


## Annual Policy Revisions Summary

Presented by:  
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Executive Director  
April 23, 2018



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**After each Mississippi legislative session, MSBA revises or creates policies based on changes made to existing laws and /or new laws. All MSBA Online Policy subscribers receive a copy of these revisions at no additional cost.**




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## 2018 Legislation

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**Legislation Passed:**

- HB 807 School Property automatic reverter exemption – *No MSBA Sample Policy Revision Required*
- HB 1592 Appropriations -*No MSBA Sample Policy Revision Required*
- SB – Virtual public school program providers - *No MSBA Sample Policy Revision Required*

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**2017 House Bills**

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 32**

- CEDA – County Superintendent Vacancy
- GAHD - Political Activity of Staff

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**HB 32 - School superintendents; require appointment of in the event of vacancy in elected office of before January 1, 2019**

Provides for the appointment of the superintendent in school districts with an elected superintendent of schools in the event a vacancy in office occurs before January 1, 2019

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**HB 263 - Anti-bullying Law; revise provisions for required establishment of policies for by school districts**

- Clarifies conduct that is considered being bullying behavior
- Revises the provisions to be included in a school districts' anti-bullying policies
- Prohibit the imposition of a disciplinary measure on a student who, after an investigation, is found to be a victim of bullying, on the basis of that student's use of reasonable self-defense in response to the bullying

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**HB 263 - Anti-bullying Law; revise provisions for required establishment of policies for by school districts**

- Requires school districts to post the proper procedure for reporting bullying on their internet website
- Requires school districts to adopt a policy on student suicide prevention
- Requires MDE and Department of Mental health to develop in-service training standards for suicide prevention education

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 263**

- JDA – Bullying
- JDDA-P – Bullying Procedures
- GADAC - Suicide Prevention Training

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**HB 537 - Years of teaching experience; include year's taught at postsecondary level in definition of.**

- Revises the definition of the term "year of teaching experience" to include person with nine months of actual teaching at postsecondary institutions
- Will allow postsecondary teachers to teach in primary schools at their years of experience

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 537**

- GBA – Professional Personnel Compensation Guides and Contracts

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- **House Bill 1106** requires governing authorities to provide a secure electronic interactive system for receiving bids on solicitations over \$50,000.00.
- **House Bill 1109** mandates that on purchases of commodities over \$50,000.00, reverse auctions be the primary method of bidding.

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 1106 & 1109**

- DJED – Bids and Quotations

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**HB 1116 - Special meetings; require notice of to be posted on public body's website.**

A notice of a called special meeting shall be posted to the public body's website, if the public body has a website and has the capability to update the website, not less than one (1) hour before the meeting.

*Per Tom Hood Executive Director of the Mississippi Ethics Commission: Only public bodies that have specific statutory meeting times and places and procedures must comply with the notice requirements in subsection (1) of Section 25 - 41 - 13.*

*\*School boards do not have statutory meeting times.*

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 1116**

- BCAC - Special Meetings of the Board
- BCBA - Time and Place of Board Meeting

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**HB 1119 Open Meetings Act; revise portion that deals with teleconference and video meetings**

The equipment used is located at the place where the public body normally meets or at a public location specified in any notice of a special meeting, and provided that the equipment allows all members of the public body and members of the public who attend the meeting to hear the deliberations of the public body.



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**HB 1119 Open Meetings Act; revise portion that deals with teleconference and video meetings**

An agenda and materials that will be distributed to members of the public body and that have been made available to the staff of the public body in sufficient time for duplication and forwarding the members of the public body shall be made available to the public at the time of the meeting.



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**HB 1119 Open Meetings Act; revise portion that deals with teleconference and video meetings**

Votes taken during any meeting conducted through teleconference or video means shall be taken in a manner that is clearly audible or visible to all members of the public body and to members of the public present at the public location.  
*(Roll call vote no longer required)*

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**Policies Affected by House Bill 1119**

- BCAD –Teleconference or Video Board Meetings

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**HB 1046 - MS Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for Students with Dyslexia; revise eligibility through Grade 12.**

- Expands the eligibility for the Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for students with dyslexia program to include students in grade 1 through grade 12
- Districts shall select a dyslexia screener from a list developed and approved by the State Board of Education



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**Policies Affected by House Bill 1046**

- IEBA –Dyslexia Screening and Therapy

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**HB 1413 - Suspension and expulsion; clarify terms of disciplinary action resulting in and provide due process.**

- Clarifies the difference between disciplinary actions imposed upon students resulting in 10 or more days of suspension or expulsion from school
- Provides the right to such students to a due process hearing at which they may be represented by legal counsel, present evidence and cross-examine school district witnesses



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**HB 1413 - Suspension and expulsion; clarify terms of disciplinary action resulting in and provide due process.**

- Provides for the right of appeal to the local school board
- Stipulates that the burden of proof in all disciplinary proceedings shall be substantial evidence



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### Policies Affected by House Bill 1413

- JCAA –Due Process
- JDD - Suspension
- JDE –Expulsion
- JCBE – Unlawful or Violent Acts

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### 2017 Senate Bills

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#### **SB 2273 - Cursive writing; direct State Board of Education to require in elementary education curriculum.**

- Requires the State Board of Education to ensure instruction in cursive writing as a part of the basic Elementary Education curriculum
- The standard shall include the requirement that public schools provide instruction in cursive reading and writing implemented across the curriculum



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**SB 2273 - Cursive writing; direct State Board of Education to require in elementary education curriculum.**

- Students should create readable documents through legible cursive handwriting by the end of the fifth grade
- Students must pass with proficiency a teacher-constructed test demonstrating competency in both reading and writing cursive
- Shall begin in 2018-19 school year



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**Policies Affected by Senate Bill 2273**

- IC – Curriculum Development

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**SB 2398 - Qualifications for school superintendents; revise the qualifications for selection of superintendents of school districts**

- Shall have not less than six years which shall include at least three years of administrative experience as a school building principal



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**SB 2398 - Qualifications for school superintendents; revise**

- Has to be in a school with an “A” or “B” accountability rating or
- a school that increased its accountability rating by a letter grade during the time the principal was employed or
- a school with comparable accountability rating in another state  
*(must be verified by the Mississippi Department of Education)*



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**SB 2398 - Qualifications for school superintendents; revise**

- The State Board of Education is required to issue regulations by January 1, 2018 for alternative qualifications to include, minimum credentials, educational prerequisites and relevant practice experience that will qualify a person to serve as a superintendent



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**SB 2398 - Qualifications for school superintendents; revise**

- These provisions will be applicable to any superintendent selected after July 1, 2017 who has not previously served as a superintendent or assistant superintendent within the past five years



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**Policies Affected by House Bill 2398**

- CEA – Superintendent Qualifications

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Attorney General Opinion to Claiborne County School District  
April 13, 2018

Attorney General Opinion to Hazlehurst School District  
February 23, 2018

Attorney General Opinion to Kosciusko School District  
June 19, 2017



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**SB 2431** - Failing school districts; authorize the State Board of Education to place into "District Transformation Status." This is an effort to remove negative connotation associated with a takeover of a school district

- The State Board replace "Conservators" with Interim Superintendents so that they can focus on academic instruction along with clearing any accreditation violations



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**Policies Affected by Senate Bill 2431**

- CGD – Administrative Personnel Hiring
- CGM – Administrative Personnel Separation
- GBN – Professional Personnel Separation

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**SB 2432 - Mississippi Occupational Diploma for students with disabilities and career track program; suspend for new students**

- The Mississippi Occupational Diploma (MOD) is no longer recognized as a diploma by the federal government, Institutions of Higher Learning, community and junior colleges or business as a standard diploma
- The MOD for students with disabilities shall not be available to any student entering the 9th grade in the 2017-18 school year or thereafter.



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**Policies Affected by Senate Bill 2432**

- IDDF – Special Education Programs
- IHE – Promotion and Retention
  - II – Testing Programs

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**HB 467 - Student Voter Registration**

- School Districts shall permit access to all public schools of this state for the county registrar to provide voter registration and education



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**Policies Affected by  
Mississippi Department of Education**

- IHF– Graduation Requirements
- JG – Wellness Policy
- DFCAA – Federal Loans and Grants
- DJEC – Federal Purchasing and Procedures

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**Policies Revised by  
Mississippi School Boards Association**

- ABD– Superintendent Legal Status  
*(Rescinded Duplicate of CEA)*
- CE – School Superintendent  
*(Rescinded Duplicate of CEB)*

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**Policies Revised by  
Mississippi School Boards Association**

- CEB– Duties of the Superintendent
- CEC – Appointed Superintendent Recruitment
- IH –Student Achievement Improvement
- IHA – Grading
- JF – Academic Achievement
- JDG – Readmission and Denial of Admission

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**Policies Revised by  
No Child Left Behind**

- JGFA – Unsafe School Choice

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**MSBA Policy Services Overview**

- Policy Revision Services
- Online Policy Services
  - ✓Manual Maintenance / Online Web Hosting
  - ✓Annual Policy Revision Updates

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Questions?



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