

Recent Policy Updates  
Legislative and Annual  
Updates

Presented by:  
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Policy & Legislative Services

 **MISSISSIPPI  
SCHOOL BOARDS  
ASSOCIATION**

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**Questions?**



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Updates**

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**BCBK – Executive Sessions**

- Added two additional reasons that boards may enter into executive session in accordance with HB 1323.
- **Reason 1:** Investigative discussions, investigative strategies, probative strategies related to identifiable instances of human trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation, and discussions involving locations of shelters or safe-houses for victims of human trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation.
- **Reason 2:** Transaction of business of committees, subcommittees or boards that would require discussion of any identifiable information of victims of human trafficking or children under eighteen years old who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

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**CI – Administrative Personnel Intern Program**

- Added information regarding changes in reciprocity and license renewal and reinstatement in accordance with SB 2267.
- MDE shall now grant a **five-year** license to any individual who possesses a valid standard license from another state within a period of **twenty-one (21) days** from the date of a completed application.
- All licenses with a current expiration date of **June 30, 2021** a one year extension will be granted.
- Beginning **July 1, 2022**, applicants for license renewal shall meet all requirements on the date that the completed application is received by MDE.

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**GBA-E – Teacher Salary Scale**

- Updated the **“Teacher Salary Schedule”** exhibit in order to reflect the teacher pay raise in accordance with HB 852.
- HB 852 provides a \$1,100 raise to teachers with 0-2 years of experience increasing their starting salary to \$37K and a \$1,000 increase for all other teachers.
- The bill also increases the minimum salary for assistant teachers by \$1,000.

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**IDFA – Intramural/Interscholastic Athletics**

- Added information regarding the requirement that district sponsored sports not allow biological males compete in female sports in accordance with SB 2536.
- Any athletic team or sport that is sponsored by the district shall be expressly designated as 1) Males, men or boys; 2) Females, women or girls; or 3) Coed or mixed.
- Athletic teams or sports designated for females, women or girls shall not be open to students of the male sex.

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**IEBA – Dyslexia Policy**

- Amended the policy to include language regarding IEP and 504 plans for children who are diagnosed with dyslexia in accordance with HB 754.
- The district must make an initial determination of whether a student diagnosed with dyslexia requires an IEP. If not, the district will proceed with the process to determine if the student is eligible for a 504 plan.
- The district will conduct four (4) hours of in-service training in dyslexia every three (3) years for all professionals responsible for the instruction in accordance with MDE standards.

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**Upcoming  
Annual Updates**

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**BCBH – Minutes of Board Meetings**

- Each year, MSBA reviews State Auditor reports and makes policy corrections based on those reports.
- One of the State Auditor’s findings was that some districts were not numbering their board minutes either at all or they were being numbered incorrectly making information within the minutes hard to find.
- Policy BCBH was amended to include information that requires **minutes of each board meeting to be numbered correctly.**

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**DFK – Gifts and Bequests to School Districts (Donations)**

- Policy DFK had information that was no longer needed removed and its crowdfunding portion was clarified to reflect current needs.
- The district now has the option to pre-approve certain crowdfunding platforms for teachers to use without needing to secure approval ahead of use.
- Any non-approved crowdfunding sources will have to be pre-approved by the superintendent.
- The policy also lays out the responsibilities of staff using crowdfunding platforms such as complying with all laws and policies and to ensure any items needed are actually needed.

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**DIB – Financial Reports and Statements**

- Policy DIB was updated in accordance with State Auditor findings.
- Added language stating that bank accounts will be reconciled monthly to the general ledger by each fund.
- Bank statements shall be reconciled to the district’s general ledger cash balances **monthly. ~~in a timely, accurate manner.~~**
- Also changed the language throughout the policy from **should** to **shall** in order to reflect a requirement.

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**DJAA – Authorized Signatures**

- Policy DJAA was amended in accordance with State Auditor findings.
- Added language requiring **all authorized signors on school district depositories to be current employees.**
- The State Auditor has been looking for this language as it has been an issue in some districts that signors were not current employees of the school district.

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**DJI – Use of District Credit Cards**

- Policy DJI was created in accordance with State Auditor findings.
- The State Auditor’s office noted that in some instances district credit cards were not being used completely correctly in accordance with state standards.
- Created a **NEW** policy in order to strengthen the controls concerning the use of credit cards and to abide by the regulations set forth by the Department of Finance and Administration and the State of Mississippi.
- Policy DJI tracks the minimum requirements set out by the Department of Finance and Administration.

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**DKD – Revenues from Gate Receipts and Admissions**

- The State Auditor’s Office noted that in some districts gate receipts from district events were either not being recorded correctly or were missing before being turned into the district office.
- Created a **NEW** policy in order to strengthen controls over funds and tickets collected at school extracurricular events.
- Policy DKD lists how gate receipts should be handled such as **the use of pre-numbered and sequential tickets, the use of numbered ticket boxes, and the requirement for gatekeepers to sign off on the number of tickets they turn in.**

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**JQO – Foster Care Plan**

- Created a **NEW** policy to account for the best interest determination of foster care students in accordance with MDE rule 30.8.
- MDE has been sending emails to districts notifying the district that they need a policy to account for rule 30.8.
- Policy JQO addresses rule 30.8 by designating a district point of contact, determining the best interest determination for the student, and determinations over whether a student will remain in or leave their school of origin.
- **This policy has already been adopted and can be found in MSBA’s sample policies.**

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# How to Find Recent Updates

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**How to Find MSBA Updates**

In order to find these updates:

1. Travel to your district’s policy website. (Not MSBA’s website)
2. Log in with your credentials.
3. This will bring you to your homepage. At the bottom of the homepage you should see a guy holding a sign that says “Policy Updates”. Click this link.

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**How to Find MSBA Updates**

Each year, MSBA comes out with two rounds of policy updates.

1. Updates in May in order to reflect the recent legislative session. These policies are time sensitive as the new laws usually take effect July 1.
2. Updates in September following our Policy Conference. These policies are all other policies that are not usually time sensitive.

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