

CORINTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dropout Prevention Plan 2026 – 2027



Board Agenda
Date: 7/9/26
☒ Approved
☐ Unapproved
Other: _____

Corinth School District
1204 N. Harper Rd.
Corinth, MS 38834
www.corinth.k12.ms.us

The mission of the Corinth School District is to create a world-class 21st century educational experience for all students to achieve academic success, develop personal and civic responsibility, and achieve career and college readiness for the future.

Corinth School District

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The Dropout Prevention Plan provides guidance as to how the faculty and staff will help accomplish our mission and ensure our students are successful in their academic endeavors.

Dropout Prevention Plan Team Members

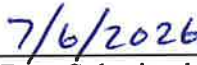
Team Member	Position
Dr. John Barnett	Superintendent
Misty Whittemore	Finance Director
Milton Ray	Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Monica Moss	District Testing Coordinator / Curriculum and Instructional Specialist
Adam Kirk	Principal, Corinth High School
Chris Killough	Principal, Corinth Middle School
Jamie Nunley	Principal, Corinth Elementary School
Jay Walker	Special Services Director
John Frame	Technology Director
Dr. Hannah Montgomery	Federal Programs Coordinator
Hollie Butler	EL Coordinator
Dr. Laine Williams	Communications Director
Diane Whitaker	JDC/ Homeless Director

Verification of Board Presentation and Approval

On behalf of the Corinth School District, I hereby submit the Dropout Prevention Plan to provide goals, activities, and services necessary to meet the overarching goals of the Mississippi Department of Education. This plan will be reviewed annually, submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education, and posted on the district website.



Dr. John Barnett,
Corinth School District, Superintendent



Date Submitted

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



Superintendent: Dr. John Barnett

Signature



Date

School Board Chair: Rilla Jones

Signature



Date

Our District

According to 2020 census data, Corinth has a population of 14,622. The Corinth School District (CSD) operates three campuses with an enrollment of 2,222 students. The district is comprised of Corinth Elementary School (CES), Corinth Middle School (CMS), and Corinth High School (CHS).

CES houses our pre-Kindergarten through fourth grades with an enrollment of 1,060 students. CES is a state-of-the-art facility completed and occupied in October, 2010. This campus includes classrooms, a music center, gymnasium, three playgrounds. Each classroom is equipped with classroom displays with Apple TV compatibility. Each teacher has an Apple Device. The school is one-to-one with each student having an Apple device.

CMS houses our fifth through eighth grade classes with an enrollment of 656 students. This campus is recognized as a Mississippi Landmark because of its mid-century modern architectural features. Grants through the Mississippi Department of Archives and History have allowed CSD to renovate and technologically update the facility. Each classroom is equipped with SMART TVs with Apple TV compatibility. Each teacher has an Apple Device. The school is one-to-one with each student having an Apple device.

CHS houses our ninth through twelfth grades with an enrollment of 556 students. CHS is an academic and performing arts center, featuring a nice auditorium and outdoor classroom area. Each classroom is equipped with classroom displays with Apple TV compatibility. Each teacher has an Apple Device. The school is one-to-one with each student having an Apple device.

The CSD has been recognized as a *District of Innovation* by the Mississippi Department of Education. The District operates on a modified school calendar that follows a quarter system. Research suggests that children learn best when instruction is continuous. The long summer vacation breaks this rhythm of learning and teachers must spend significant amounts of time reviewing material when children return to school in the fall. By incorporating the modified calendar, the CSD has been able to offer timely intersession opportunities throughout the year to provide students opportunities for remediation and enrichment to meet individual student needs.

Data-based decision making is a key for effective schools and student learning. The CSD data has been reviewed to create goals and areas of focus for this plan in accordance with the goals and expectations outlined by the Mississippi Department of Education and the CSD Dropout Prevention Team.

Corinth School District Data 2026 – 2027

Graduation Rate						
4 Year Cohort 2022 – 2025 (February 2026)					89.7%	
Source: MDE District Graduation and Dropout Rates for the 2025 Accountability System						
School Data						
	Elementary School		Middle School		High School	
Number of Schools	1		1		1	
Cumulative Enrollment	1060		656		556	
Student Demographic Data						
	Elementary School		Middle School		High School	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female	550	51.9	324	49.4	278	50.0
Male	510	48.1	332	50.6	278	50.0
Black	355	33.5	203	30.9	165	29.7
White	517	48.8	328	50.0	297	53.4
Hispanic	177	16.7	120	18.3	85	15.3
Asian	11	1.0	5	0.8	9	1.6
Source: CSD SAM Rosters						
Attendance						
Number of Students with 5 or More Unexcused Absences					1880	
Number of Students with 12 or More Unexcused Absences					1039	
Discipline						
Number of Discipline Referrals					693	

Strategies for Addressing MDE Outlined Focus Areas

1. Improve Retention Rates in Kindergarten through Second Grade

Goal: Reduce the number of retentions in Kindergarten through second grade by early identification, effective instructional strategies, and intense interventions.

Action Steps:

- Provide ongoing professional development to all teachers and administrators by continuing to work to improve teacher and administrator capacity, increase student engagement in the learning process, and increase rigor and relevance for students.
- Continue to utilize the modified school calendar to provide learning acceleration opportunities for students during scheduled Fall, Spring, and Summer intersession blocks.
- Continue to utilize CSD formative assessment data to offer personalized student learning opportunities to target individual learning needs and goals
- Review retention rates and formative assessments to identify specific teachers who need additional support with differentiating instruction.
- Work with attendance officer to assist in communicating and working with parents of students who have attendance issues.

2. Improve Subgroup Performance

Goal: Provide additional assistance to subgroups with disparities in performance on state and/or Cambridge assessments when compared to their peers.

Action Steps:

- Administrators will review subgroup data from district assessments, Cambridge assessments, and State assessments to identify disparities in performance.
- Administrators will meet with teachers to review interventions for all students, particularly those with subgroup achievement gaps.
- Continue to utilize the modified school calendar to provide learning acceleration opportunities for students during scheduled Fall, Spring, and Summer intersession blocks.
- Provide ongoing professional development to all teachers and administrators by continuing to work to improve teacher and administrator capacity, increase student engagement in the learning process, and increase rigor and relevance for students.
- Monitor progress of student subgroups, and meet with administrators to develop plans of action based on data review.

3. Develop Initiatives to Assist At-Risk Students

Goal: To develop dropout prevention initiatives focusing on students who are identified as at-risk under LBPA, or of dropping out due to poor attendance, credit deficiencies, or assessment issues.

Action Steps:

- Work with attendance officer to assist in communicating and working with parents of students who have attendance issues.
- Career coaches, counselors, and school social workers work with individual students to outline steps for completing high school and planning for post high school college and career readiness.
- Work with students to set up internships, job shadowing opportunities, and employment opportunities to help with the transition from high school to career.
- Work with school counselors and with our mental health resources that are available to provide supports for students' social and emotional needs.
- Follow IRP process for 3rd grade intervention/tier process.
- Offer credit recovery opportunities for students during the scheduled Fall, Spring, and Summer intersession opportunities as part of the modified school calendar.

4. Improve Juvenile Detention Center Transitions

Goal: Provide supports for students who transition from the juvenile detention centers to a school in the district.

Action Steps:

- Identify students who have been detained at the detention center.
- Provide supplemental educational resources to students while in detention.
- Notify home schools of students detained.
- Participate in a transitional meeting with juvenile detention staff and parents to develop a transitional plan for return to home school.
- Notify counselors and school administrators of student's return to school and the transitional plan developed for long term stay.
- School personnel will develop and individualize a support plan for the student to remain at school.

5. Increase Average Daily Attendance

Goal: To increase average daily attendance K-12 district wide and decrease the number of students who are chronically absent.

Action Steps:

- Identify students who are chronically absent and communicate with parents and attendance officer when needed.
- Develop strategies to reduce the number of chronically absent students.
- Develop procedures for notifying parents and school/district personnel of students' absences and patterns.
- Develop a plan of action for individual students who meet the criteria for chronic absenteeism in conjunction with state requirements.

6. Dropout Recovery Initiative

Goal: To develop dropout recovery initiatives that focus on students age 17-21 who have dropped out of school.

Action Steps:

- Partner with Northeast MS Community College Adult Education (GED/HiSET)
- Partner with Northeast MS Community College Adult Education Adult Education Integrated Education and Training Programs.
- Work closely with Job Corp and the WIN Job Center.
- Packet of information to be distributed to students who are of ages 17-21 who withdraw including:
 - Pamphlets from NEMCC Adult Education
 - Pamphlets from NEMCC Gateway Youth Program
 - Military recruiter information
 - WIN Job Center information
 - Information on high school graduation options if student chooses to return to school

Current District Dropout Prevention Initiatives

The Corinth School District's (CSD) existing Dropout Prevention Plan includes incentives to encourage increased daily attendance; strategies to decrease truancy; plans for stronger career-technical training; aggressive identification of potential at-risk students; and early interventions to increase student academic success. The district will continue the practice of attendance monitoring, skills recovery, and Multi-Tiered System of Supports scaffolding techniques. The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network (NDPC/N) defines fifteen successful dropout prevention strategies. According to the NDPC/N, these strategies have been successful at all school levels from PK-12 in rural, suburban, and urban settings (dropoutprevention.org). The following outlines various ways in which the CSD employs the dropout prevention strategies. This list is not inclusive but provides a snapshot of some of the strategies utilized by CSD.

Fifteen Dropout Prevention Strategies

- **Systemic Approach**
 - Cambridge International Curriculum
 - MAAP Curriculum
 - Progress monitoring systems
 - Professional Development
 - Pre-Kindergarten classes
 - Fine Arts
 - Robotics
 - Career Pathways Education
- **School-Community Collaboration**
 - Career speakers
 - Partnership with Region IV Mental Health
 - CSD Foundation
 - Rotary Student of the Month
 - Senior Symposium
 - FAFSA event
 - Career coach partnership with SKILLS Foundation
 - Career Fairs
 - Warrior Olympics
- **Safe Learning Environments**
 - Emergency drills
 - Active shooter training with Corinth Police Department
 - School counselors and social workers
 - Character education/ SEL
 - Bus safety education
 - School Resource Officers
 - Region IV Canopy
 - Behavioral Intervention and Support
 - Suicide Prevention Training for Staff

- **Family and Community Engagement**
 - Parent Teacher Organization
 - Booster clubs
 - Weekly Warrior newsletter
 - Book fair
 - Title I and EL Family nights
 - PK Family Engagement Events
 - CSD Awards Night and Cambridge Awards Ceremony
 - CES Integrity Parades
 - District and school social media accounts and websites
 - Web-based Student and Family Engagement Platform
 - Parent Information Nights
 - CTech Completers Dinner
- **Early Childhood Education**
 - Pre-Kindergarten classes
 - Kindergarten Camp
 - Early Childhood screeners
 - Imagination Library
- **Early Literacy Development**
 - Dyslexia screener
 - Early Literacy Assessment
 - Dyslexia training for all instructional staff
 - Phonics Program
 - Imagination Library
- **Mentoring/Tutoring**
 - Intersession remediation/enrichment opportunities as part of the modified school calendar
 - Guidance counselors
 - Career coaches
 - Internship and Job Shadowing opportunities
 - Student clubs and organizations
 - Zero period and after-school tutoring
 - Interventionist
 - Boys to Men and Refined Mentoring Program
- **Service-Learning**
 - Student Council and Class Officers
 - National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society
 - Mu Alpha Theta
 - Interact Club
 - CPE-Work Based Learning
 - Campus clean-up service projects
 - MS Scholars and MS Tech Masters
 - Warrior Olympics

- **Alternative Schooling**
 - CSD Alternative School
 - Credit recovery opportunities
- **Extended Learning Opportunities**
 - Robotics
 - Chorus and Band
 - Drama Productions
 - Athletics
 - Student clubs and organizations
 - Extended Day and Little Warriors
 - STEM Saturday
- **Professional Development**
 - Curriculum/Instructional Training
 - Vector Training
 - Site-based PLCs
 - District-wide professional development
 - Dyslexia training for all instructional staff
- **Active Learning**
 - CPE-Work Based Learning
 - Art, Music, Theatre
 - Robotics and Engineering
 - Health Science
 - Culinary Arts
 - Digital Media & Design
 - Internship opportunities
 - Senior Symposium
 - Warrior Special Olympics
 - STEM
 - Business, Marketing, and Finance
 - Horticulture
- **Educational Technology**
 - Electronic Classroom Displays
 - Apple Devices
 - One-to-one technology
 - Document cameras
 - Learning Management System
 - Diagnostic and Personalized Learning programs
 - Instructional Technology Tools
 - Web-based Student and Family Engagement Platform
- **Individualized Instruction**
 - Individualized Education Plans (IEP)
 - Individualized Reading Plans (IRP)
 - Gifted education
 - Instructional Technology Tools
 - ACT Boot Camp
 - Personalized Diagnostic and Learning Programs

- **Career and Technical Education (CTE)**

- Career speakers
- Law and Public Safety
- Engineering
- Culinary Arts
- Health Science
- Digital Media and Design
- Horticulture
- Educator Prep
- Guidance counseling
- Career coaches
- CPE-Work Based Learning
- Business, Marketing, and Finance
- CTech Completers Dinner

Monitoring

The CSD Dropout Prevention Plan will be monitored by data reviews focusing on the targeted objectives. Kindergarten through second grade retention rates will be monitored at the end of the year to determine if they have improved for the 2026-2027 school year.

Subgroup performance data will be reviewed using assessment data from the Mississippi Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, Mississippi Academic Assessment Program, Cambridge Assessments, ACT, and diagnostic data throughout the year to monitor progress and determine if achievement gaps are being closed.

Career coaches will provide updates on the progress of FAFSA completion, internship and job placements, and counselors will monitor grades and progress toward graduation for students who are at-risk of dropout or are in dropout recovery.

Counselors will monitor and periodically meet with students who are transitioning from juvenile detention centers to ensure they are making progress toward graduation. Attendance data will be monitored throughout the year to meet the action steps outlined in the plan.

Data will be reviewed periodically throughout the year to determine if average daily attendance increased and the number of students who are chronically absent decreased to meet the outlined goal.