implements a formal personnel appraisal system for licensed staff that includes assessment of employee on-the-job performance. {MS Code 37-3-46(b)}
10. The school district operates with a uniform system of accounts as specified in state law and as prescribed by the State Auditor's Office. {MS Code 37-9-18, 37-37-1, 37-37-3, 37-17-6(16), 37-37-7, 37-37-13, 37-61-19 and 37-61-23}
 - 10.1 The board of education has implemented a fixed asset system of accountability that complies with the standards established by the State Auditor's Office for the verification of fixed assets and the auditing of fixed assets records. {MS Code 37-17-6(16)}
 - 10.2 The financial accounting data and the corresponding annual audit report as submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education reflect no less than a zero fund balance (as defined by generally accepted accounting principles) for all funds of the school district. {MS Code 37-61-19}
 - 10.3 The most recent annual audit report of the school district, as conducted under the guidelines of the State Auditor's Office, indicates that the auditor has issued an unqualified opinion (as defined by generally accepted auditing standards) on the general purpose financial statements of the school district. {MS Code 37-9-18, 37-37-1, and 37-61-23}
 - 10.4 The most recent annual audit report of the school district, as conducted under the guidelines of the State Auditor's Office, verifies the accuracy, validity, and timely reporting of all student data submitted to the MDE, including but not limited to the electronic transmission of student enrollment, attendance, transportation, absenteeism, graduation, dropouts, and any other student data and administrative functions as deemed necessary. {MS Code 37-37-7(2)(b)(c)(d) and 37-37-13}
 - 10.5 The most recent annual audit report of the school district, as conducted under the guidelines of the State Auditor's Office, verifies the accuracy and timely reporting of all reports, other than student data, required for submission to the MDE in accordance with state law and/or State Board of Education policies. {MS Code 37-37-7(2)(e) and 37-37-13}
11. The local school board budgets and expends funds as follows:
 - 11.1 The local school board of education budgets and expends from the District Maintenance Fund (Fund #1120) a minimum of \$20.00 per student for instructional/library supplies, materials, and equipment.
 - 11.2 Funds available for classroom supplies, materials, and equipment from the Education Enhancement Fund (Fund #2440) are allotted and expended in compliance with Section 37-61-33, *Mississippi Code of 1972*, as amended, and SB Policy 3400.
 - 11.3 The local school board budgets and expends funds under the Public School Health Insurance Plan as required by state law and State Board policy. Failure to remit premiums, interest penalties and/or late charges in a timely manner may result in withholding a school district's adequate education program funds. {MS Code 37-151-95} (SB Policy 9600)

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

12. The school district complies with state law and State Board of Education policy on enrollment requirements.
 - 12.1 Residency requirements {MS Code 37-15-29} (SB Policy 6600)
 - 12.2 Immunization requirements {MS Code 37-7-301(i), 37-15-1, and 41-23-37}
 - 12.3 Age of entry requirements {MS Code 37-15-9}
13. Any transfer student from a school or program (correspondence, tutorial, or home study) not accredited regionally or by a state board of education [or its designee(s)] is given either a standardized achievement test(s) or teacher-made special subject test(s) to determine the appropriate classification of the student within 30 days after filing for transfer. Notice of the administering of such test(s) shall be given to the applicant not less than five days prior to the date of the administration of such test. {MS Code 37-15-33} (SB Policy 3800)
14. Permanent records and cumulative folders for individual students contain all required data and are collected, maintained, and disseminated in compliance with state law, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and the Confidentiality Section of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, 1997 Amendments. (See

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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Appendix E and the current edition of *Mississippi Cumulative Folders and Permanent Records Manual of Directions.*) {MS Code 37-15-1 through 3; 37-15-6; 37-15-10}

15. The school district engages in planning to review the educational status of each school in the district and to address specific actions relative to accreditation and performance separately. {MS Code 37-3-49(2)(e)}
16. The school district implements procedures for monitoring and reporting student absences as specified in the Mississippi Compulsory Attendance Law. {MS Code 37-13-91} (SB Policies 3101 and 3102)
17. The school district develops a dropout prevention plan and implements programs designed to keep students in school and to lower student dropout rates in accordance with MS Code. {MS Code 37-13-80} (SB Policy 3105)
 - 17.1 DELETED.
 - 17.2 DELETED.
 - 17.3 DELETED.
18. There is an organized system to encourage community involvement, parental communication, and business partnerships in school district decision-making. {MS Code 37-7-337} (**Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.**)
 - 18.1 A school that has been designated as a school at-risk shall establish a local parents/citizens advisory council. {MS Code 37-18-5(1)}.
 - 18.2 A school district that has been designated as **Failing** as defined by the State Board of Education shall also establish a community-based pre-kindergarten through higher education (P-16)council. {MS Code 37-18-5(4)}
19. The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction for not less than sixty percent (60%) of the normal school day. {MS Code 37-3-49, 37-13-61 through 69, 37-151-5(j), and 37-151-7(3)(d)}
 - 19.1 **DELETED.**
 - 19.2 The teaching day must provide at least 330 minutes of instruction per day or 27.5 hours per five-day week. {MS Code 37-13-67}
 - 19.3 The school district must ensure that during the academic school year a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each ½ unit offered, except for accelerated learning programs and remedial instructional programs that are proficiency based. A traditional 7-period day schedule must provide at least 48 minutes per period, and A/B and 4 x 4 block schedules must provide at least 94 minutes.
 - 19.4 No more than two of the 180 days may be 60% days, unless the district is utilizing an Early Release schedule that provides at least 27.5 hours per five-day week provided that there are at least 198 minutes of actual instruction or testing and the remainder of each 60% day is used for professional development or other activities related to instruction. {MS Code 37-151-5(j)}
 - 19.5 The school district schedules preparation for graduation ceremonies in such manner that graduating seniors are absent from classes for no more than three days prior to the end of the school year). (**Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.**)
 - 19.6 The summer school/extended year program meets all applicable requirements of the regular school program. {MS Code 37-3-49}
 - Students from other schools enrolled in summer programs provide written approval from the principal of their home schools.
 - Students enrolled in an extended year program complete all remaining course/subject requirements/objectives before credit for the course/subject is issued. {MS Code 37-3-49}
 - Students enrolled in a summer program are limited to earning one Carnegie unit of credit during a traditional summer school session, which does not apply to Extended Year programs and approved virtual courses. (**Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance may be exempted under MS Code 37-17-11.**)

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

Note: Any request for an exception to the above standard must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action.

Note: If the Governor has declared a disaster emergency or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, the local school board may request approval from the State Board of Education to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred eighty (180) days. {MS Code 37-151-7(3)(d)}

20. The school district requires each student, in order to receive a high school diploma, to have met the requirements established by its local board of education and by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-7} (SB Policy 3800)
- 20.1 Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A. (See Appendix A.) (SB Policies 2902 and 2903)
- Seniors of school year 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 are required to have a minimum of 20 Carnegie units.
 - Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2008-2009 and later) are required to have a minimum of 21 Carnegie units.
 - Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) are required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A-2, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements.
- 20.2 Each student receiving a standard diploma has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations. {MS Code-37-16-7} (SB Policy 3800)
- 20.3 Each student who has completed the secondary curriculum for special education may be issued a special diploma or certificate of completion, which states: "This student has successfully completed an Individualized Education Program." {MS Code 37-16-11(1)}
- 20.4 The student who fails to meet the graduation requirements is not permitted to participate in the graduation exercises.
- 20.5 Each student with disabilities receiving a Mississippi Occupational Diploma has successfully completed all minimum requirements established by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-11(2)} (See Appendix G.)

Note: Carnegie units will be awarded in the eighth grade for the following courses: Algebra I, Pre-algebra, Transition to Algebra, Computer Discovery, Geometry, ICT II (Information & Communication Technology), First Year Foreign Language, and Second Year Foreign Language provided course content is the same as the high school course.

Note: In compliance with MS Code 37-16-17, a quality high school career pathway program and career track curricula will be provided for students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree beginning with students entering the 9th grade in 2010-2011. Criteria and curriculum development for the career program option will begin with school year 2010-2011. Pilot options will be offered for the 2011-2012 school year and full implementation of the career program option will begin in the 2012-2013 school year. The goal for students pursuing the career track is to graduate from high school with a standard diploma and credit toward a community college certification in a career-technical field.

21. The school district implements a professional development program that complies with the guidelines published in Professional Development for the New Millennium. **(Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)** {MS Code 37-17-8}
22. The school district adheres to all requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System. (See Appendix F.) {MS Code 37-16-1 through 4} (SB Policies 3800, 7220, 7601, 7605, and 7607)

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

23. The school district is in compliance with state and/or federal requirements for the following programs:
- 23.1 Early Childhood Programs (kindergarten and teacher assistant) {MS Code 37-21-1 et. seq.} (SB Policies 4400, 4401, 6006, and 6301) (Refer to *Mississippi Kindergarten Guidelines*.) **(Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted from provisions of subsection (4) of MS Code 37-21-7.)**
 - 23.2 Vocational-Technical Education {MS Code 37-31-1 et. seq.} (SB Policies 8100, 8200, 8300, 8400, 8500, 8600, 8700, 8800, 8900, 9000, 9100, 9200, 9300, 9400, and Federal Code)
 - 23.3 Special Education {MS Code 37-23-1 through 9} (SB Policies 7201, 7202, 7203, 7204, 7205, 7206, 7207, 7208, 7209, 7210, 7211, 7212, 7213, 7214, 7215, 7216, 7217, 7218, 7219, and Federal Code) (See *State Policies Regarding Children with Disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004)* and the Mattie T. Consent Decree.)
 - 23.4 Child Nutrition {MS Code 37-11-7} (SB Policies 2001, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2009 and Federal Code)
 - 23.5 *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*: Titles I, II, III, IV, V, VI, X, and any other federally funded programs and grants (SB Policies 4700, 7801, 7802, 7803, 7804, and Federal Code)
 - 23.6 Technology in the Classroom {MS Code 37-151-19(3)} (SB Policy 7500)
 - 23.7 Driver Education {MS Code 37-25-1 et. seq.} (SB Policy 3000)
 - 23.8 Pre-Kindergarten {MS Code 37-7-301(ss)} (SB Policy 2904) (Refer to the *Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines*.)
 - 23.9 Gifted Education {MS Code 37-23-171 through 181}(SB Policy 3700) (Refer to the *Regulations for Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi, 2006*, and the *Gifted Education Program Standards, 2004*.)
24. Each school has a library-media center. Refer to the current edition of the *Mississippi School Library Media Guide*. {MS Code 37-17-6(3)(a-e)}
- 24.1 Each school has a library-media center with an organized collection of materials and equipment that represents a broad range of current learning media, including instructional technology.
 - 24.2 The library staff offers a systematic program of service to students and staff by providing access to the materials and equipment, by providing instruction in the use of the materials and equipment, and by working with teachers and other staff members to provide learning activities for the students.
25. The school district provides each student with appropriate equipment and laboratory experiences to meet the instructional requirements of the science program. (See the current edition of the *Mississippi Science Framework*.) **(Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance may be exempted under MS Code 37-17-11.)**
- Note: Any request for an exception to the above standard must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action.**
26. The school district is in compliance with state law and State Board of Education policies for state adopted textbooks. {MS Code 37-43-1, 37-43-24, 37-43-31(2), 37-43-51, 37-9-14(2)(b), and 37-7-301(ff)} (SB Policies 7701 and 7702) (Refer to the current edition of the *Textbook Administration Handbook Rules and Regulations*.)
- 26.1 Each school district provides each student in each school with current or otherwise appropriate textbooks that are in good condition. (See glossary for definition of textbook.) {MS Code 37-43-1, 37-9-14(2)(b), and 37-7-301(ff)}

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

26.2 Each school district shall keep an active and surplus inventory for each school in the district to be completed by June 15 of each year. The district shall report the inventory in the Textbook Inventory Management System. {MS Code 37-43-51} (Refer to the current edition of the *Textbook Administration Handbook Rules and Regulations*.)

27. The school district implements an instructional management system that has been adopted by the school board and includes, at a minimum, the competencies and objectives required in the curriculum frameworks approved by the State Board of Education. **(Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)** {MS Code 37-3-49(2)(a-b) and 37-3-49(5) and SB Policy 4300}

27.1 DELETED.

27.2 Suggested teaching strategies, resources, and assessment strategies are available to teachers in each school for selection and use in teaching the required competencies. **(Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)** {MS Code 37-3-49(2)(c) and 37-3-49(5)}

28. The district follows an established board policy that defines criteria for the academic promotion/progression/retention of students. Such criteria prohibit the retention of students for extracurricular purposes.

28.1 The school district implements a uniform grading policy. (SB Policy 403).

28.2 A student who is enrolled in any grade higher than Grade 6 in a school district must be suspended from participation in any extracurricular or athletic activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district after a semester in which the student's cumulative grade point average is below 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. {MS Code 37-11-65}

Note: This portion of the standard will be jointly monitored and enforced by the State Board of Education and the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

29. The school district provides alternative education programs for the categories of students identified in MS Code 37-13-92. (SB Policies 901 and 902)

29.1 The school district provides access to an alternative education program that meets the program guidelines outlined in MS Code 37-13-92 and the guidelines established by the State Board of Education. (SB Policy 901) (See guidelines for Alternative/GED School Programs.)

29.2 The school district, in its discretion, may provide access to a GED Option program that meets the program guidelines outlined in MS Code 37-13-92(4) and the guidelines established by the State Board of Education. (SB Policy 902) (See guidelines for Alternative/GED Programs.)

30. Each classroom teacher, excluding vocational teachers whose class periods exceed 50 minutes, has an unencumbered period of time during the teaching day to be used for individual or departmental planning.

30.1 If the school utilizes a traditional six-period or seven-period day schedule, the instructional planning time provided for secondary teachers is a minimum of 225 minutes per week, exclusive of lunch period. If the school utilizes any form of a modular/block schedule, the instructional planning time provided is a minimum of either 225 minutes per week or an average of 225 minutes per week per instructional cycle, exclusive of lunch period.

30.2 Instructional planning time for the elementary school teacher is no less than 150 minutes per week, exclusive of lunch period.

31. Individual teachers (grades 9-12) are limited to three course preparations per scheduling cycle or five in the same subject/content area.

Note: Any request for an exception to the above standard must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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32. The curriculum of each high school at a minimum consists of required and approved courses that generate at least 33½ Carnegie units annually. (See Appendices B and C.) {MS Code 37-1-3(2)} (SB Policies 2902 and 2903)

Note: Any request for an exemption from teaching the courses listed in Appendix B must be submitted in writing to the Commission on School Accreditation for review and action.

33. The curriculum of each elementary or middle school (any configuration of grades K-8) at a minimum consists of reading/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, health education, and physical education, which may be taught by a regular classroom teacher. {MS Code 37-1-3(2) and 37-13-134}

Note: In any configuration of grades K-8, the curriculum must include 150 minutes of activity-based instruction per week and 45 minutes of instruction in health education per week. Implementation of the activity-based instruction must meet or exceed the standards as approved by the State Board of Education. A regular classroom teacher may provide instruction in the arts, health education, and physical education in a self-contained classroom setting.

34. Student teacher ratios do not exceed the following: {MS Code 37-151-77}
- 34.1 Student teacher ratios do not exceed 22 to 1 in kindergarten, except in instances in which a full-time assistant teacher is in the classroom. If a full-time assistant teacher is employed, 27 may be enrolled. {MS Code 37-151-77} (See *Mississippi Kindergarten Guidelines*.)
- 34.2 Student teacher ratios do not exceed 27 to 1 in classrooms serving grades 1 through 4 unless approved by the State Board of Education. **(Schools Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)** (SB Policy 2100) {MS Code 37-151-77}
- 34.3 Student teacher ratios do not exceed 30 to 1 in self-contained classes serving grades 5-8. {MS Code 37-151-77}
- 34.4 Student teacher ratios do not exceed 33 to 1 in departmentalized academic core classes serving grades 5-12. {MS Code 37-151-77}
- 34.5 The total number of students taught by an individual teacher in academic core subjects at any time during the school year shall not exceed 150. **(Schools Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted.)**

Note: A teacher who provides instruction through intra-district or inter-district distance learning or supervises students taking virtual courses will be exempt from the 150-student limitation. A lab facilitator or principal designee will be responsible for the assignment of grades and related activities at the receiving school.

SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS

35. The school district complies with the applicable rules and regulations of the State Board of Education in the operation of its transportation program. {MS Code 37-41-53} (SB Policies 7903, 7904, 7906, 7907 and 7909)
- 35.1 All buses are inspected on a quarterly basis and are well-maintained and clean. (SB Policy 7909)
- 35.2 Each bus driver has a valid bus driver certificate and a commercial driver's license and operates the bus according to all specified safety procedures. The school district has on file a yearly motor vehicle report on each driver and evidence that each driver has received two hours of in-service training per semester. (SB Policies 7903 and 7906)
- 35.3 Bus schedules ensure arrival of all buses at their designated school sites prior to the start of the instructional day.
- 35.4 Emergency bus evacuation drills are conducted at least two times each year. (SB Policy 7904)

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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36. The school district provides facilities that meet the following criteria: {MS Code 37-7-301(c)(d)(j); 37-11-5, 49; and 45-11-101 }
- 36.1 The school district provides facilities that are clean and sanitary.
- 36.2 The school district provides facilities that are safe.
- 36.3 The school district provides operational facilities that are equipped to meet the instructional needs of students and staff.
- 36.4 The school district provides air conditioning in all classrooms in each school. {MS Code 37-17-6(2)}
37. The school district complies with State Board Policies and State and Federal laws to provide Safe and Healthy Schools:
- 37.1 Each school has a comprehensive School Safety Plan on file that has been approved annually by the local school board. {MS Codes 37-3-81 and 37-3-83(2)} (Senate Bill 2015, 2010 Legislative Session) (See the School Safety Manual and the MDE School Occupational Safety and Crisis Response Plan.)
- 37.2 Each school has on file a school wellness policy developed by a local school health council that addresses the eight components of a coordinated approach to school health and that has been approved annually by the local school board. (Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 2004) (See the Guide for Development of Local School Wellness Policy, www.healthyschoolsms.org) {MS Code 37-13-134 and MS Code 41-79-31 } (SB Policy 4012)

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
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APPENDIX A-1

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20**

**SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009, 2009-2010 & 2010-2011
(Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006, 2006-2007, 2007-2008)**

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903.) Enrollment in on-line and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course. Elective courses that do not have identified content in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks* or whose titles do not appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi* must be approved according to criteria stated in Appendix D.

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 ¹	
MATHEMATICS	4 ²	Algebra I
SCIENCE	3 ³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	3	1 World History ⁴ 1 U.S. History ⁴ ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies ⁵
HEALTH	½ ^{6 & 7}	Comprehensive Health <i>or</i> Family and Individual Health
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY	1 ⁸	1 Computer Discovery <i>or</i> ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications
THE ARTS	1	Any approved 500.000 course <i>or</i> completion of the 2-course sequence for Computer Graphics Technology I and II
ELECTIVES	4½ ⁹	
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	21	

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
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**APPENDIX A-1 (Continued)
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20**

**SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009, 2009-2010 & 2010-2011
(Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006, 2006-2007 & 2007-2008)**

¹ Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 4½ general electives required for graduation. MYP-English I and MYP English II are accepted in lieu of the English I and English II requirements for students enrolled in the IB program.

² Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 4½ general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2004-2005 for all entering eighth graders, at least one of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students.

³ One unit may be in Introduction to Agriscience, Concepts of Agriscience, Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Plastics and Polymer Science I & II; and Technology Applications I & II. Two units may be earned by completing the following AEST 3-course sequence: one unit in Concepts of Agriscience; one unit in Science of Agricultural Animals or Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment; and one unit in Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁴ Based on the 2004 Mississippi Social Studies framework, AP European History or AP World History can be accepted in lieu of World History. Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from 1877 to present. A.P. Government and Politics: United States, can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U. S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies framework, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post- reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States, can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course, A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course, A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U. S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

⁶ Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health.

⁷ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter, when instruction includes all health components in the JROTC curriculum.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational). ICT II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁹ Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

APPENDIX A-2

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20**

**SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012
(Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009)**

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903) Enrollment in on-line and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course. Elective courses that do not have identified content in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks* or whose titles do not appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi* must be approved according to criteria stated in Appendix D.

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

Beginning school year 2008-2009 and thereafter, all entering ninth graders (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) will be required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-2 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in Appendix A-1. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4¹	English I English II
MATHEMATICS	4²	Algebra I
SCIENCE	4³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	4	1 World History ⁴ 1 U.S. History ⁴ ½ Geography ⁴ ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ⁵ ½ Mississippi Studies ⁶
HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1^{7&8}	½ Comprehensive Health <i>or</i> ½ Family & Individual Health and ½ Physical Education ^{9&11}
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY	1¹⁰	1 Computer Discovery <i>or</i> ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications
THE ARTS	1	Any approved 500.000 course <i>or</i> completion of the 2-course sequence for Computer Graphics Technology I and II
ELECTIVES	5¹¹	
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	24	

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

**APPENDIX A-2 (Continued)
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20
SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012
(Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009)**

¹Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation. Accelerated English 9 can be accepted in lieu of English I. Accelerated English 10 and AP English Language Composition can be accepted in lieu of English II. Beginning school year 2010-2011 for all entering ninth graders, English I is a required prerequisite course for English II. English I may not be taken after a student completes English II.

²Compensatory Mathematics, Introduction to Engineering, and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I. Beginning school year 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. Effective with ninth graders of 2010-2011, Survey of Mathematical Topics may not be included in the two math courses higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics. MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Survey of Mathematical Topics; however this course does not meet the mathematics requirement for admission to institutions of higher learning. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

³ One unit may be in Introduction to Agriscience, Concepts of Agriscience, Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Plastics and Polymer Science I & II; and Technology Applications I & II. Two units may be earned by completing the Agricultural and Environmental Science and Technology (AEST) 3-course sequence: one unit in Concepts of Agriscience; one unit in Science of Agricultural Animals or Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment; and one unit in Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship. Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, and AP Physics C – Mechanics. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁴Based on the 2004 Mississippi Social Studies framework, Advanced Placement Human Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History From 1877 to Present course. A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History From 1795 to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course.MYP World Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course for students enrolled in the IB program. Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from 1877 to Present. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U. S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program. AP European History or AP World History can be accepted in lieu of World History.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies framework, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post-reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States, can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. MYP World Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U. S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

⁵Credit earned for the first year of Marketing and Economics (Vocational) may be accepted in lieu of ½ unit in Economics.

⁶ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

⁷ Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health.

⁸ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter, when instruction includes all health components in the JROTC curriculum. If it is used to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health, it cannot be used concurrently to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Physical Education as allowed in footnote #9 below.

⁹ The graduation requirement for ½ unit in physical education may include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

¹⁰ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational). ICT II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program.

¹¹ Only one elective unit in physical education including participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance or JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association may be applied each year to the minimum 24 required state units. If a local district has graduation requirements above the state requirements they may award additional credits as outlined in the local Board policy.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

APPENDIX C-1

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING (IHL) PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN MISSISSIPPI
STANDARD 32**

APPENDIX C-1

CURRICULUM AREA	COURSES	UNITS
ENGLISH		4¹
MATHEMATICS²	Algebra I ³ Geometry Algebra II	3
SCIENCE	SELECT 3 UNITS FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST: Physical Science ⁴ Biology Advanced Biology Chemistry Advanced Chemistry Physics Advanced Physics Or any other science course with comparable content and rigor	3 (2 lab-based)
SOCIAL STUDIES	U.S. History World History U.S. Government (½) Economics (½) or Geography (½)	3
COMPUTER EDUCATION	Computer Applications ⁵	½
ADVANCED ELECTIVES	SELECT 2 UNITS⁶ FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST: Foreign Language ³ World Geography 4 th year lab-based Science 4 th year Mathematics	2
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED		15½⁷

¹ Courses must require substantial communication skills.

² A fourth class in higher-level mathematics is highly recommended.

³ Pre-high school units: Algebra I or first-year Foreign Language taken prior to high school will be accepted for admission, provided course content is the same as the high school course.

⁴ One Carnegie unit from a Physical Science course with content at a level that may serve as an introduction to Physics and Chemistry may be used.

⁵ This course should include use of application packages such as word processing and spread sheets. The course should also include basic computer terminology and hardware operation.

⁶ One of the two units must be in Foreign Language or World Geography.

⁷ Limited exceptions to high school unit requirements may be available. For more information contact the Office of Admissions. Admission requirements are subject to change without notice at the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

APPENDIX C-2

**COLLEGE PREPARATORY RECOMMENDED CURRICULUM FOR ADMISSION
TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING (IHL) PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN
MISSISSIPPI
STANDARD 32**

CURRICULUM AREA	COURSES	UNITS
ENGLISH		4¹
MATHEMATICS	Algebra I ² , Geometry, Algebra II, and any one Carnegie Unit of comparable rigor and content (e.g., Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Probability and Statistics, or AP Statistics)	4
SCIENCE	Biology I, Chemistry I, and any two Carnegie Units of comparable rigor and content (e.g., Physics, Physical Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, Physics II, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C – Mechanics, Botany, Microbiology, or Human Anatomy and Physiology)	4
SOCIAL STUDIES	World History, U.S. History, Introduction to World Geography, U.S. Government, Economics, and/or Mississippi Studies ² (Credit earned for a state/local government course in any other state may stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies.)	4
ARTS	Any visual and/or performing arts course(s), meeting the requirements for high school graduation.	1
ADVANCED ELECTIVES	Foreign Language I ² and II, Advanced World Geography and a Foreign Language I or any combination of English, mathematics, or lab-based science courses of comparable rigor and content to those required above.	2
COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	Computer Applications ³	1/2
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED		19 1/2⁴

¹ Courses must require substantial communication skills. Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included.

² Algebra I, first year Foreign Language or Mississippi Studies taken prior to high school will be accepted for admission provided the course content is the same as the high school course.

³ Course should emphasize the computer as a productivity tool. Instruction should include the use of application packages, such as word processing and spreadsheets. The course should also include basic computer terminology and hardware operation.

⁴ Limited exceptions to high school unit requirements may be available. For more information contact the Office of Admissions. Admission requirements are subject to change without notice at the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

APPENDIX H

**CONSEQUENCES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH FINANCIAL
ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS
STANDARDS 10 and 11**

The Office of Internal Accountability will evaluate each violation of financial accountability requirements and accreditation standards to determine if the violation is considered to be (1) a minor accounting or audit violation, (2) a substantial accounting or audit violation, or (3) a serious financial accountability violation. Due to the variety of possible violations of financial accountability requirements ranging from minor accounting or audit violations to serious financial accountability violations, the following consequences will be implemented for verified deficiencies with financial accountability requirements and accreditation standards.

A. LETTER OF WARNING: MINOR ACCOUNTING OR AUDIT VIOLATION

If a **minor accounting or audit violation** of financial accountability requirements has been verified, then the Office of Internal Accountability will notify the Office of Accreditation. The Office of Accreditation will issue a letter of warning to the school district and place the letter of warning in the district file. Four consecutive minor violations of the same process standard reported to the Office of Accreditation will result in a citation placed on the district's Accreditation Record Summary. (See B below.)

B. CITATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE ON RECORD WITH NO IMMEDIATE ACTION TO DOWNGRADE THE ACCREDITATION STATUS

When **four consecutive minor** accounting or audit violations of the same process standard have been verified or when a **substantial** accounting or audit violation has been verified, then the Office of Internal Accountability will notify the Office of Accreditation. A citation of noncompliance will be placed on the district's Accreditation Record Summary, and the Office of Accreditation will notify the district superintendent and school board chairperson of this action. No immediate action to downgrade the district's accreditation status will be recommended. The deficiencies will remain on record until the district has successfully demonstrated compliance with all financial accountability requirements and accreditation standards.

If the deficiencies remain on record at the time annual accreditation statuses are assigned, the district's accreditation status will be downgraded, and the district will be required to develop a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies.

C. CITATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE ON RECORD WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO IMMEDIATELY DOWNGRADE THE ACCREDITATION STATUS

Any verified violations of financial accountability requirements that are considered to be of a **serious nature** will result in a recommendation to immediately downgrade the district's accreditation status. When the Office of Internal Accountability has determined that a verified violation of financial accountability requirements is of such serious nature that immediate action is warranted, the Office of Accreditation will be notified. The Office of Accreditation will note the citation of noncompliance on the district's Accreditation Record Summary and notify the

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010
APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 18, 2011**

district superintendent and school board chairperson of this action. The citation of noncompliance will be presented to the Commission on School Accreditation with a recommendation to immediately downgrade the district's accreditation status.

Commission Takes Action to Immediately Downgrade the Status. If the Commission takes action to immediately downgrade the accreditation status, the district will be required to develop a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies. The deficiencies will remain on record until the district has successfully demonstrated compliance with all financial accountability requirements and accreditation standards.

Commission Does Not Take Action to Downgrade the Status. If the Commission does not take immediate action to downgrade the accreditation status, the deficiencies will remain on the district's Accreditation Record Summary until the district has successfully demonstrated compliance with all financial accountability requirements and accreditation standards. If the deficiencies remain on record at the time annual accreditation statuses are assigned, the district's accreditation status will be downgraded, and the district will be required to develop a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies.