Minutes of the Education Achievement Council Meeting  
Thursday, April 26, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Education Achievement Council (EAC) met in the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning Technology Room in Jackson, Mississippi at 10:30 a.m. on April 26, 2018.

Council Members Present:

Dr. Jay Allen, President, Itawamba Community College via teleconference  
Mr. Milton Anderson, President, Mississippi Association of Proprietary Colleges  
Ms. Wendy Clemons representing Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education  
Dr. E. Harold Fisher, Executive Director, Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities  
Dr. Jim Haffey, President, Holmes Community College  
The Honorable Josh Harkins, Chairman, Mississippi Senate Universities and Colleges Committee  
Dr. Shawn Mackey representing Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board  
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson representing Dr. William Bynum, President, Jackson State University  
Ms. Vickie Powell representing Mr. Scott Waller, President and Chief Executive Officer, Mississippi Economic Council  
Mr. Adam Moore, Mississippi Department of Mental Health  
Ms. Cheryl Thurmond, Board Member, Mississippi Community College Board via teleconference  
The Honorable Gray Tollison, Chairman, Mississippi Senate Education Committee

Council Members Absent:

Ms. Rosemary Aultman, Chair, Mississippi Board of Education  
The Honorable Richard Bennett, Chairman, Mississippi House of Representatives Education Committee  
Dr. Jim Borsig, President, Mississippi University for Women  
Dr. Glenn Boyce, Commissioner of Higher Education, Institutions of Higher Learning  
Mr. Lee Bush, Board Member, Mississippi Community College Board  
The Honorable Eugene Clarke, Chairman, Mississippi Senate Appropriations Committee  
Mr. Tom Duff, Trustee, Institutions of Higher Learning  
Mr. William LaForge, President, Delta State University  
The Honorable Nolan Mettetal, Chairman, Mississippi House of Representatives Universities and Colleges Committee  
The Honorable John Read, Chairman, Mississippi House of Representatives Appropriations Committee  
Mr. C.D. Smith, Trustee, Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Laurie Smith, Education Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Phil Bryant  
Dr. Billy Stewart, President, East Central Community College
Others Present:
Ms. Caron Blanton, Communications Director, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Mrs. Stephanie Bullock, Complete 2 Compete Project Coordinator, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Dr. Jimmy Clarke, HCM Strategists
Ms. Menia Dykes, Director of Accreditation, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Mr. Raul Fletes, Assistant Executive Director for Research and Effectiveness, Mississippi Community College Board
Ms. Kim Gallaspy, Director of Legislative Services, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Ms. Debra Gilbert, Deputy Executive Director for Finance and Administration, Mississippi Community College Board
Ms. Audra Kimble, Associate Executive Director for Academic and Student Affairs, Mississippi Community College Board
Mr. Jim McHale, President and CEO, Woodward Hines Education Foundation
Ms. Amber Palmer, Project Coordinator, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Ms. Heather Morrison, P-20 Project Coordinator, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Mr. Larry Terrence, Director of Financial Aid, Virginia College
Dr. Casey Turnage, Assistant Commissioner for Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Institutions of Higher Learning
Ms. Apryll Washington, Director of Policy and Planning, Office of Student Financial Aid

I. Welcome

Dr. Jim Haffey asked Dr. Shawn Mackey to open the meeting with prayer. Following the invocation Dr. Haffey invited Council members and guests to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Haffey asked members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Dr. Harold Fisher moved that the minutes be approved as presented. Mr. Milton Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Remarks on Leadership

Dr. Shawn Mackey spoke on behalf of Dr. Andrea Mayfield to express sincere appreciation for the leadership and service of Dr. Glenn Boyce, Commissioner of Higher Education, and Dr. Jim Borsig, President of the Mississippi University for Women, who are both retiring. Dr. Mackey also shared that Ms. Debra Gilbert would also be retiring as Deputy Executive Director for Finance and Administration for the Mississippi Community College Board. All three have provided valuable service to the Education Achievement Council and the State of Mississippi.

IV. Election of Council Chair
Dr. Haffey opened the floor for discussion about the election of new officers. The consensus was to move away from electing Co-Chairs and elect a Chair and a Vice Chair for a two-year term going forward with the Vice Chair stepping up to serve as Chair for the next term.

Mr. Anderson nominated Dr. Jim Haffey to serve as Chair. Dr. Fisher seconded the motion. The motion carried.

An election for a Vice Chair will be held at the next regular meeting of the Council.

V. Presentation of MDE High Quality Materials Initiative and Mississippi Innovative Learning Network

Ms. Wendy Clemons, Director of Professional Development for the Mississippi Department of Education presented a report on the key findings of the 2017 NAEP assessment. Overall, Mississippi students maintained progress on the assessment from 2015 through 2017. With a significant increase in performance in 8th Grade Reading, Mississippi tied with Washington state for greatest gain. Lower-performing students remained flat or showed slight improvement while top-performing students scored higher. Overall, Mississippi students are growing at a faster pace than the nation.

Ms. Clemons also gave an overview of the Mississippi Innovation Lab Network, a partnership of A and B schools with other school districts and MDE to provide space for sharing innovative strategies and learning about ways to transform the education system.

Ms. Clemons discussed the High-Quality Instructional Materials and Professional Learning initiative. This program is part of MDE’s focus on professional development. It is designed to provide teachers with quality instructional material, supplemental resources and training for effectively using the materials in the classroom. Implementation of the program will include a statewide awareness campaign, professional learning delivered to and led by teacher-leaders, work with IHL educator prep programs to align expectations and pilot programs in at least 18 school districts.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

As part of the discussion of Ms. Clemons’ report, the Council considered the status of Dual Enrollment and Dual Credit as part of the state accountability model. There was consensus that the work of the Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Task Force should continue to seek a solution to the challenge of funding these programs.

VI. Report on Complete 2 Compete Initiative

Ms. Stephanie Bullock presented a six-month update on the Complete 2 Compete Initiative. Since the program launched in August 2017, there has been direct outreach to 84,910 former students who are eligible to earn a degree without any additional coursework. More than 36,000 adults were engaged by the campaign through direct mail, email and telephone outreach; and
7,825 students applied for participation in the C2C program. After six months, 304 degrees were issued, including 239 Associate Degrees and 66 Bachelor’s Degrees.

Ms. Bullock also shared updates to the C2C website that provide information and direct links to state programs designed to connect graduates to Mississippi jobs.

A copy of the handout for this presentation is attached to these minutes.

VII. Other Business

Dr. Haffey asked members of the Council to share their thoughts for topics that should be considered for discussion at the October 25 meeting. Members shared the following:

- Dual enrollment financing conversation
- Update on the MI-BEST program
- Continue discussion about how to support teachers
- Consider how the career-tech part of the accountability model can connect to the MEC Tech Scholars program
- Dual enrollment
- Raising the employability of citizens so they are prepared for higher wages and better opportunities
- Outreach and promotion of C2C
- Expand C2C push to independent colleges and universities
- Dual enrollment opportunities to help students earn degrees at a faster pace
- Dual enrollment best practices. Look to other states for models of funding
- Change the narrative about CTE. Link programs to information about salaries in various fields.
- Promote the Mississippi story and information about programs that are helping Mississippians succeed like C2C and MI-BEST.
- Is it possible for independent colleges to help track students who begin at public colleges/universities but transfer out to private institutions, so they can be counted in completion rates?

VIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Education Achievement Council will be held on October 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

IX. Adjourn

There being no further business, Dr. Fisher moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
VISION
To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION
To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community
1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. Every Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
6. Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher
Overall, Mississippi students maintained progress on NAEP assessment from 2015 and 2017

8th Grade Reading performance significantly increased

Mississippi tied with Washington state for greatest gain in 8th Grade Reading at 4.4 points

Overall, lower-performing students remained flat or showed slight improvement while top-performing students scored higher

Overall, Mississippi students growing at a faster pace than the nation

Visit [www.mdek12.org](http://www.mdek12.org) for complete NAEP results
NAEP Ten Year Trend

Mississippi growing at a faster pace than the nation
2007-2017 Change in Average Scale Score

NAEP Mathematics Grade 4 – Overall
Change in Average Scale Score: 2007-2017

Darker shaded bars indicate significant change.
2007-2017 Change in Average Scale Score

NAEP Mathematics Grade 8 – Overall
Change in Average Scale Score: 2007-2017

Darker shaded bars indicate significant change.
2007-2017 Change in Average Scale Score

NAEP Reading Grade 4 – Overall
Change in Average Scale Score: 2007-2017

Darker shaded bars indicate significant change.
2007-2017 Change in Average Scale Score

NAEP Reading Grade 8 – Overall
Change in Average Scale Score: 2007-2017

Darker shaded bars indicate significant change
Mississippi Innovation Lab Network
What is the Mississippi Innovation Network (MS-ILN)?

• The Mississippi Innovation Lab Network (MS-ILN) is a partnership of A and B schools with other school districts and the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) to provide a space for sharing innovative strategies and learning about ways to transform our education system.

• The MDE participates in the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Innovation Lab Network and is committed to working with districts within Mississippi, to advance new models of learning that can best prepare all students for success in the 21st century.
MS-ILN to Support SBE Goal #2:

- For the MS-ILN, the ultimate goal of transforming education is to create a system that prepares all students to become lifelong learners who succeed in college, career, and citizenship.

- In order to achieve this goal, state leaders must establish a set of enabling conditions and implementation levers that support the scaling of promising innovative practices that lead to CCCR for all students.
K–12 Career Advisement
PBIS
Mentoring Programs
Internships/Work-based learning
Graduation Pathways
Social/Emotional Growth
Leader in Me Apprenticeships

• Blended learning
• Online learning
• MVPS/MOCA
• Distance learning
• Work-based learning
• Project-based learning
• Performance/Competency Based learning
• School Improvement

• Early College High School
• Middle College program
• Career Academy
• Freshman Academy
• Internships/Work-based learning
• Flexible scheduling
• Year-round calendar
• International curricula
• Robust technology education
• Districts of Innovation

MS-ILN
Outcomes for the MS-ILN

- Building and supporting a network of district and school leaders dedicated to using innovation to improve the education outcomes for students in MS
- Sharing best-practices from innovative districts in Mississippi
- Extending innovative opportunities to isolated rural districts
- Creating and supporting a Middle School Task Force to increase the focus on academic, social/emotional, and cultural issues leading to student engagement/success in middle schools
- Using implementation data to help inform changes to the MS Public School Accountability Standards
High-Quality Instructional Materials & Professional Learning
High-Quality Materials in Mississippi

Professional development focus
• Regional Education Service Agency partnership
• Professional development coordinators added in 2014-15

Exemplar lessons and other resources
• PK – 8th grade, Algebra I, and English II units (2016-17)
• MS CCRS Scaffolding documents (2012-13, revised 2016-17)
• Family Guides to Student Success (2015-16)
• Mississippi Online Course Approval Process (2016-17)

Mississippi has joined CCSSO’s national network of states focused on quality materials and aligned professional learning (2017-18)
• Delaware, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Wisconsin
If we establish a clear definition of high quality instructional materials (HQIMs), compelling reasons for adopting them, and incentives leading to the use of HQIMs and aligned professional learning for districts and vendors in Mississippi, then we will accelerate student growth to proficient or advanced performance for students, as measured by the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program.
Evidence-Based Resources Webpage

• **NOW** available on the School Improvement, Academic Office, Federal Programs, and Intervention Services webpage

• Designed to assist schools/districts with identifying and selecting evidence-based resources
2017-2020 Implementation Plan

**STATEWIDE**
- Awareness Campaign
- Textbook adoption process and manual revision
- Professional learning delivered to and led by teacher-leaders
- Work with IHL educator prep programs to align expectations
- Launch of HQIM-PL webpage for quick access and information

**PILOTS**
- Minimum of 18 districts
- Intense MCCRS training
- Review/vet mathematics materials and professional learning for MCCRS alignment
- Develop a comprehensive list of mathematics materials and professional development
Questions
PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Complete 2 Compete (C2C) is a Mississippi statewide program focused on encouraging Mississippi adults who have completed some college, but no degree, to return to college, and complete the requirements necessary to earn their degrees.

Much of the initial success of the program can be attributed to the collaborative partnership between the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, the Mississippi Community College Board, and the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges. Because of the commitment of the partnership, C2C is able to consolidate student information, launch a centralized outreach, and coordinate institutional resources producing one set of measurable results.

PROGRAM LAUNCH – AUGUST 2017

Phase 1 Outreach

- Direct Outreach to former students eligible for a degree without any additional coursework: 84,910
- Adults engaged through direct mail, email, and telephone outreach: 36,281
- Additional Mississippi adults exposed to the web app through social media: 200,000
- Applications for participation in the C2C program: 7,825

Initial Results (after 6 months)

- Degrees issued: 304
- Associate Degrees: 239
- Bachelor’s Degrees: 66
- Adult students enrolled: 399
- Enrolled: 327
- Enrolled in Adult Degree Completion Programs: 72

NEXT STEPS
Phase 2 marketing outreach will extend to former adult students who require some additional credits to complete the requirements necessary for their degrees. These adults will be provided access to internal resources that will help them align their credits to a meaningful degree, be paired with a coach to guide them through the process and have the opportunity to apply for financial assistance through our C2C Grants.

The total audience size for Phase 2 is 67,629 adults.

Phase 3 will focus on additional marketing outreach to adults who were not reached by Phases 1 and 2 through direct mail, email and telephone outreach. Additionally, we will reach out to those adults who responded but did not follow through on enrolling or securing their earned degree in an effort to better understand and address any barriers unique to this audience.