

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 26, 2021 - 1:00 P.M.

OSSD EDUCATORS BECOME “GOOGLE CERTIFIED”

OCEAN SPRINGS, Miss (OSSD) -- All twenty-nine of Ocean Springs School District’s top leaders and school administrators have become “Google Certified Educators,” adding another tool to their vast education toolbelt.

Over the course of the already eventful school year, all twenty-nine of OSSD’s top leaders and school administrators worked towards and passed an exam, earning their Level 1 Google Certification. This comes on the heels of Governor Tate Reeves passing the [Mississippi Computer Science and Cyber Education Equality Act \(H.B. 633\)](#), requiring all Mississippi high schools to offer computer science courses and provide teacher training as needed.

“Being a Google Workspace for Education district, earning this distinction allows for easier completion of administrative tasks using various Google Workspace applications, as well as being examples and providing resources for their teachers who would also like to obtain this certification.” says Tonya Strobridge, the Technology Integration Coordinator for OSSD.

The timing for Google Certifications could not be better with Mississippi’s new education initiatives, like EDLA, that provides Mississippi school districts with adequate resources to provide a more robust virtual learning environment, and allowed OSSD to move to a 1:1 student to device ratio. Currently, OSSD has over 6,000 Chromebooks available to students for use each day, including every 7th-12th grader having their own assigned Chromebook.

Dr. Jennifer Necaise, Principal of Ocean Springs Upper Elementary, says becoming Google Certified has helped her become more advanced with applications she uses on a daily basis. “Receiving Level 1, Google Certification has helped me grow professionally ensuring that I use my time and resources effectively when working within the G Suite,” Necaise said. “I have learned new ways to incorporate technology as a school administrator and streamline my processes to help make my work more efficient.”

The Google certification curriculum and exam require users to become proficient in a wide variety of Google Apps for Education, in addition to learning advanced skills in the different applications Google has to offer.



ABOUT OSSD: Ocean Springs School District is home to more than 7,000 dedicated students and educators. It is the mission of the Ocean Springs School District to teach our students essential content and strategies that will enable them to apply knowledge beyond their school experience and to have a positive impact on society.