# Hazlehurst City School District

Dropout Prevention Plan

2026 – 2027 Academic School Year

2026 Graduation Rate: 70.4%

| Goal #1: To reduce retention rates in grades Kindergarten through 12. | | | | | |
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| **Desired Impact** | **Action/Strategy** | **Timeline** | **Resource/Funding** | **Person Responsible** | **Evaluation Evidence** |
| HCSD will decrease chronic absenteeism for at-risk students from 40.7% to 35.7% by May 2027.<br><br>HCSD will increase the graduation rate from 70.4% to 80.4% by May 2027. | Continuation of Pre-Kindergarten instructional program<br><br>Host Parent Literacy Nights<br><br>Implement the MTSS Process<br><br>Utilize the Early Warning System for early identification<br><br>Continue collaboration with local daycares and Head Start centers in the Hazlehurst area.<br><br>Provide additional support and coaching services to K- 2 staff. | August 2026-May 2027 | Title I Funding<br>District Funding | Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Instructional Specialists<br>Child Care Directors | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Participant Evaluations<br>Attendance/Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Retention Reports |

# Hazlehurst City School District

Dropout Prevention Plan

2026 – 2027 Academic School Year

2026 Graduation Rate: 70.4%

| Goal #2: Target subgroups that need additional assistance to meet graduation requirements. | | | | | |
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| **Desired Impact** | **Action/Strategy** | **Timeline** | **Resource/Funding** | **Person Responsible** | **Evaluation Evidence** |
| HCSD will decrease chronic absenteeism for at-risk students from 40.7% to 35.7% by May 2027.<br><br>HCSD will increase the graduation rate from 70.4% to 80.4% by May 2027. | Set goals and employ strategies to improve attendance for at-risk students through positive engagement, social and emotional behavior support.<br><br>Monitor academic data and provide pullouts and push-in academic tutorials. | August 2026-May 2027 | Title I Funding<br>District Funding<br>Truancy Officers<br>Implementation of MTSS<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional Curriculum Guides | Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>Instructional Specialists<br>PBIS Committee<br>Social and Emotional Stakeholders<br>Consultants | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Evaluations<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Retention Reports<br>PBIS Documentation<br>Consultant Work Reports<br>MTSS Documentation |

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| HCSD will decrease chronic absenteeism for at-risk students from 40.7% to 35.7% by May 2027.<br><br>HCSD will increase the graduation rate from 70.4% to 80.4% by May 2027. | Identify students in need of academic and behavioral interventions<br><br>Implementation of necessary Tier II or Tier III and progress monitoring<br><br>Establish a system to inform parents of student progress(e.g., School, Status, Parent-Teacher Conferences, EWS meetings, and Academic Counseling Sessions).<br><br>Idenitfy at-risk students and provide additional academic and behavioral tiered<br><br>support. (Targeted subgroups are students with disabilities, EL, Foster Care, | August 2026-May 2027 | Title I Funding<br>District Funding<br>Truancy Officers<br>Implementation of MTSS<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional Curriculum Guides | Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>Coordinator of Federal Programs<br>Instructional Specialists<br>PBIS Committee<br>SEL Consultants | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Evaluations<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Retention Reports<br>PBIS Documentation<br>Consultant Work Reports<br>MTSS Documentation<br>On-time Graduation with Cohort<br>Completion of Coursework |

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| HCSD will decrease chronic absenteeism for at-risk students from 40.7% to 35.7% by May 2027.<br><br>HCSD will increase the graduation rate from 70.4% to 80.4% by May 2027. | Homeless, over-aged students, and students who failed two or more classes.)<br><br>Develop partnerships with surrounding colleges, universities, businesses, companies, and factories<br><br>Assess 9th Grade Readiness<br><br>Build partnerships with local businesses to assist with the hiring of at-risk students<br><br>Prepare and assess ACT, ASVAB, CTE, and EOY State Assessments. | August 2026-May 2027 | Title I Funding<br>District Funding<br>Truancy Officers<br>Implementation of MTSS<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional Curriculum Guides | Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>Coordinator of Federal Programs<br>Instructional Specialists<br>PBIS Committee<br>SEL Consultants | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Evaluations<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Retention Reports<br>PBIS Documentation<br>Consultant Work Reports<br>MTSS Documentation<br>Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Evaluations<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports |

**Hazlehurst City School District**

Dropout Prevention Plan

2026 – 2027 Academic School Year

2026 Graduation Rate: 70.4%

| Goal #3: Address how students will transition to the home school district from the juvenile detention center. | | | | | |
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| **Desired Impact** | **Action/Strategy** | **Timeline** | **Resource/Funding** | **Person Responsible** | **Evaluation Evidence** |
| The HCSD will follow MS state policy for transitioning students from the juvenile detention center back to their home schools for 100% of scholars assigned to the juvenile detention center. | The HCSD Chief of Police will be communication liaison between youth court and the Director of Academic Support.<br><br>Superintendent and appropriate building level administration will be informed of student's release.<br><br>The Director of Academic Support will conduct transition meetings | August 2026-May 2027 | Truancy Officers<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional (SEL) Curriculum Guides | Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>SEL Consultant<br>Director of Special Services | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Transition Meeting Documentation<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Retention Reports<br>Consultant Work Reports |

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| The HCSD will follow MS state policy for transitioning students from the juvenile detention center back to their home schools for 100% of scholars assigned to the juvenile detention center. | with school level administrative team.<br><br>A transition meeting will be held with student, parents, and designated principal to discuss expectations relative to attendance, behavior, coursework, and intervention strategies to support academic and behavior goals. Student will be placed in Alternative School for transitional purposes. | August 2026-May 2027 | HCSD Chief of Police<br>Truancy Officer<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional (SEL) Curriculum Guides | HCSD Chief of Police<br>Truancy Officer<br>Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>SEL Consultant<br>Director of Special Services | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Transition Meeting Documentation<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Consultant Work Reports |

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| The HCSD will follow MS state policy for transitioning students from the juvenile detention center back to their home schools for 100% of scholars assigned to the juvenile detention center. | Director of Academic Support and building level administration will monitor student's attendance, behavior, and coursework performance during alternative placement.<br><br>Students will receive Social and Emotional services.<br><br>The Director of Academic Support will continue to monitor student's attendance, behavior, and coursework performance and will be encouraged to return to school. | August 2026-May 2027 | HCSD Chief of Police<br>Truancy Officer<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Parent Notification System<br>Social and Emotional (SEL) Curriculum Guides | Truancy Officers<br>HCSD Chief of Police<br>Teachers<br>Administrators<br>Counselors<br>Director of Academic Support<br>Director of Special Services<br>SEL Consultant<br>Director of Special Services | Agendas<br>Sign-In Sheets<br>Transition Meeting Documentation<br>Attendance Reports<br>Behavior Reports<br>Parent Conference Documentation<br>Consultant Work Reports |

**Hazlehurst City School District**
*Excellence is the Expectation*
Cloyd Garth, Jr., Superintendent
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

# 2026-2027

## Dropout Prevention Plan

## Assurance Statement

On behalf of the Hazlehurst City School District, I hereby submit the district's annual Dropout Prevention Plan. In accordance with policy and state law, this submission is required for high schools with a graduation rate below 85%.

**The plan includes strategies for the following areas:**

- Reduce retention grades in grades kindergarten through twelfth;
- Target subgroups that require additional assistance to meet graduation requirements; and
- Outline the process for transitioning students from juvenile detention centers back to their home school district.

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

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**Dropout Prevention Coordinator:**

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**District Superintendent:** _____ _____

Dr. Nonya C. Thrasher — Date

**Board President:** _____ _____

Mr. Paul Rhodes — Date