



### **TPSD Raises New State Flag**

**TUPELO, Miss.** — Mississippi’s new state flag now proudly flies over the Tupelo Public School District.

Wednesday morning, TPSD officially began the process of raising the flags at all its schools and administrative offices with two key ceremonies honoring the historic moment.

The first was at 8:30 a.m. at the downtown central office location, where city and business leaders gathered to watch as current superintendent Dr. Rob Picou join retired superintendent Dr. Randy McCoy in raising the new flag.

Then in a special event at Carver Elementary, the former all-black school during segregation that now serves kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>-grade students, Tupelo councilwoman Nettie Davis and Tupelo native Wayne Hereford raised the flag overlooking the old football field as school officials, students, teachers and community members took in the moment.

Davis, who grew up on Park Hill across the street from the school, graduated from Carver in 1959, while Hereford’s father, Robert, was a long-time teacher and coach there.

“It’s a beautiful flag for a beautiful state with beautiful children who will grow and learn the eternal value of love and commitment to community,” Picou said. “As we enter this new period and emerge from this pandemic, I am committed to equity and academic excellence for all students.”

TPSD will continue the distribution process for the new flags into next week as each school will have smaller ceremonies to honor the occasion.

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