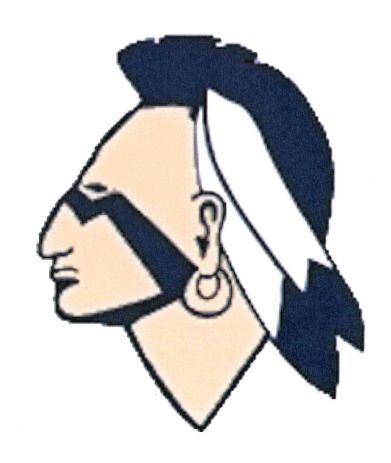
Wellness Policy



Tishomingo County High School 2022/23

Rationale:

The link between the health of students and learning is well documented. If children are to be successful in school, they cannot be tired, hungry, sick, suffering from drug abuse, or worried that school is an unsafe environment in which they could become victims of a violent act. It has become apparent that problems such as poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, substance abuse, depression, teen pregnancy, obesity, bullying, and more — can adversely affect not only a child's health but also his or her ability to learn! And that is precisely why a coordinated approach to school health can make a difference! A coordinated approach to school health improves kids' health and their capacity to learn through the support of families, schools, and communities working together. At its very core, a coordinated approach to school health is about keeping students healthy over time, reinforcing positive, healthy behaviors throughout the school day, and making it clear that good health and learning go hand in hand.

Goal:

All students in Tishomingo County High School shall possess the knowledge and skills necessary to make healthy choices that promote healthy lifestyles. All staff in Tishomingo County High School are encouraged to model healthful eating and physical activity as a valuable part of daily life.

To meet this goal, the Tishomingo County High School adopts this school wellness policy with the following commitments to implementing a coordinated approach to school health. This policy is designed to effectively utilize school and community resources and to equitably serve the needs and interests of all students and staff, taking into consideration differences in culture.

In determining these goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness, the Tishomingo County High School Health Council will review and consider evidenced-based strategies.

Commitment to Nutrition

- Offer a school lunch program with menus that meet the meal patterns and nutrition standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition Programs.
- Offer school breakfast and snack programs (where approved and applicable)
 with menus that meet the meal patterns and nutrition standards established

by the USDA and the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition Programs.

- Promote participation in school meal programs to families and staff.
- Operate all Child Nutrition Programs with school food service staff who are properly qualified according to current professional standards (Mississippi Board of Education Policy, Code 2001).
- Follow State Board of Education policies on competitive foods and extra food sales (Mississippi Board of Education Policy, Code 2002).
- Include goals for nutrition promotion, nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities to promote student wellness.
- Implement Nutrition Standards as adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the Mississippi Healthy Students Act (State Board of Education Policy 4011),
 - □ Healthy food and beverage choices;
 - □ Healthy food preparation;
 - Marketing of healthy food choices to students, staff, and parents;
 - □ Food preparation ingredients and products;
 - Minimum/maximum time allotted for students and staff lunch and breakfast;
 - Availability of food items during the lunch and breakfast periods of the Child Nutrition Breakfast and Lunch Programs;
 - Methods to increase participation in the Child Nutrition School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.
- Establish guidelines in accordance with USDA Smart Snacks in Schools for all foods available on the school campus during the school day with the objective of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (see the Nutrition Environment and Services section of the *Tools That Work Your Guide to Success for Building a Healthy School* Toolkit that is found on the Office of Healthy Schools website at http://www.mdek12.org/OHS).
- Establish standards for all foods and beverages provided but not sold to students during the school day (e.g., in classroom parties, classroom snacks brought by parents, or other foods given as incentives).
- Establish guidelines in accordance with USDA Smart Snacks in Schools for the sale of food items for fundraising.

- Use Smart Snacks Resources to educate the school community about the importance of offering healthy snacks for students and staff members.
- http://www.fns.usda.gov/healthierschoolday/tools-schools-focusing-smart-sna cks Smart Snacks Product Calculator:
 - □ The Alliance for a Healthier Generation Smart Snacks Product Calculator is an effective online instrument that has been determined by the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service to be accurate in assessing product compliance with the federal requirements for Smart Snacks in Schools. The calculator can be used for food and beverage products. https://www.healthiergeneration.org/
- Make school meals accessible to all students with a variety of delivery strategies such as breakfast in the classroom, grab-and-go lunches, or alternate eating sites.
- Provide nutrition information for parents, including nutritional analysis of school meals and resources to help parents improve the food that they serve at home.
- Provide nutrition education through different educational programs.
 Tishomingo County High School will work with the Mississippi State University Extension Services when available for nutrition education.

Commitment to Food Safe Schools

Tishomingo County High School will attempt to:

 Implement a food safety program based on HACCP principles for all school meals, as required by the USDA and the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition Programs, and ensure that the food service permit is current for the school sites.

HACCP Principles for K-12 schools can be downloaded at: http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourcesOverview.aspx?ID=151

• Develop a food safety education plan for all staff and students, consistent with Fight Bac® (www.fightbac.org) and other national standards for safe food handling at home and in schools.

- Ensure that all staff has received instructions to support food safety on the school campus. Food Safety resources have been developed by the Office of Child Nutrition to assist with the training of school staff members. These resources, which include a training power-point presentation, Food Safety Post Test and Food Safety Post Test Answer Key, can be found on the Office of Healthy Schools website at http://www.mdek12.org/OHS
- All school personnel (school board members, administrators, teachers, school nurses, instructional and health services paraprofessionals, food service staff, custodians and facilities managers, and administrative support staff) will receive copies of the Local School Wellness Policy that includes food safety policies and procedures and provides for relevant professional development.
- Adequate access to hand-washing facilities and supplies will be available whenever and wherever students, staff, and families prepare, handle, or consume food.
- The food safety assurance plan must address strategies that minimize risks for students and staff who have food allergies and intolerances.
- Encourage students to make food choices based on the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) and the ChooseMyPlate resources, by emphasizing menu options that feature baked (rather than fried foods), whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, and reduced-fat dairy products. Read more about HHFKA at ChooseMyPlate at http://www.choosemyplate.gov/
- Establish a cafeteria environment conducive to a positive dining experience, with socializing among students and between students and adults; with supervision of eating areas by adults who model proper conduct and voice level; and with adults who model healthy habits by eating with the students.
- Replace deep fat fryers with combination oven steamers.
- Make school meals accessible to all students with a variety of delivery strategies, such as breakfast in the classroom, grab-and-go lunches, or alternate eating sites.
- Provide nutrition information for parents, including nutrition analysis of school meals and resources to help parents improve the food that they serve at home.

• School staff will complete training on food safety.

Commitment to Physical Activity/Physical Education

- Provide Physical Education/Activity in accordance with the Physical Education Rules and Regulations as approved by the State Board of Education in compliance with the Mississippi Healthy Students Act (State Board of Education Policy 4012).
- Require fitness testing for high school students; during the year they acquire the ½ Carnegie unit in physical education as required for graduation by the Mississippi Healthy Students Act (State Board of Education Policy 4012).
- Offer a planned sequential program of physical education instruction incorporating individual and group activities, which are student-centered and taught in a positive environment.
- Instruction must be based on the 2013-2014 Mississippi Physical Education Frameworks.
- Implement the requirements of the Mississippi Healthy Students Act of 2007 (Senate Bill 2369).
- Graduation requirements for 9th through 12th-grade students shall include ½ Carnegie unit in physical education.
- Beginning with 9th graders in the school year 2015-2016, provide instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and use of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for students in grades 9-12 in the school year they earn their ½ Carnegie Unit for physical education or health education. MS Code 37-13-134 (Senate Bill 2185).
- Address concussions by adopting and implementing a policy for students in grades 7-12 who participate in activities sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA). This policy will include a concussion recognition course that has been endorsed by the Mississippi Department of Health. This course will provide information on the nature and risk of concussions for students participating in athletics. Also included in the policy, parents/guardians will be provided with a concussion policy before the start of the regular school athletic season. (House Bill 48).

Links to resources to aid policy development and Office of Healthy Schools website

www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/high_school.html#5 http://www.misshsaa.com/GeneralInfo/SportsMedicine.aspx http://www.mdek12.org/OHS

- Incorporate 5 to 10-minute physical activity sessions in classrooms to teach subject areas and to make transitions between different lessons (Examples can be found at www.movetolearnms.org
- Establish or enhance physical activity opportunities (like walking clubs or fitness challenges) for staff and/or parents.
- Provide staff-monitored recreational activities that promote moderate physical activity during all outdoor recess times.
- Collaborate with local recreational departments and youth fitness programs to promote participation in lifelong physical activities. (ie. Dixie Youth Programs).
- Create opportunities for students to voluntarily participate in before- and after-school physical activity programs.

STATE REQUIREMENTS MONITORED BY THE OFFICE OF HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Commitment to Comprehensive Health Education

- Provide ½ Carnegie unit of health education for graduation (2012 Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard 20, Appendix A).
- Instruction must be based on the Mississippi Contemporary Health for grades 9-12 (2012 Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard 20, Appendix A).
- Beginning with 9th graders in the school year 2015-2016, provide instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and use of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for students in grades 9-12 in the school year they earn their ½ Carnegie Unit for health education or physical education. MS Code 37-13-134 (Senate Bill 2185).

- Emphasize the disease prevention strand in the 2012 Mississippi Contemporary Health Education Curriculum.
- May choose to Participate in USDA nutrition programs such as *Team Nutrition Schools* and the *Healthier U.S. School Challenge (as resources allow)*. The school will conduct nutrition education activities and promotions that involve students, parents, and the community. The school team responsible for planning nutrition activities will include school food service staff, school nurses, health and PE teachers, coaches, and additional staff, as appropriate.
- Integrate Health Education into other subject areas. <u>www.movetolearnms.org</u> (Click on Lesson Plans).
- Provide Universal Precautions training and Universal Precautions Kits for staff.
- Provide professional development for teachers on HIV/AIDS education.
- Provide students with quality disease prevention instruction based on the Contemporary Health Education Framework and other selected materials approved by the district.
- Host a School Health Fair for students when resources are available.
- Host a health fair for faculty when resources are available.
- Provide teaching in the classroom and individually by the school nurse on Tobacco education, hygiene, hand washing as well as other topics as time permits.
- Provide counseling services as needed.
- School nurses will include education on Juuling and Vaping and emphasize the health risk in the Tobacco Education program in collaboration with the local Tobacco-Free Coalition.

Commitment to a Healthy School Environment

- Ensure that there are no padlocks or chains on exit doors; exits should never be obstructed (in accordance with Mississippi State Fire Code).
- Ensure that all exit signs are illuminated and clearly visible.

- Ensure that all chemicals are stored properly (in accordance with the Material Safety Data Sheet <u>www.msdssearch.com</u>).
- Refer to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's <u>Handbook for Public Playground Safety (www.cpsc.com</u>); for federal guidelines for playground safety.
- Ensure that fire extinguishers are inspected each year and properly tagged.
- Complete yearly maintenance of the heating and cooling system in your school; check coils, filters, belts, etc. in order to maintain safe operation and healthy air quality.
- Conduct at least one emergency evacuation drill per month.
- *Ensure that two means of egress are available in each classroom in case of an emergency; if there is only one door, designate a window (properly sized) as a means of egress. *
- Never use extension cords as a permanent source of electricity anywhere on a school campus.

Comply with the applicable rules and regulations of the State Board of Education in the operation of its transportation program (in accordance with the MS Code 37-41-53; State Board of Education Policies 7903, 7904, and 7909; and Accreditation Standard #35).

- Inspect all buses on a quarterly basis and ensure that they are well maintained and clean.
- Require that all bus drivers have a valid bus driver certificate and a commercial driver's license and operate the bus according to all specified safety procedures. Maintain a record of yearly motor vehicle reports on each bus driver and evidence that each driver has received two hours of in-service training per semester. (SB Policy 7903)
- Ensure the arrival of all buses at their designated school sites prior to the start of the instructional day.
- Conduct bus evacuation drills at least two times each year. (SB Policy 7904)

Provide facilities that meet the criteria of: (MS Code 37-7-301 (c) (d) (j); 37-11-5, 49 and 45-11-101; and Accreditation Standard #36).

- Provide facilities that are clean.
- Provide facilities that are safe.

- Provide proper signage that explains tobacco, weapons, and drugs are prohibited on the school campus and at school functions.
- Provide operational facilities that are equipped and functional to meet the instructional needs of students and staff (in accordance with the Mississippi School Design Guidelines at www.edi.msstate.edu).
- Provide air conditioning in all classrooms, Code §37-17-6(2) (2000).

Comply with the requirements for Safe and Healthy Schools:

- Maintain a comprehensive School Safety Plan on file that has been approved annually by the local school board. (MS Code 37-3-81 and 37-3-82(2); and Accreditation Standard #37.1); see the School Safety Manual and the MDE School Occupational Safety and Crisis Response Plan at: http://www.healthyschoolsms.org/healthy_school_environment/school_safety.htm.
- State Board Policy <u>EBB</u> (1990) prohibits the possession of pistols, firearms, or weapons by any person on school premises or at school functions. Code <u>§37-11-18</u> (1996) requires any student who possesses a knife, a handgun, other firearms, or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm or who commits a violent act on educational property be subject to automatic expulsion for one calendar year. The superintendent of the school is authorized to modify the period of time for expulsion on a case-by-case basis.
- Prohibits students from possessing tobacco on any educational property, Criminal Code §97-32-9 (2000). Code §97-32-29 (2000) further prohibits the use of tobacco on any educational property for adults who, if in violation, would be subject to a fine and issued a citation by a law enforcement officer. Educational property is defined as any public school building or bus, campus, grounds, athletic field, or other property used or operated during a school-related activity.
- Install locks on classroom doors in order to create security from the inside.
- Eliminate unnecessary school bus idling that causes pollution and creates health risks for children such as; asthma, allergies, and other respiratory problems (www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus).
- Hire a District Safety Officer or a School Resource Officer.
- Conduct random drug testing on students.
- Install security cameras on the school campus.

- Utilize regularly scheduled meetings with the School Health Council, school board members, etc. to determine and discuss the current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges associated with implementing and maintaining your school's healthy and safe environment.
- Tishomingo County School District's policies will attempt to follow CDC and MSDH guidelines and recommendations in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19.
 - Tishomingo County High School currently employs one School Resource Officer.

Commitment to Quality Health Services

Tishomingo County High School will attempt to:

- Ensure all school nurses are working under the guidelines of the 2013 Mississippi School Nurse Procedures and Standards of Care.
- Provide for teachers and staff training regarding signs and symptoms of asthma. (MS Code Sections 37-11-71 and 73-25-37)
- Every child who has been diagnosed with asthma must have an asthma action plan on file in the school office.
- Know the district anaphylaxis policy. Provide training by a healthcare professional, preferably a school nurse, for the individuals that will be responsible for implementing the policy at the school site. (MS Code Sections 37-11-71 and 73-25-37)

Tishomingo County High School's school nurse will comply with the policy of the School Access to Emergency Epi-pen Act and obtain an Epi-pen for emergency use. Tishomingo County School District will maintain a supply of Epi-pens with a physician's order. School staff will be trained on the proper use of an Epi-pen. An Epi-pen may be administered by the school nurse or trained staff when in good faith it is believed that a student is having an anaphylactic reaction whether or not the student has a known allergy.

- The school nurse should attend at least one MDE-sponsored training each school year.
- Allow students with severe allergies to carry an epi-pen with them at all times.

- The school nurse should submit health services data on the 10th of each month for the previous month.
- Offer comprehensive health services for students in grades K-12, through the employment of school nurses, as a means to academic success.
- Optimize the provision of health services with a school nurse-to-student ratio of 1:750 for students in the general population.
- Collaborate with other school staff to provide health services as part of a Coordinated School Health Program.
- Work with students, parents, and local healthcare providers to effectively manage and treat chronic diseases.
- Promote healthy lifestyles through school and community events (open houses, health fairs, teacher in-services, and other events).
- Schools may seek community support that provides auto-injector epinephrine to stock emergency medication needs.
- Tishomingo County School District will allow student service animals for conditions requiring assistance as deemed necessary.
- Health screenings will be provided by the Health Office on students in even grades each school year. Ht/Wt/BP, vision, hearing (as deemed age appropriate).
- Vision Research services will be used yearly for vision screenings when available. Students will be referred to Sight Savers or other resources for financial assistance in obtaining glasses when needed.
- Health services will adhere to the Tishomingo County School District's Board-approved Covid 19 guidelines.
- Tishomingo County High School currently employs one school nurse.

Commitment to Providing Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services

Tishomingo County High School will attempt to:

 Adhere to the details outlined in the Licensure Guidelines (436 or 451) when hiring guidance counselors and psychologists. The state does not have a policy specifically outlining the requirements for a school social worker. For licensure as a social worker in the state of Mississippi, a candidate must: provide verification of a baccalaureate degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) or Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and scores a minimum of 70 on the ASWB basic exam.

- Abide by Mississippi Code 37-9-79 (Amended 2014) as the school provides counseling and guidance for students.
- Hire school guidance counselors with a minimum of a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling, or in an emergency situation, an appropriate certification as determined by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. MS Code 37-9-79 – (Amended 2014-Senate Bill 2423).
- Hire school counselors who agree to abide by the American School Counselor Association Code of Ethics.
- Ensure that all school guidance counselors provide comprehensive counseling services such as:
 - Academic and personal/social counseling.
 - Student assessment and assessment counseling.
 - Career and educational counseling.
 - Individual and group counseling.
 - Crisis intervention and preventive counseling.
 - Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the State Department of Education shall require that local school districts conduct in-service training on suicide prevention education for all school district employees. Thereafter, only new employees are required to have training.
 - The Mississippi Department of Mental Health will be responsible for developing the content of the training (HB 263).
 - □ Referrals to community agencies.
 - Educational consultations and collaborations with teachers, administrators, parents, and community leaders.
 - Education and career placement services.
 - Follow-up counseling services.
 - Conflict resolution.
 - □ Professional school counselors must spend a minimum of eighty percent (80%) of their contractual time to the delivery of services to students as outlined by the American School Counselor Association

- Provide additional services to improve students' mental, emotional, and social health.
- Offer counseling, group assessments, interventions, and other mental health services, as well as referrals to community health professionals.
- Hire qualified counselors who will address the mental health, academic, and career needs of students in the school setting.
- Tishomingo County High School currently employs two counselors.

Commitment to Family and Community Involvement

Tishomingo County High School will attempt to:

- Invite parents and community members to participate in school health planning by serving on the local School Health Council.
- Establish methods to inform and update the public regarding the LSWP (Local School Wellness Policy) and the assessment of the LSWP.
- Open House, which is at the beginning of the school year, allows parents/guardians to meet the teachers and allows parents to know the expectations of classrooms.
- Parent/Teacher Conference allows parents to meet with teachers and discuss student performance.

Commitment to Implementing a Quality Staff Wellness Program

- Ensure that all staff is aware of the Mississippi State and School Employees'
 Health Insurance Plan that has been enhanced to include My Active Health,
 a wellness and health promotion program designed to help individuals live a
 healthy lifestyle and increase their overall wellness benefit http://www.MyActiveHealth.com/Mississippi.
- Encourage after-school health and fitness sessions for school staff (Iuka Wellness Center offers reduced rates for school employees).
- Inform staff that Weight Watchers offer a reduced rate for school employees.

Commitment to Marketing a Healthy School Environment

Tishomingo County High School will attempt to:

- Provide positive, motivating messages (verbal and non-verbal) to students and staff concerning healthy lifestyle practices throughout the school setting.
- Involve students, faculty, parents, and community members in planning a healthy school environment. Input and feedback will be gathered through our School Health Council and Student Government Association, and comments will be addressed in our needs assessment tool.
- Promote healthy eating, physical activity, and healthy lifestyles to students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the community at school events (e.g., school registration, parent-teacher in services, and other events).
- Eliminate advertising or promoting unhealthy food choices on the school campus. Advertising must be restricted to only those foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards.
- Work with local media, like newspapers, TV, and radio, to inform the community about the health problems facing Mississippi children, as well as the need for the benefits of healthy school environments.

Commitment to Implementation

- Establish a plan for the implementation of the school wellness policy.
- Designate one or more persons to ensure that the school wellness policy is implemented as written. Tishomingo County High School designates the principals, the athletic director, and the school nurse for this purpose.
- Establish and support a School Health Council (SHC) that addresses all aspects of a coordinated school health program, including a school wellness policy (Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated, Section 37-13-134).
- Conduct a review of the progress toward school wellness policy goals each year to identify areas for improvement.
- Prepare and submit a yearly report to the school board regarding the progress toward implementation of the school wellness policy and recommendations for any revisions to the policy as necessary to update and modify the program as appropriate.

- Use monitoring instruments, developed by the Office of Healthy Schools, to conduct a self-assessment that identifies strengths and weaknesses toward implementation of the minimum requirements. Monitoring instruments can be downloaded at http://www.mdek12.org/OHS - Click on Resources
- In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.
- Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.
- To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

fax: (202) 690-7442; or

email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

School Health Council 2022-2023 School Year

Crystal South, RN, School Nurse
Dax Glover, Principal
Monical Moss, Assistant Principal
Jarrad Robinson, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Tiffany Lowrey, School Counselor
Laura Poling, School Counselor
Emily McWilliams, Nutrition Services
Tim Lancaster, School Resource Officer
Tanissa Jeffries, Health/Nutrition Teacher
Brian Middleton, Physical Education/Coach
Faith Robinson, Family Dynamics Teacher
Lila Grace Sanderson, HS Student
? HS Student (will add name after school resumes)
Sonya Sanderson, Parent and Tobacco-Free Coalition Representative

Wellness Policy Monitoring

Tishomingo County School District Wellness Policy will be monitored at the district level by:

Mary Beth Sheffield, Director of Food Services Katie Crane, Assistant Superintendent

Tishomingo County School District Wellness Policy will be monitored at the school level by:

Belmont, Principal
Burnsville, Jonathan Jones, Principal
Iuka Elementary, BJ Nunley, Principal
Iuka Middle, Chrystal Smith, Principal
Tishomingo, Andy Deaton, Principal
Tishomingo County High School, Dax Glover, Principal
Tishomingo County Career and Technical Center, John-Grady Taylor,
Director