

Summary of RCSD Suspensions/Reinstatements:

Policy AE School Year (Academic Calendar): Waiver for SY19-20 and 20-21 of 180-day calendar requirement expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy AF School Day: Waiver for SY19-20 and 20-21 of the 330-minute per day requirement expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy BBBC Board Member Development (Training) Opportunity: Waiver for SY19-20 and 20-21 expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy GBI Evaluation of Employees: Waived for SY19-20 reinstated for the 2020-2021 school year reporting period. No additional policy changes are needed.

Policy IB Instructional Goals: Temporary suspension in SY20-21 related to requirements for testing cursive writing expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy ICHI Literacy Based Promotion Act, IEI Instructional Intervention, IEBA Dyslexia Policy, and IHE Promotion and Retention:: Temporary amendment in SY20-21 related to performance on statewide 3rd grade assessment for promotion to the 4th grade expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy IHAE: Temporary amendment in SY20-21 expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy JBD Attendance Tardiness and Excuses: Temporary amendment in SY20-21 expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

Policy JGFC Dismissals: Temporary amendment in SY20-21 expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

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Rule	MDE Suspension and/or Revisions of Rules with MDE updates through April 15, 2021	Rankin County School District Proposed Suspension and/or Revision
<p>Accreditation Policy 3.0 – Annual Performance Classification: Districts and Schools are Assigned Annual Performance Classifications based on the Business Rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System.</p> <p>School Improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools (CSI) Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (TSI) Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (ATSI) 	<p>On March 19, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education granted approval for districts and schools to maintain the same accountability designation in the 2020-2021 school year as assigned in the 2019-2020 school year with no cumulative impact for cases where multiple years with the same designation may lead to a more severe consequences. Schools and districts will retain the same designations for CSI, TSI, and ATSI from the 2018-2019 school year. The three-year average performance used in identification would exclude the 2019-2020 school year. On March 20, 2020 the MDE submitted an expedited waiver to the United States Department of Education (ED) to waive certain requirements in Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C § 6311(b)) related to assessment and accountability requirements. On March 27, 2020, the MDE received official approval from ED. For the 2019–2020 school year, schools and districts retained the same designations for CSI, TSI, and ATSI from the 2018 – 2019 school year. The three-year average performance used in identification will exclude the 2019–2020 school year.</p> <p>On January 21, 2021, the SBE approved to suspend the assignment of A-F grades for the 2020-2021 school year in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §37-17-6(5). Proficiency rates will be calculated and reported for Reading and Mathematics to the extent possible based on the administration of all statewide assessments administered during the 2020–2021 school year and the current business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System.</p> <p>CSI, TSI, and ATSI schools will retain their designations from the 2018–2019 school year, with the exception of TSI schools identified for graduation rate only. This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>
<p>Process Standards 1 and 1.3: The local school board and the superintendent of schools shall exercise due diligence in performing the respective duties in accordance with applicable law. <i>Every school board member selected after July 1, 2002, shall spend at least one (1) full day in a school in the district they represent, without compensation. MS Code 37-7-306(4)</i></p>	<p>Upon request from the Mississippi School Boards Association, on June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued a one-year suspension requiring local school board members to visit each school within the district as a body during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years as a result of the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>June 24, 2020: Based on the MDE's suspension, RCSD Board waives the requirement in RCSD Board Policy <u>BBBC Board Member Development (Training) Opportunity</u> related to <i>spending at least one (1) full day in a school</i> for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic school years.</p> <p>May 12, 2021: This waiver of RCSD Board Policy BBBC expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>

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<p>Process Standard 2: All district professional positions requiring licensed staff are to be filled by staff that are properly licensed and endorsed in accordance with state and federal law.</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued a one-year suspension of the requirement for districts to respond to notifications of noncompliance for licensed staff during school closures as a result of COVID-19 for the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional one-year suspension requiring districts to respond to accreditation personnel edits based on data submitted in MSIS to the MDE for the 2020-2021 school year. To ensure districts are aware of their continued responsibilities MDE will provide additional guidance to districts regarding the approval and parameters of any waivers and suspensions approved by the SBE for the 2020-2021 school year. In accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.1, the district superintendent and school principals shall ensure that all data reported to the MDE are true and accurate as verified by supporting documentation on file in the school district.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>
<p>Process Standard 3: The school district implements an annual, formal personnel appraisal system for licensed staff that includes assessment of employee on-the-job performance.</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued a one-year suspension of the requirement for districts to submit annual employee performance data for the 2019–2020 school year via SharePoint. The suspension removed sanctions for districts failing to adhere to the reporting guidelines of the Educator and Administrator Professional Appraisal System for the 2019–2020 school year. Districts were not required to attend the MDE-approved Professional Growth System (PGS) training for the 2019–2020 school year. However, it was recommended that districts attend future PGS training in preparation for the upcoming school years in which Process Standard 3 is reinstated. Districts electing to submit annual personnel performance data for the 2019–2020 school year were provided the instructions and timelines for the submission of data for the 2019–2020 school year.</p> <p>Only July 16, 2020, the SBE granted an additional one-year suspension of the requirement for districts to submit annual employee performance data for the 2020–2021 school year via SharePoint. The suspension removed sanctions for districts failing to adhere to the reporting guidelines of the Educator and Administrator Professional Appraisal System for the 2020–2021 school year. The MDE recommended that districts attend future PGS training in preparation for the upcoming school years in which Process Standard 3 is reinstated. The United States Department of Education (ED) provided guidance that the MDE was not required to submit a waiver for this rule suspension as outlined in Sections 1111(g)(1)(B) and 1111(h)(1)(C) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. § 6311(b)).</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>April 8, 2020: Based on the MDE’s one-year suspension, RCSD Board waived the requirements in RCSD Board Policy <u>GBI Evaluation of Employees</u> for the 2019-2020 academic school year.</p> <p>June 24, 2020: MDE has not extended this suspension to the 2020-2021 school year, RCSD Board Policy <u>GBI Evaluation of Employees</u> is reinstated for the 2020-2021 academic school year.</p> <p>May 12, 2021: RCSD has implemented full employee evaluations during the 2020-2021 school year. No additional policy changes are needed.</p>

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Process Standard 4:

Local school boards are required to obtain an annual financial audit of the school district, as conducted under the guidelines of the Office of the State Auditor, no later than nine (9) months after the end of the district's fiscal year (March 31).

On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement for school boards to obtain an annual financial audit, as conducted under the guidelines of the Office of the State Auditor, no later than nine (9) months after the end of the district's fiscal year (March 31). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has authorized recipients and subrecipients with fiscal year-ends through June 30, 2020, to delay the completion and submission of the Single Audit reporting package, to six (6) months beyond the normal due date. In consultation with the Office of the State Auditor, the MDE temporarily suspended the deadline set in Process Standard 4 and extended the deadline by six (6) months to reflect the OMB's extension (September 30, 2020) for the Fiscal Year 2019 audits.

In December 2020, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) authorized recipients and subrecipients that received COVID-19 funding with original due dates from October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, an extension for up to three (3) months beyond the normal due date in the completion and submission of the Fiscal Year 2020 Single Audit reporting package.

On January 21, 2021, the SBE approved a temporary suspension of the deadline set in Process Standard 4 to extend the deadline by three (3) months to reflect OMB's extension (June 30, 2021) for the Fiscal Year 2020 audits.

On March 19, 2021, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) authorized recipients and subrecipients that have not yet filed their single audits with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse as of the date of the issuance of the memorandum that have fiscal year-ends through June 30, 2021, to delay the completion and submission of the Single Audit reporting package, as required under Subpart F of 2 CFR § 200.501 to six (6) months beyond the normal due date.

On April 15, 2021, the SBE approved a temporary suspension of the deadline set in Process Standard 4 to extend the deadline by six (6) months to reflect OMB's extension (September 30, 2021) for the Fiscal Year 2020 audits.

No RCSD policy revision is required.

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<p>Process Standard 10: The school district implements procedures for monitoring and reporting student absences as specified in the Mississippi Compulsory Attendance Law.</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement for districts to monitor and submit student referrals for attendance violations, of compulsory school-age students, after March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>Actions taken for petitions filed in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §37-13-91(7) and scheduled court dates prior to March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the 2019-2020 school year, fall under the jurisdiction of the courts and the MDE will continue to adhere to the courts' rules.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>April 8, 2020: RCSD Board waived the requirements for attendance and excuses included in RCSD Board Policy <u>JBD Attendance, Tardiness, and Excuses</u>. The waiver will be in effect from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. As MDE has not extended this suspension to the 2020-2021 school year, RCSD Board Policy <u>JBD Attendance, Tardiness, and Excuses</u> is reinstated for the 2020-2021 academic school year.</p> <p>August 12, 2020: RCSD Board approved a <u>temporary amendment</u> to Policies JBD and JGFC Dismissals related to Virtual Attendance, Extended Absence, and Dismissals for 2020-2021.</p> <p><u>May 12, 2021: The temporary amendment to policies JBD and JGFC expires upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</u></p>
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Process Standard 13:

The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days.

On March 19, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the SBE suspended the requirement mandating each school district to submit a request to alter the school calendar and request forgiveness by the SBE for all days missed as a result of the impact of COVID-19 in the state of Mississippi. The SBE also approved altered school terms for school districts to operate for less than one hundred eighty (180) days for the 2019-2020 school year.

On June 11, 2020, the SBE approved the following:

For the 2020-2021 school year, districts will have three (3) options for school opening (or any combination thereof) to meet the one hundred eighty (180) teaching day requirement:

- 1) Traditional Schedule
- 2) Hybrid Schedule
- 3) Virtual Schedule

A traditional schedule requires students to be physically present in school with scheduling modifications to follow Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations.

A hybrid schedule combines online and face-to-face instruction for students. Schools must meet distance learning requirements.

A virtual schedule provides instruction through distance learning. Guidance regarding how districts shall record attendance based on the scheduling options outlined above was provided to districts.

On August 6, 2020, the SBE voted to waive up to 10 days during the 2020-2021 school year for school districts that have delayed their established and published start dates, or for those districts identified under Executive Order 1517.

On August 27, 2020, the SBE voted to allow all school districts to operate for less than 180 days for the 2020-2021 school year by providing a ten (10) day waiver in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63(2). Any reduction of school days must be related to COVID-19 in order for this waiver to apply. School districts may not reduce the school calendar at the end of the school year, if the ten (10) days are not utilized for COVID-related calendar adjustments during the 2020–2021 school year.

This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.

April 8, 2020: Based on the SBE's action on March 19, RCSD Board waived the 180-day requirement mandated in RCSD Board Policy AE School Year (Academic Calendar).

For the 2020-2021 school year, RCSD plans to meet the one hundred eighty (180) teaching day requirement using a combination of Traditional, Hybrid, and Virtual Schedules, as directed by Governor's Executive Orders and MDE forthcoming guidance.

July 8, 2020: The RCSD Board approved a revision to the 2020-2021 district calendar to move the first day of school from August 6, 2020, to August 10, 2020, to allow time for additional teacher training before school.

July 22, 2020: The RCSD Board approved the District COVID-19 2020-2021 Smart Restart Plan, as posted on the website on July 17, 2020. The plan indicated fluidity of instructional schedules (traditional, hybrid, virtual), pending state mandates and guidelines.

August 12, 2020: The RCSD Board approved a revision to the 2020-2021 district calendar to move the first day of school from August 10, 2020, to August 17, 2020, for a total of 175 days, as allowed by SBE's August 6 vote.

May 12, 2021: The waiver of policy AE School Year expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

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<p>Process Standard 13.1: The teaching day must provide 330 minutes of instruction per day.</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement for 330 minutes of instruction per day from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional one-year suspension for the 2020-2021 school year of Miss. Code Ann. §37-13-67 which states, “the number of hours of actual teaching which shall constitute a school day shall be determined and fixed by the Board of Trustees of the school district at not less than five and one-half (5 1/2) hours.” This suspension will allow districts flexibility within their re-entry plans/scheduling options in an effort to comply with the MSDH and the CDC guidelines as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year. With this suspension of the 330 minutes of instruction per day, districts shall meet a minimum of 240 minutes (4 hours) of instructional time per day.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>April 8, 2020: RCSD Board waived the requirements stated in RCSD Board Policy AF School Day and suspended the requirement for 330 minutes of instruction per day from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. For the 2020-2021 School Year, RCSD Board Policy AF School Day requirement for 330 minutes of instruction per day is suspended and replaced with a minimum of 240 minutes or 4 hours per day of instructional time, in an effort to comply with guidelines related to COVID-19.</p> <p>May 12, 2021: The suspension expires and Policy AF is reinstated upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>
<p>Process Standard 13.2: Districts 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 one-half (½) unit offered.</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement of the minimum of 140 hours of instruction required for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each one-half (1/2) unit offered for the 2019-2020 school year. School districts were required to determine a process for awarding a Carnegie unit credit for courses that were incomplete for school year 2019-2020. Carnegie units were not to be granted for courses where the student was never enrolled during the 2019-2020 school year. Districts were not allowed to enroll a student in a Carnegie unit bearing course after March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, for the 2019-2020 school year for the sole purpose of awarding a Carnegie unit credit, unless one (1) of the following conditions were met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the district was on a 4x4 block schedule and the student was taking a one-half (½) credit course, or (2) the student was enrolling in an approved online course through Mississippi Online Course Approval (MOCA) with the expectation that the student would complete the course by the end of the Spring 2020 semester. 	<p>April 8, 2020: RCSD Board Policy IHF Graduation Requirements makes no reference to Carnegie unit seat time; therefore, no RCSD policy revision is required <u>related to Carnegie units</u>. However, given the current expectation for school closure through April 17, 2020, the closing date of April 15, 2020, for Opt-Out Requests will be extended to the last day of the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>Based on the MDE’s suspension of seat-time requirements, RCSD Board adopted the <i>Secondary Grading and Promotion Procedures for 2019-2020 School Year</i> as a temporary revision to RCSD Board Policy IHA Grading Systems as well as RCSD Board Policy IHAE Semester Exams.</p>

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	<p>The conditions outlined above were not applicable to transfer students enrolling in a school district on or after March 16, 2020, for the 2019-2020 school year. Students transferring from a public school (in-state or out-of-state) or a nonpublic school accredited by the MDE or other regionally accrediting agency to be determined by the local school district was eligible to enroll in a Carnegie unit bearing course after March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, for the 2019-2020 school year, if the student was previously enrolled in the course in his/her transferring school.</p> <p>Based on approved school board policy, local school districts had the authority to issue a standard high school diploma to any student who met the minimum graduation requirements as approved by the State Board of Education during the 2019-2020 school year. See Appendix A in <i>Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019</i>.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional one-year suspension of the minimum of 140 hours of instruction required for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each one-half (1/2) unit offered for the 2020-2021 school year. This suspension will allow districts flexibility within their re-entry plans/scheduling options in an effort to comply with MSDH and CDC guidelines as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>Each district was required to develop a plan to ensure the mastery of content for each Carnegie unit awarded in lieu of meeting the 140-hour requirement for one (1) Carnegie unit awarded and 70 hours for each one-half (1/2) unit awarded. The plan shall be approved by the local school board and posted on the district's website no later than September 30, 2020.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>June 24, 2020: As MDE has not extended a suspension to grading procedures for the 2020-2021 school year, RCSD Board Policy <u>IHA Grading Systems</u> and RCSD Board Policy <u>IHAE Semester Exams</u> are reinstated for the 2020-2021 academic school year.</p> <p>For the 2020-2021 School Year, RCSD will develop a plan to ensure the mastery of content for each Carnegie unit awarded. At this time, RCSD anticipates the 140-hour requirement for one (1) Carnegie unit and the 70-hour requirement for one-half (½) Carnegie unit courses to be met through the district's published schedule (Traditional, Hybrid, and/or Distance Learning), based on MDE, MSDH, and Governor's Executive Order guidelines.</p> <p>September 9, 2020: RCSD Board approved the <u>Mastery of Content plan</u>; after approval, the plan was posted to the district website on the <u>District Resources webpage</u>.</p> <p>July 22, 2020: RCSD Board approved a <u>temporary waiver to policies JBD and IHAE related to attendance and exemptions</u>.</p> <p>May 12, 2021: This temporary waiver of policies JBD and IHAE expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>
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<p>Process Standard 14.1: Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A.</p>	<p>On March 19, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended citations associated with changing local school board graduation requirements mid-year for the 2019-2020 school year due to the impact of school closures related to COVID-19. The local school board had the authority to suspend and/or amend the graduation requirements set forth by the local school board for the 2019-2020 school year. Students were not allowed to graduate with less than the minimum number of Carnegie units set forth by the State Board of Education and outlined in Appendix A. The student was required to meet both the minimum number of Carnegie unit requirements and the required courses as outlined in Appendix A. Local districts may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under Miss. Code Ann. §37-16-7. Local districts have the option of granting high school diplomas as outlined in Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, and A-4. The waivers granted by the State Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year allowed districts to amend or establish local board policy to waive additional requirements above the state minimum and allow students to graduate using the minimum requirements outlined in Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, and A-4.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, the SBE approved the following: The local school board shall establish graduation requirements for the 2020-2021 school year prior to the first day of school. <i>Such requirements shall meet the minimum number of Carnegie units set forth by the SBE and outlined in Appendix A. The local school board lacks the authority to suspend and/or amend the local district's graduation requirements for school year 2020-2021 mid-year unless the SBE grants authority.</i></p>	<p>April 8, 2020: RCSD Board waived the requirements stated in RCSD Board Policy IHF Graduation Requirements related to subject area tests, as approved by the State Board of Education on March 26, 2020. Further, for the 2019-2020 school year graduating class only, Rankin County Schools adopted the Mississippi Department of Education 24-credit diploma option (Appendix A-2).</p> <p>June 24, 2020: RCSD Board revised the requirements stated in RCSD Board Policy <u>IHF Graduation Requirements</u> for the 2020-2021 school year graduating class to meet the Mississippi Department of Education 24-credit diploma option (Appendix A-2), consistent with the expectations for the 2019-2020 graduating class, and for the 2021-2022 class and beyond.</p>
<p>Process Standard 14.2: Each student receiving a standard diploma has met assessment requirements on each of the required high school end-of-course (EOC) subject area tests or met one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test as outlined in Appendix A-5.</p>	<p>1. Any student grades 7 through 12 that was enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II and/or U. S. History during the 2019-2020 school year and earned the Carnegie Unit credit will not be required to take and/or pass the corresponding EOC subject area test(s) or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s) in order to meet the graduation requirements regardless of their expected graduation date/year. The student must have earned the Carnegie unit credit for the course prior to the end of the 2019-2020 school year. If the Carnegie unit for the course was not earned by the end of the Spring 2020 semester or prior to the summer MSIS data submission deadline through credit recovery, extended school year, and/or summer school, etc., this rule suspension does not apply.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy change is needed.</p>

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	<p>2. Any student grades 7 through 12 enrolled in school during the 2019-2020 school year as of March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, that has passed the Algebra I, Biology, English II, and/or U.S. History course(s), but has not passed the corresponding EOC subject area test(s) or met one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s), will be allowed to graduate, if all other state and local graduation requirements have been met regardless of their expected graduation date/year. These students are typically referred to as “retesters.”</p> <p>3. Any student in grades 7 through 12 who took a Fall 2019 EOC assessment as a first-time test taker (4x4 districts) and failed the corresponding EOC assessment will not be required to retake the corresponding EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s), in any future school year to meet graduation requirements regardless of their expected graduation date/year.</p> <p>4. Any student enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II, or U.S. History in the 2019-2020 school year who failed the course in the 2019-2020 school year and must repeat the course in the 2020-2021 school year (or thereafter) to earn the Carnegie Unit credit will be required to pass the corresponding EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment as outlined in Appendix A-5.</p> <p>5. Any student enrolled in school in the 2019-2020 school year who earned a Carnegie Unit credit in Algebra I, Biology, English II or U.S. History in a school year prior to 2019-2020, but took the test as a first time test taker in the Fall 2019 or was planning to take the assessment as a first-time test taker in Spring 2020 will not be required to take and/or pass the EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment when school reconvenes regardless of their expected graduation date/year.</p> <p>6. The composite score option outlined in Appendix A-5 will not be available to students who do not have four (4) EOC subject area test scores.</p> <p>7. Students who were not enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year, but are still attempting to meet the graduation requirements through retest opportunities will be required to pass the EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment as outlined in Appendix A-5.</p> <p>“Enrolled” refers to students enrolled in a public school (in-state or out-of-state) or a nonpublic school accredited by the MDE or other regionally accrediting agency to be determined by the local school district. Students transferring from a public school (in-state or out-of-state) or a nonpublic school accredited by the MDE or other regionally accrediting agency to be determined by the local school district was eligible to enroll in a subject area tested course unit bearing course after March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the 2019-2020 school year, if the student was previously enrolled in the course in his/her transferring school.</p>	
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	<p>On March 20, 2020 the MDE submitted an expedited waiver to the United States Department of Education (ED) to waive certain requirements in Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20U.S.C§6311(b)) related to assessment and accountability requirements. On March 27, 2020, the MDE received official approval from ED. The waiver related to federal and state assessments applied only to the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>ED did not issue a waiver of the federal assessment requirements for the 2020-2021 school year; therefore, all assessments within the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System will be administered during the 2020–2021 school year..</p> <p>On January 21, 2021, the SBE approved the following:</p> <p>Any student grades 7 through 12 enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II and/or U.S. History during the 2020–2021 school year will be required to take the corresponding EOC subject area test(s); but, will not be required to meet a minimum score on the assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s) in order to meet the graduation requirements regardless of their expected graduation date/year.</p> <p>The above criteria outlined in items 1 through 7 for Process Standard 14.2 and approved by the SBE on March 26, 2020, for the 2019–2020 school year remain in effect. Additionally, the following criteria will apply to the 2020–2021 school year:</p> <p>8. Any student grades 7 through 12 enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II and/or U.S. History on January 21, 2021, and earns the Carnegie Unit credit for the course will not be required to pass the corresponding EOC subject area test(s) or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s) in order to meet the graduation requirements regardless of their expected graduation date/year. The student must earn the Carnegie unit credit for the course prior to the end of the 2020-2021 school year. If the Carnegie unit for the course is not earned by the end of the Spring 2021 semester or prior to the summer MSIS data submission deadline through credit recovery, extended school year, and/or summer school, etc., this rule suspension does not apply.</p> <p>9. Any student grades 7 through 12 enrolled in school on January 21, 2021 that has passed the Algebra I, Biology, English II, and/or U.S. History course(s), but has not passed the corresponding EOC subject area test(s) or met one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s), will be allowed to graduate, if all other state and local graduation requirements have been met regardless of their expected graduation date/year. These students are typically referred to as “retesters.”</p> <p>10. Any student in grades 7 through 12 who took a Fall 2020 EOC assessment as a first-time test taker (4x4 districts) and failed the corresponding EOC assessment will not be required to retake the corresponding EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s), in any future school year to meet graduation requirements regardless of their expected graduation date/year.</p>	
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	<p>11. Any student enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II, or U.S. History in the 2020–2021 school year who fails the course in the 2020-2021 school year and must repeat the course in the 2021-2022 school year (or thereafter) to earn the Carnegie Unit credit for the course will be required to pass the corresponding EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment as outlined in Appendix A-5.</p> <p>12. Any student enrolled in school in the 2020–2021 school year who earns a Carnegie Unit credit for the course in Algebra I, Biology, English II, or U.S. History during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year (4x4 districts), but did not take the test as a first time test taker in the Fall 2020 will be required to take the assessment as a first time test taker in Spring 2021 but will not be required to pass the EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment regardless of their expected graduation date/year.</p> <p>13. The composite score option outlined in Appendix A-5 will not be available to students who do not have four (4) EOC subject area test scores. (See item #6). However, because all EOC assessments will be administered during the 2020-2021 school year, any student that was unable to take one (1) or more assessments during the 2019-2020 school year has the option of taking the assessment(s) in order to utilize the composite score option.</p> <p>14. Students who were not enrolled in the 2020–2021 school year, but are still attempting to meet the graduation requirements through retest opportunities will be required to pass the EOC assessment or meet one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the assessment as outlined in Appendix A-5.</p> <p>“Enrolled” refers to students enrolled in a public school (in-state or out-of-state) or a nonpublic school accredited by the MDE or other regionally accrediting agency to be determined by the local school district. Students transferring from a public school (in-state or out-of-state) or a nonpublic school accredited by the MDE or other regionally accrediting agency to be determined by the local school district are eligible to enroll in a subject area tested course unit bearing course after January 21, 2021, if the student was previously enrolled in the course in his/her transferring school.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	
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<p>Process Standard 16: The school district adheres to all requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System.</p>	<p>On March 19, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education granted approval to suspend all federal and state requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System for the 2019-2020 school year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-K and Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (post-test); ● Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) and MAAP-Alternate (MAAP-A) English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science - Grades 3- 8 and High School End-of-Course; ● U.S. History; ● Statewide sponsored administration of the ACT for 11th graders; ● English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT); and ● Career Planning and Assessment System (CPAS). <p>On March 20, 2020 the MDE submitted an expedited waiver to the United States Department of Education (ED) to waive certain requirements in Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20U.S.C. §6311(b)) related to assessment and accountability requirements. On March 27, 2020 the MDE received official approval from ED. The waiver related to federal and state assessments applied only to the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>ED has not issued a waiver of assessment requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. All state and federal assessments will be administered during the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>March 19, 2020: During its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) granted approval to suspend all federal and state requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System for the 2019-2020 school year. On April 8, 2020, RCSD Board suspended RCSD Board Policy <u>II Testing Program</u> to suspend statewide testing for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, as approved by SBE on March 19, 2020.</p> <p>June 24, 2020: As MDE has not extended a suspension to statewide assessments for the 2020-2021 school year, RCSD Board Policy <u>II Testing Program</u> is reinstated for the 2020-2021 academic school year.</p>
<p>Process Standard 17.2: Early Childhood Programs (kindergarten and teacher assistant) [Districts Meeting the Highest Levels of Performance are exempted from provisions of subsection (4) of Miss. Code §37-21-7.]</p>	<p>Due to the impact of school closures related to COVID-19 and the impact on professional development opportunities, on April 16, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the required pre-kindergarten teacher assistant requirements by one (1) school year, such that requirements are as outlined below: By August 1, 2021, 50% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers, special education pre-kindergarten teachers, and assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described in the Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children. By August 1, 2023, 100% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers, special education pre-kindergarten teachers, and assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described in the Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children.</p>	<p>As a district meeting the highest levels of performance, RCSD is exempt from these provisions. No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>

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	<p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional one-year extension of the requirements for Early Childhood Programs: By August 1, 2022, 50% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers, special education pre-kindergarten teachers, and assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described in the Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children. By August 1, 2024, 100% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers, special education pre-kindergarten teachers, and assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described in the Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children.</p> <p>The revised deadlines approved by the SBE for this waiver/rule suspension/extension for the suspension of the required pre-kindergarten teacher and assistant teacher requirements as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on professional development opportunities still apply.</p>	
<p>Process Standard 17.8: In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-23-197, the board shall specifically promulgate rules, regulations and guidelines which establish model programs of gifted education and also establish minimum criteria for gifted education programs. Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 35.1, State Board Policy Chapter 35, Rule 35.1 establishes the operation of the State gifted program is governed by the Regulations for Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi and the Standards of Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi. The Regulations for Gifted Education Programs 2013, p. 22, require that: <i>A group of all intellectually gifted students is provided services by a properly endorsed teacher in a self-contained room for a recommended 300 minutes per week, or a minimum of 240 minutes per week.</i></p>	<p>On August 27, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education approved a suspension of strict compliance with Rule 35.1, reducing the minimum service time provided to intellectually gifted students to 150 minutes per week for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>RCSD Board Policy <u>IDE Gifted Education Program</u> does not specifically reference minimum service time. The exhibit to Policy IDE Gifted Education Program Handbook, approved September 23, 2020, does reference the State Board Policy and the minimum service hours, along with an allowance for the revised minimum service time, if needed. No change to RCSD Board Policy is needed at this time.</p>

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Process Standard 20.2:

The instructional management system includes a tiered instructional model including academic interventions, behavior interventions, and *Literacy Based Promotion Act* requirements.

On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education granted approval to suspend all requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System for the 2019-2020 school year including the 3rd grade Reading assessment as required by the Literacy Based Promotion Act (LBPA). For the 2020-2021 school year, the MDE recommends extending the timeline for the administration of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and the literacy and numeracy screeners for grade K-3 from 30 school days to 45 school days from the first day of school.

On August 27, 2020, the SBE granted a waiver of the requirements to meet and document Good Cause Exemptions (GCEs) and a waiver of LBPA district reporting requirements, for enrollment in the 2020-2021 school year, as it was not feasible to maintain documentation or administer assessments during the school closure in the spring of 2020. On March 26, 2020, during its special-called teleconference meeting, the State Board of Education granted approval to suspend all requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System for the 2019-2020 school year including the 3rd grade Reading assessment as required by the Literacy Based Promotion Act (LBPA). All students enrolled in Grade 3 in the 2019-2020 school year were to be promoted to Grade 4 for the 2020-2021 school year, if the student met all other district requirements for promotion. There was no waiver of assessment requirements for the 2020-2021 school year.

On January 21, 2021, the SBE approved the following: All students enrolled in Grade 3 during the 2020-2021 school year shall be administered the statewide assessment in English LanguageArts/Reading and Mathematics, but will not be required to meet the requirements of the LBPA. Therefore, all students enrolled in Grade 3 in the 2020-2021 school year shall be promoted to Grade 4 for the 2021-2022 school year, if the student meets all other district requirements for promotion.

On February 25, 2021, the SBE approved an additional one-year extension of the waiver of LBPA district reporting requirements, as waivers for other LBPA requirements will impact the data needed to report this information for the 2021-2022 school year. Districts will still be required to document interventions and supports for struggling students and communication with parents.

This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.

April 8, 2020: Based on the State Board of Education's action on March 19, 2020, RCSD Board suspended applicable portions of the following RCSD Board Policies related to Instructional Management System and the *Literacy Based Promotion Act* requirements for the 2019-2020 school year:

[ICHI Literacy Based Promotion](#)

[IEI Instructional Intervention](#)

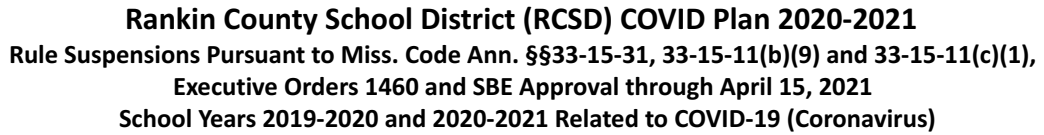
[IEBA Dyslexia Policy](#)

[IHE Promotion and Retention \(3rd grade\)](#)

June 24, 2020: As MDE has not extended a suspension to screeners and statewide assessments for the 2020-2021 school year, the above noted policies are reinstated for the 2020-2021 academic school year.

September 23, 2020: MDE extended the timeline of the screening window from 30 to 45 days. The RCSD Board amended Policy IEI by changing the 30 day requirement to "following the timelines approved by the Mississippi Department of Education."

May 12, 2021: Based upon the SBE's action on January 21, 2021, RCSD Board suspends applicable portions of policies ICHI, IEI, and IHE that require a specific performance level on the statewide 3rd grade reading assessment for promotion to 4th grade for the 2020-2021 school year. These suspensions will expire upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.



Process standard numbers refer to the Process Standards outlined in the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*.
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<p>Process Standard 28: Student Teacher Ratios do not exceed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process Standard 28.1: 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. • Process Standard 28.2: Student teacher ratios do not exceed 27 to 1 in classrooms serving grades 1 through 4 unless approved by the State Board of Education. • Process Standard 28.3: Student teacher ratios do not exceed 30 to 1 in self-contained classrooms serving grades 5 through 8. A one-year waiver may be requested for classes that do not exceed more than two (2) students beyond the allowable student teacher ratio. • Process Standard 28.4: Student teacher ratios do not exceed 33 to 1 in departmentalized academic core classes serving grades 5 through 12. A one-year waiver may be requested for classes that do not exceed more than two (2) students beyond the allowable student teacher ratio. • Process Standard 28.5: 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. 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. 	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued a one-year suspension requiring districts to request waivers to the State Board of Education or the Commission on School Accreditation to comply with student-teacher ratios for Process Standards 28.1, 28.2, 28.3, 28.4, and 28.5 for the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>Requiring districts to respond to notifications of noncompliance of student-teacher ratios during school closures due to the state of emergency produces an undue burden on districts during the emergency closures for the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional one-year suspension requiring districts to request waivers to the SBE or the Commission on School Accreditation to comply with student-teacher ratios for Process Standards 28.1, 28.2, 28.3, 28.4, and 28.5 for the 2020-2021 school year. This suspension will allow districts flexibility within their re-entry plans/scheduling options in an effort to comply with MSDH and CDC guidelines as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No change to RCSD Board Policy <u>IEC Class Size/Enrollment Requirements</u> is required.</p>
<p>Process Standard 29: The school district complies with the applicable policies of the State Board of Education and state and federal laws in the operation of its transportation program.</p>	<p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued a one-year suspension of the State Board of Education requirement for certified bus drivers to renew the two-year MDE Bus Driver Certification Card. This one-year suspension is applicable to all certified bus drivers with a valid MDE Bus Driver Certification Card with an expiration date of July 31, 2020, or July 31, 2021.</p> <p>The district shall ensure each certified bus driver has a valid bus driver certificate and commercial driver's license (CDL) with "P" and "S" endorsements on file in the district. The district shall also have on file a yearly motor vehicle report on each driver and evidence that each driver has received two (2) hours of in-service training per year.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>

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	<p>Upon the approval of the one-year suspension of the requirement to renew the two-year MDE Bus Driver Certification Card for certified bus drivers, the required two (2) hours of in-service bus driver training per semester provided by the district shall include bus driver safety regulations regarding loading and unloading (at home and on campus) and railroad crossings.</p> <p>The two (2) required bus evacuation drills per year shall be conducted for the 2020-2021 school year under the MSDH and the CDC guidelines in place at the time the drills are conducted. The district will not be cited for noncompliance, if the bus evacuation drills are modified or the district is unable to conduct the drills within the specified timelines in the Mississippi Pupil Transportation Handbook as a result of the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>All certifications for new (first-time) bus drivers will be conducted in accordance with state statute, State Board Policy, and the Mississippi Pupil Transportation Handbook and in accordance with all MSDH and CDC guidelines in place at the time of the training/certification.</p> <p>The revised deadlines approved by the SBE for this waiver/rule suspension/extension still apply.</p>	
<p>Process Standard 31: The school district complies with State Board Policies and State and Federal laws to provide Safe Schools. Each school has a comprehensive School Safety Plan on file that has been approved annually by the local school board.</p>	<p>On April 16, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the deadline of June 30, 2020, and extended the deadline for submission of the annual 40 required hours of training for MCOPS grant recipients from June 30, 2020, until August 1, 2020, in order to be compliant with MCOPS grant requirements. The State Board of Education also suspended the deadline of June 30, 2020, and extended the deadline for submission of the annual 40 required hours of training until August 1, 2020, for school resource officers (SROs) employed with school districts that created their own police departments.</p> <p>On June 11, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education issued an additional extension of the August 1, 2020, deadline, granted on April 16, 2020, until December 31, 2020, for the submission of the annual 40 hours of training for MCOPS grant recipients and SROs as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on training opportunities.</p> <p>On January 21, 2021, the SBE granted an extension of the June 30, 2021, deadline until December 31, 2021, for the submission of the annual 40 hours of training for Fiscal Year 2022 MCOPS grant recipients and SROs as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on training opportunities.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>

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	<p>The district shall conduct all required drills as outlined in the Mississippi School Safety Manual for the 2020-2021 school year, specifically, fire drills, tornado drills, and active shooter drills. All drills shall be conducted under the MSDH and the CDC guidelines in place at the time the drills are conducted. The district will not be cited for noncompliance, if the drills are modified or the district is unable to conduct the drills within the timelines outlined in the Mississippi School Safety Manual as a result of the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period. However, the deadline of December 31, 2021, for the submission of the annual 40 hours of training for Fiscal Year 2022 MCOPS grant recipients and SROs as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on training opportunities still applies.</p>	
<p>Process Standard 32: The school district complies with state statute and State Board of Education policy for education of juveniles in youth detention centers.</p> <p>Process Standard 32.1: Educational requirements of Miss. Code Ann. §42-21-321 and Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 30.6, State Board Policy Chapter 30, Rule 30.6</p>	<p>On March 26, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended citations associated with the education of juveniles in youth detention centers due to the impact of school closures related to COVID-19. The educational services provided to youth in detention centers shall be commensurate to the services provided to their peers in the sponsoring school district (i.e., online content or instructional packets) after March 16, 2020, through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>The educational services provided to youth in detention centers shall be commensurate to the services provided to their peers in the sponsoring school district (i.e., online content or instructional packets) for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expired immediately upon the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No change to RCSD Board Policy <u>IDDB Instruction for Students in Juvenile Detention Facilities</u> is required.</p>

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<p>Early Learning Collaborative Act Miss. Code Ann. §37-21-51(3)(c)(iv): The department will evaluate the effectiveness of each early childhood collaborative and each prekindergarten provider. If the State Department of Education adopts a statewide kindergarten screening that assesses the readiness of each student for kindergarten, the State Department of Education shall adopt a minimum rate of readiness that each prekindergarten provider must meet in order to remain eligible for prekindergarten program funds.</p> <p>Miss. Code Ann. §37-21-51(3)(d): Prekindergarten program funds shall be awarded to early childhood collaboratives whose proposed programs meet the program criteria. The criteria shall include: (xiii) The number of instructional hours to be provided, which shall equal no less than five hundred forty (540) instructional hours per school year for half- day programs and one thousand eighty (1,080) instructional hours per school year for full-day programs.</p>	<p>On April 16, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the required Effectiveness Evaluation Plan for the 2019- 2020 school year due to the impact of school closures related to COVID-19 and the cancellation of statewide assessments. Grantees shall remain eligible for funding in the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>On February 25, 2021, the SBE granted an additional one-year suspension of the Effectiveness Evaluation Plan for the 2020-2021 school year for Early Learning Collaboratives. Programs will continue to conduct student assessments, but not the CLASS observation(s). Grantees shall remain eligible for funding in the 2021-2022 school year. Due to the impact of school closures related to COVID-19, the MDE will allow reimbursement for Early Learning Collaboratives at the full-time and part-time rate for children in the program. Grantees may continue to receive grant funds from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>On February 25, 2021, the SBE granted an additional one-year suspension of the instructional time requirement and student membership requirement for Early Learning Collaboratives in the 2020-2021 school year. Grantees shall remain eligible for funding in the 2021-2022 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020 -2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>
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<p>Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for Students with Dyslexia Program: Miss. Code Ann. §37-173-13(2)(b): The Mississippi Department of Education will disburse payments to nonpublic schools under this program in twelve (12) substantially equal installments. The initial payment shall be made after department verification of admission acceptance, and subsequent payments shall be made upon verification of continued enrollment and attendance at the nonpublic school. Miss. Code Ann. §37-173-17(1)(d): To be eligible to participate in the Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for Students with Dyslexia Program, a nonpublic school must: (d) Maintain in this state a physical location where a scholarship student regularly attends classes.</p>	<p>On April 16, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement for continued attendance at a physical school location from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the 2019-2020 school year. On February 25, 2021, the SBE granted a one-year suspension of the requirement for continued attendance at a physical school location for the 2020–2021 school year. This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020–2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>
<p>Mississippi Speech-Language Therapy Scholarship for Students with Speech-Language Impairment Program (Nate Rogers Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program) Miss. Code Ann. §37-175-17(1)(d): To be eligible to participate in the Mississippi Speech-Language Therapy Scholarship for Students with Speech- Language Impairment Program, a nonpublic school must: (d) Maintain in this state a physical location where a scholarship student regularly attends classes.</p>	<p>On April 16, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement for continued attendance at a physical school location from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the 2019-2020 school year. On February 25, 2021, the SBE granted a one-year suspension of the requirement for continued attendance at a physical school location for the 2020 – 2021 school year. This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020 – 2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>

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School Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

<p>Cursive Writing: Miss. Code Ann. §37-13-10: The standard course of study shall include the requirement that the public schools provide instruction in cursive reading and writing, implemented across the curriculum, so that students create readable documents through legible cursive handwriting by the end of the fifth grade, and that students pass with proficiency a teacher-constructed test demonstrating the students competency in both reading and writing cursive.</p>	<p>On May 21, 2020, during its regularly scheduled meeting, the State Board of Education suspended the requirement that students pass with proficiency a teacher-constructed test demonstrating competency in both reading and writing cursive, from March 16, 2020, the first date of school closures due to COVID-19, through the date classes resume following the state of emergency. This test shall be suspended for students who would have taken it during the 2019-2020 school year based on district practice.</p> <p>On February 25, 2021, the SBE issued an additional one-year suspension of the requirement that students pass with proficiency a teacher-constructed test demonstrating competency in both reading and writing cursive for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020 – 2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>May 12, 2021: RCSD adopted changes to Policy IB in January 2021. The RCSD Board suspends the requirement for testing cursive writing for the 2020-21 school year, as allowed by MDE on February 25, 2021. This suspension will expire immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>
<p>Curriculum and Course of Study Essentials for College Math and Essentials for College Literacy Requirements Miss Admin. Code 7-3: 28.6, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.6 establishes the policies needed at the school level to teach either course and for students to earn the necessary scores for non-postsecondary remediation. Senior students eligible for this class must enter with an ACT sub-score of 15-18 in the respective content area (English or mathematics).</p>	<p>On September 24, 2020, the SBE approved the elimination of the ACT sub-score enrollment requirement for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>This waiver/rule suspension/extension expires immediately upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year reporting period.</p>	<p>No RCSD policy revision is required.</p>