



Superintendent
Isaac Leon Haynes, Jr.

Board Members
Shonda Burre, President
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Shari C. Bryant
Nadine Thompson
Von Norwood

Board Item Submission Cover Page

TO: Mr. Ike Haynes, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Jason McLeod, Deputy Superintendent
DATE: June 4, 2024
RE: Approval of JDCSD Dropout Prevention Plan
Action: Approval of JDCSD Dropout Prevention Plan

Budget Impact: None

Background: The school dropout prevention plan is to bring the social and emotional and academic gaps for students to as well as team building to fulfill the vision and mission of the district.

**** Supporting artifacts attached**



Jefferson Davis County



School District

2024 - 2025

**Dropout Prevention
Plan**

**Mr. Ike Haynes,
Superintendent of Education**

**Jefferson Davis County School District
Cover Page**

School District: Jefferson Davis County School District	
Superintendent: Mr. Ike Haynes	 (Signature)
Board President: Mrs. Shonda Burre	 (Signature)

Statement of Assurance

On behalf of the Jefferson Davis County School District, I hereby submit the district's annual Dropout Prevention Plan. As required in policy and state law, the plan includes strategies for:

- Reducing the retention rates in grades kindergarten, first and second;
- Targeting subgroups that need additional assistance to meet graduation requirements;
- Developing dropout recovery initiatives that focus on students age seventeen (17) through twenty-one (21), who dropped out of school; and
- Addressing how students will transition to the home school district from the juveniledetention centers.

I hereby certify that our District School Board has reviewed and approved this plan for submission to the Mississippi Department of Education.

Dropout Prevention Team Leader:

Name: Dr. Jason McLeod

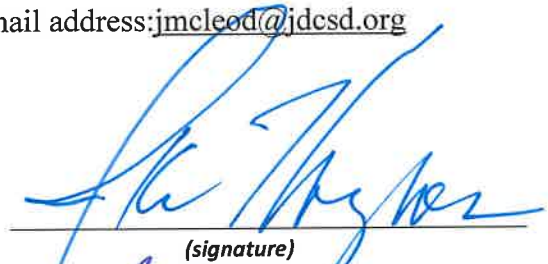
Title: Deputy Superintendent

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District Superintendent: Mr. Ike Haynes



(signature)

Board President: Mrs. Shonda Burre



(signature)

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Level *UP* the Jaguar Way!

Mission Statement

Jefferson Davis County School District promotes a rigorous, safe, and nurturing environment in which students are empowered to achieve their full intellectual and social potential by combining high standards, discipline, and character education, with a commitment to individualism, creativity and diversity as students prepare to contribute to our global society.

Vision Statement

Each student in the Jefferson Davis County School District will achieve lifelong learning, reach proficiency in academic areas, and will contribute to our community in a positive manner.

District Goals

- 1) Student Growth and Achievement: All students proficient and/or owing growth in all academic areas.
- 2) Community Support and Engagement: Foster community partnerships that support student achievement and school success.
- 3) Safe and Orderly Schools: Maintain a positive learning environment.
- 4) Fiscal Accountability: Maintain sound fiscal practices.

2024-2025 Priorities

Priority 1: Get ALL students reading on grade level

Priority 2: Be successful on state assessments

Priority 3: Increase the number of children at school every day

Priority 4: Establish a culture of accountability for everyone

Jefferson Davis County School District

Drop Out Prevention Team

Team Members	Position
Jason McLeod, Ph. D.	Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Subrina Mason	Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Spurgeon Banyard	JDCHS Principal
Mrs. Cathy Anderson	MTSS Coordinator
Ms. Devonshae Harrien	Director of Federal Programs

Data Summary

In review of the Graduating Class of 2023, our district's graduation rate was 88.3% (*MDE report- January 2024*). This is a difference from the Graduating Class of 2022 by approximately 1% (*MDE report- March 2022- 87.2%*). The dropout rate for the 2023 cohort was 7.5%. As it relates to the male or female rate for the class of 2023, female students held a graduation rate of 87.5 % which was .8% lower than males at 88.7%. In the Jefferson Davis County School District, all of our students are eligible for free and reduced meals which holds that the graduation rate for all would be very similar to the rate for economically disadvantaged students which is 91.1%

The review of the academic status of the district has been one that gave a glimpse into the strengths and weaknesses of our students with the academic standing of the district being a C district with three of the four schools garnering a rating of a B school during the 2022-2023 school year. The stats are as follows: Reading Proficiency rate of 35.9%; Math Proficiency Rate of 32.5%; US History Proficiency Rate of 62.5%; Science Proficiency Rate of 46.1%; College and Career Readiness of 29.1% and Acceleration and 46.7% (*MDE media file, 2023 accountability*).

STRATEGIES

Reducing Retention Rates in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades:

In an effort to ensure student growth in areas of current deficits and reduce the retention rates in grades K-2, the Jefferson Davis County School District has created a new position to direct and support student interventions. This position is the MTSS (*Multi-Tiered System of Supports*) Coordinator position which will exist along with school level interventionists. This process will be assistive in student growth as the MTSS Department will provide training for all our administrators, educators and support staff inclusive of our Teacher Support Teams on strategies and methods that enhance student growth. These trainings will include how to complete the MTSS process with fidelity. This will afford our teams the opportunity to review each student during each term to determine their progress in the areas of social emotional, behavioral and academic learning. It is here that if a student is found to continue to demonstrate lack of understanding our deficits that he/she will be placed on Tier II and subsequently Tier III if there is no improvement. This process will be monitored closely as the MTSS/Teacher Support Team will meet regularly on each campus. As we implement these strategies in the early grades, we believe the retention rates for our Kindergarten through Second grade students will decrease and thus support successful completion of high school within a greater percentage due to students being foundationally strong as they matriculate through the various grade levels.

Targeting Subgroups Needing Additional Assistance:

As the JDCSD is a district that is majority economically disadvantaged, the focus will continue to be on all students to increase the % of students scoring proficient or higher in ELA, Math, and Science on the end of course assessments. This will be supported via the district's focus on MTSS as a district MTSS Coordinator has been hired and school level interventionists are available to work with students during the regular school day as opposed to after school. In an effort to increase student attainment on the ACT, the district will implement JumpStart through an MDE opportunity (Reading and ELA) and expand efforts through federal programs by implementing Math and Science support as well for our Junior and Senior students. Another area of focus is to increase the number of students enrolling in CTE courses and providing the needed support to help them be successful by partnering with local post-secondary

institutions and encouraging career exploration opportunities. This will seek to encourage high school completion and support not only college readiness but career readiness as well.

Drop Out Recovery Initiatives:

In an effort to ensure student success, our district has implement several initiatives to support student completion of high school to include:

JROTC – The U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (JROTC) is one of the largest character development and citizenship programs for youth in the world. The National Defense Act of 1916 established organized JROTC programs at public and private educational institutions. " JROTC’s mission, "To Motivate Young People to be Better Citizens", is the guide post for the program’s success. This program further encourages our youth and provides them the opportunity to own the daily efforts they take to be better students.

JMG- Jobs for Mississippi Graduates keeps young people in school through graduation and provides work-based learning experiences that lead to postsecondary education or directly to career opportunities. Students are afforded opportunities to be leaders and create learning experiences to support future success. This encourages them to continue efforts that lead to high school completion.

JAG Walk- This program is designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to matriculate through our school with success. This offers students an opportunity to attend the alternative school program and complete a planned program that prepares them to reenter the district and complete their studies through enhanced opportunities.

Transitions from Juvenile Detention Centers to Schools:

The Jefferson Davis County School District Alternative Education program seeks to ensure a smooth transition for any student being readmitted from a Juvenile Detention Center. JDCSD Alternative Program will initiate a JAG Watch Program. This program is created to present each student and his or her family with a team of supporters for the first few weeks of reentrance into the school setting. The program will allow for an initial meeting with the Alternative Principal, School Site Principal, School Site Counselor, and one teacher along with the student and his parent or guardian to discuss the student’s aspirations and goals. During this meeting, the team will decide on the number of days needed to assist the student in reclamation into the school setting. This timeframe will be agreed upon with a period of support shared at the home school site for three weeks following the students time at the alternative program. The support at the home school site will be provided through the MTSS/Teacher Support Team and the home school site counselor.

Goals:

Increase the district graduation rate from 88.3% for the 2023 cohort to 92% for the 2024 cohort.

Increase the number of students being evaluated using the MTSS model for academic, behavior and social emotional learning indicators for the 2024-2025 school year.

Increase the district average composite ACT score for the Junior state administration from 14.5 (-MDE Office of Accountability 2023) to 15.2 (2024).