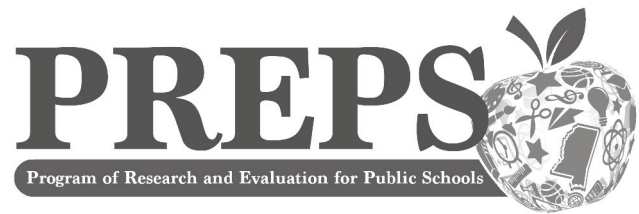




mississippi association of
partners in education



Welcome from PREPS and MAPE

Welcome to the 2018 Mississippi Education Partnership Conference sponsored by PREPS and MAPE. We understand the priority and the need for improving public education, now more than ever. We have been committed to making sure that your memberships are valuable in times of reduced budgets and a higher demand on making your MAEP funds go the distance. PREPS has reduced membership dues and sought grants to help fund projects for you. MAPE continues to work to establish and recognize partnerships around the state.

We are excited to see the resurgence of membership in the state now with over 50 percent of Mississippi districts represented by PREPS/MAPE. In addition to research and evaluation, PREPS would like to continue to connect the public schools of Mississippi to increase collaboration across the state. We encourage your faculty to apply for upcoming leadership academies which include opportunities for lead teachers, vice-principals, principals, directors, and assistant superintendents through our CEO academies.

Congratulations to this year's award winners. We appreciate your persistence, hard work, and creativity. You are making a difference in our schools!

We hope you enjoy this year's conference with our focus on science, technology, engineering, and math.



Spread the Word on Social Media!

Please take a moment to follow PREPS and MAPE and share your learning, networking and award experiences during the conference:

[@prepsInc](https://www.facebook.com/mspreps)
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Welcome to the 2018
Mississippi Education Partnership Conference

Presented by Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools, Inc. and
 Mississippi Association of Partners in Education

See sponsors, session descriptions and presenter bios starting on page 4.

Sunday, Feb. 25

Registration

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.Hilton Lobby

School Law and Social Media, Part 1

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.Amphitheatre

Networking Reception

Sponsored by Impact Education Group and Bailey Education Group

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.Diplomat 2

Administrative Roundtable: Teacher Shortage

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.Diplomat 1

Monday, Feb. 26

Registration

7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.Hilton Lobby

Opening Session

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.Salon A & B

Welcome

Keynote Speaker: Weston Kieschnick

Author, "Bold School: Old School Wisdom + New School Technologies
 = Blended Learning That Works"

Break

10:00 - 10:20 a.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

Best Ideas for Partnership Activities

All conference participants

10:20 - 11:20 a.m.Salon C

PREPS Value Added Awards Luncheon

11:30 a.m. 1:15 p.m.Salon A & B

Break

1:30 - 1:45 p.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

Concurrent Sessions: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Choose from five concurrent sessions

Amphitheatre 1	Amphitheatre 2	Diplomat 1	Diplomat 2	Cabana
You CAN Engage Elementary Students in Engineering <i>Donna Torres</i>	School Law and Social Media, Part 2 <i>Johnny Purvis</i>	The Path That Pays <i>Debbie Anglin and Paige Roberts</i>	Renaissance Tools <i>Charlotte Wilson</i>	CEO participants only

Monday, Feb. 26 (Continued)

Break

2:30 - 2:45 a.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

Concurrent Sessions: 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Choose from five concurrent sessions

Amphitheatre 1	Amphitheatre 2	Diplomat 1	Diplomat 2	Cabana
Work-Based Learning Opportunities, Externships and Business Programs <i>Charles "Bubba" Weir</i>	STEM: It's Real-World <i>Jeannette Bennett</i>	Thinking Maps — The Power of Active Learning <i>Marjann Ball</i>	Personalized Physical Literacy for Physical Activity and Social-Emotional Learning <i>Neal Stephens and Meagan Hartman</i>	CEO participants only

Break

3:45- 4:00 p.m.....Imperial and Regency Halls

Concurrent Sessions: 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Choose from five concurrent sessions

Amphitheatre 1	Amphitheatre 2	Diplomat 1	Diplomat 2	Cabana
Breakout EDU <i>Melissa Adkins</i>	Blended Learning in Action <i>Will Dayemport III</i>	Real and Perceived Barriers to Church-School Partnerships in Rural Southeastern Mississippi <i>Dr. Elizabeth Bailey, Dr. Brad Bailey and Dr. Jalynn Roberts</i>	Differentiated Strategies for Gifted Learners <i>Dr. Christina Liverett</i>	CEO participants only

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Registration

8:00 a.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

Networking Breakfast for Teacher Interns with Superintendents

Sponsored by Mississippi Professional Educators

8:00 a.m.Penthouse

Get STEMulated with MPB Resources

MAPE President Maggie Stevenson,

Deputy Executive Director for Education, Mississippi Public Broadcasting

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.Salon C

Break

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

Plenary Session with Chef Nick Wallace, Food Network "Chopped" Champion

Move to Learn will open session with 15-minute warm-up

9:15 - 10:15 a.m.Salon C

Concurrent Sessions: 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Choose from five concurrent sessions

Amphitheatre 1	Amphitheatre 2	Diplomat 1	Diplomat 2	Cabana
Mindset: Changing the Way Students Approach Learning <i>Dr. Rebekah Mincey and Dr. Catherine Wasson</i>	Media View of State and Local Education Reforms <i>Jeff Amy, Kate Royals and Jackie Mader</i>	Planting the Seeds of Partnership to Harvest Sustainability <i>Donna Loden and Mary Ann Plasencia</i>	Bringing Data into the Conversation <i>Nicholas Peterman</i>	CEO participants only

Tuesday, Feb. 27 (Continued)

Break

11:15 - 11:30 a.m.Imperial and Regency Halls

MAPE Governor's Awards Luncheon and Education Heroes Award Presentation

11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.Westbrook Ballroom

Breakout Sessions

1:30 - 2:15 p.m.

Let's MOVE to Learn!

Larry Calhoun and Dale Dieckman.Diplomat 1

Connecting the ELA Shifts to STEM

Chan Cleveland.Diplomat 2

2:15 - 3:00 p.m.

Escape the Classroom

Ashley Kazery and Elise Brown.....Diplomat 1

Writing in Science and Math Classrooms

Dr. Tricia Bridges.Diplomat 2

Conference Sponsors & Exhibitors

PREPS and MAPE would like to express our appreciation to sponsors and exhibitors of the Mississippi Education Partnership Conference:

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Mississippi Public Broadcasting
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Silver

GRAMMY Museum Mississippi
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Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios - Sunday and Monday

Sunday, Feb. 25

School Law and Social Media, Part 1

Presenter: Johnny Purvis

This two-part session will provide informative, up-to-date information to guide and assist superintendents and administrators regarding the challenges of social media. Part 2 will be presented Monday, Feb. 26 at 1:30 p.m. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction and dependence of school administrators on case law, AG opinions, Mississippi laws, federal laws, the United States Constitution, and campus common law as they go about fulfilling their administrative duties and responsibilities.

Johnny R. Purvis retired in August 2003 (30.5 years) from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg as a professor in the Department of School Administration, director of the Education Service Center in the College of Education and Psychology, executive director of the Southern Education Consortium, and director of the Mississippi Safe School Center. After retiring from USM he was hired as a professor in the Department of Leadership Studies at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway and retired Dec. 31, 2013. Before embarking on the preceding career paths, he served as a teacher, coach, and school administrator in Louisiana. He also served on the Lamar County Mississippi School Board for 12 years. In addition, he retired as a law enforcement officer having served in both Mississippi and Arkansas.

Administrative Roundtable: Teacher Shortage

Panelist: Chuck Poer

Moderator: Dr. Ben Burnett

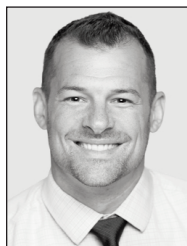
Administrators attending this session will share their opinions, concerns, and solutions regarding Mississippi's current teacher shortage.

Chuck Poer is vice president of education services for Bailey Education Group, president of PD Analytic School Improvement Solutions, and a partner relations representative for the Northwest Evaluation Association in Portland, Oregon. He was named Mississippi's Administrator of the Year in 2007 by the Mississippi Department of Education, and he has gained national recognition for his work in leadership development and data-driven decision making. His inspirational sessions have encouraged teachers and administrators throughout the Southeastern United States.

Dr. Ben Burnett is executive director of PREPS and dean of William Carey University School of Education.

Monday, Feb. 26

Opening Session Keynote Speaker



Weston Kieschnick is the author of "Bold School: Old School Wisdom + New School Technologies = Blended Learning That Works." As a former teacher, principal, instructional development coordinator, and dean of education, Kieschnick has driven change and improved student learning in multiple capacities within his educational career. Now, as an experienced instructional coach and senior fellow with ICLE,

Kieschnick shares his expertise with others in order to transform learning through online and blended models. His travels have afforded him the opportunity to work with students, teachers, and administrators from every state in the U.S. and more than 30 countries around the world.

Concurrent Sessions: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Session 1: You CAN Engage Elementary Students in Engineering

Presenter: Donna Torres

Enjoy a hands-on experience for classroom integration of engineering that promotes analytical and reflective thinking and enhances learning across disciplines while encouraging students to collaborate and solve real world challenges.

Donna Torres is education program specialist for INFINITY Science Center in Pearlinton, Mississippi, a non-profit science museum that serves as the official visitor center for NASA Stennis Space Center. With a bachelor's degree in elementary education from William Carey and a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Southern Mississippi, Torres' career in public education was split with 14 years in the classroom and 14 years in various administrative positions. With a total of 28 years in education, her experience in developing professional training and curriculum design and scheduling adds to INFINITY's education department program. Away from INFINITY she enjoys time with her family and friends, music performance and cake decorating.

Session 2: School Law and Social Media, Part 2

Presenter: Johnny Purvis

This two-part session will provide informative, up-to-date information to guide and assist superintendents and administrators regarding the challenges of social media. (Those who were not able to attend Part 1 on Sunday but are interested in the topic are encouraged to attend.) Emphasis will be placed on the interaction and dependence of school administrators on case law, AG opinions, Mississippi laws, federal laws, the United States Constitution, and campus common law as they go about fulfilling their administrative duties and responsibilities.

See Johnny's bio on this page.

Session 3: The Path That Pays

Presenters: Debbie Anglin, Paige Roberts

Bridging the gap between high school and workforce has been one of the primary focuses of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce's Education IMG group. Candid discussions between school officials and those in workforce human resources departments have revealed a number of challenges in having qualified employees ready to enter the workforce. Getting students and their parents to understand the importance of having those necessary, basic skills employers are seeking has been an ongoing mission of this IMG group.

Debbie Anglin is the director of communications for the Pascagoula-Gautier School District and has served as the chair for the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce's Education Issue Manager Group for the past three years. A former president of Mississippi Association of Partners in Education, she currently serves on the MAPE board of directors.

Paige Roberts is the owner of EPIC Enterprises, LLC, a company focused on education, public relations and fundraising initiatives. She is currently one of two project managers for Pathways2Possibilities: P2P, an interactive, hands-on career expo for 8th graders in 37 counties across Mississippi. For seven years she served as the executive director of the Southeast Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross, followed by a year as the interim state director of public affairs and financial development for the American Red Cross of Mississippi. She also served for seven years on the advanced public affairs team for National Red Cross, deploying to high-profile disasters nationwide to handle national media and serve as a liaison for VIPs.

Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios - Monday

Concurrent Sessions: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Session 4: Renaissance Tools **Presenter: Charlotte Wilson**

Join Charlotte Wilson for an informal presentation to discuss benchmarks for proficiency in Renaissance Tools. She will review the benchmarks for MTSS, MS MAP and ACT and how Star 360 will report in all these areas. This session will also introduce you to the Growth Platform being rolled out this school year and how it pulls from multiple data points to monitor student mastery and growth.

Charlotte Wilson is a National Board-Certified Teacher with a master's of science in elementary education and bachelor's in elementary education from Mississippi University for Women. She works with Renaissance Learning, Inc. out of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin as an associate account executive.

Concurrent Sessions: 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Session 1: Work-Based Learning **Presenter: Bubba Weir**

This session will provide an overview of work-based learning partnership opportunities in Mississippi.

Charles "Bubba" Weir is the new director of the Mississippi Department of Education Career and Technical Education Office of Business and Industry Coordination. This office is responsible for coordinating work-based learning opportunities, externships, and business programs. Weir joined MDE in April 2017. He has over 29 years of experience in economic and human capital development and is also an entrepreneur and co-owner of several family businesses.

Session 2: Thinking Maps - The Power of Active Learning **Presenter: Marjann Ball, Ed.D.**

Think critically and creatively with hands-on science experiments and technology projects. Powered by Thinking Maps, these activities are successful ways to rigorously engage students in classrooms on a daily basis. Dr. Marjann Ball from Central Creativity, a learning resource center in Laurel, will lead this interactive workshop.

Dr. Marjann Ball has been an educator for 40 years, working with students from pre-K through 12th grade. For 25 years, she taught critical thinking at Jones County Junior College and helped implement Thinking Maps into JCJC's nursing program. Currently, she is the Thinking Maps representative and consultant for schools in Mississippi and Alabama. In addition to conducting districtwide workshops for Thinking Maps, she has recently opened Central Creativity where K-12 students learn to harness the power of critical and creative thinking strategies through project-based learning activities powered by Thinking Maps.

Session 3: STEM: It's Real World **Presenter: Jeanette Bennett**

Weave STEM concepts into your curriculum using a real-world application of learning. This session explores and examines decision-making and problem-solving that can create a link between the classroom and the real world. As problems and solutions are addressed, focus will be given to using critical thinking skills and inquiry. Attendees will receive FREE lesson plans and resources that are sure to foster creativity and a passion for learning.

Jeanette Bennett is a national award-winning economics teacher. As principal, seven of her teachers were also national award winners. She taught economic education at the college level and was honored as a master economics teacher. She has served as a curriculum designer, developer, consultant and presenter for professional development programs throughout the nation. Bennett began her career at the Federal Reserve Bank in 2004. As senior economic education specialist, she continues to write, design, develop and present workshops and conferences throughout the region and nation. Bennett earned her degrees from Arkansas State University.

Session 4: Personalized Physical Literacy for Physical Activity and Social-Emotional Learning **Presenters: Neal Stephens, Meagan Hartman**

Attendees will learn of the importance of addressing physical literacy in an educational setting and will also take away practical opportunities for utilizing personalized physical literacy in an elementary school setting. Research shows that being physically active later in life depends on confidence in an activity setting which comes from having learned fundamental movement, or physical literacy, as a child. Personalized physical literacy leverages personalized learning to address the core physical skills of balance, coordination, and eye-tracking, customized for each child.

A Harvard graduate, **Neal Stephens** began giving back in high school through tutoring and mentorship initiatives, continued that in college by running after-school programs for inner city youth, and now leads a passionate STEP team committed to bringing physical literacy solutions to educators across the country.

Meagan Hartman earned her bachelor's degree in education from Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame and her master's degree in educational psychology from the University of Northern Colorado. After eight years of teaching 1st-4th grades, she joined the STEP team to help students reach their full potential through physical literacy.

Concurrent Sessions: 4 to 5 p.m.

Session 1: BreakoutEDU **Presenter: Melissa Adkins**

Breakout EDU challenges are used in all content areas and help develop computational thinking skills such as critical thinking, logic, and collaboration. Come experience a BreakoutEDU challenge! Help reveal clues and solve mysteries to "break in" before time runs out. Come learn how to get started using BreakoutEDU.

Melissa Adkins is in her 11th year as instructional technologist for Lamar County School District. She is also a Google for Education Innovator, Google for Education Certified Trainer, Code.org Facilitator, Authorized BreakoutEDU Trainer, and a Flipgrid Ambassador. Melissa facilitates workshops and presents at numerous state and regional educational conferences.

Session 2: Blended Learning in Action **Presenter: Will Deyamport, III, Ed.D.**

During this session, we will be going over best practices and design methods for implementing blended learning into your classroom. We will be using subject neutral resources for reflection and/or group discussion. Attendees will leave this session with an understanding of various blended learning models and how to develop a blended learning lesson plan.

Dr. Will Deyamport III (@iamDrWill) is a K12 instructional technologist at Hattiesburg Public School District, a connected learning consultant, writer, and host of "The Dr. Will Show."

Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios - Monday & Tuesday

Concurrent Sessions: 4 to 5 p.m.

Session 3: Real and Perceived Barriers to Church-School Partnerships in Rural Southeastern Mississippi Presenters: Dr. Elizabeth A. Bailey, Dr. S. Brad Bailey and Dr. Jalynn G. Roberts

Dr. Elizabeth A. Bailey, a recent graduate of William Carey University's School of Education, completed a doctoral dissertation study on church-school partnerships in a county in rural Southeast Mississippi. This study provides a detailed description of church-school partnerships in rural Southeast Mississippi; real and perceived barriers to such partnerships; and how successful church-school partnerships can be initiated/sustained/duplicated. This panel will focus on real and perceived barriers to church-school partnerships as well as best practices in overcoming these barriers.

Dr. Elizabeth A. Bailey, principal, Dixie Attendance Center (Forrest County School District), is interested in research on the utilization of church-school partnerships as a method of school improvement.

Dr. S. Brad Bailey, communication instructor, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, has an interest in providing training to both schools and churches that are interested in church-school partnerships.

Dr. Jalynn G. Roberts, professor of research and statistics, William Carey University, directed Dr. Bailey's doctoral research study on church-school partnerships and has a keen personal interest in the subject.

Session 4: Differentiated Strategies for Gifted Learners Presenter: Christina Liverett, Ed.D.

During this session, participants will learn how to use STEM-based strategies to group and differentiate for the advanced learners in their classrooms. These strategies will not only challenge the advanced learners, but also raise the bar for all learners in the class, making the content more interesting and motivating for the learners. Handouts will be provided for participants.

Christina Liverett has 19 years' experience as an educator including ten years as a teacher of the intellectually gifted. She has attained a doctoral and specialist's degree in higher education administration, a master's degree in gifted education and bachelors of science degree in elementary education. She is director of the Center for Creative Scholars at William Carey, an endeavor that makes it possible for gifted learners of all ages, races, and culturally and socially diverse statuses to have educational opportunities to engage with one another in the summer and Saturday programs. She is also assistant professor of Education at William Carey University and specializes in the instruction of gifted educators.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Get STEMulated with MPB Resources Presenter: Maggie Stevenson

Mississippi Public Broadcasting provides valuable tools for teachers and administrators. From classroom materials to professional development programs, MPB aims to enhance the work of Mississippi educators. Learn about MPB's instructional resources and professional development opportunities for PreK-12 educators and other outreach initiatives aimed at students, parents, and community leaders. MPB Education provides programs, services and support to educators, students and parents in Mississippi that are vital to the educational mission set forth by the legislature. It is the hope of MPB Education that all children will enter school with the foundation needed for academic and social success. Through its resources, educators have opportunities to receive high-quality, online professional development to promote technology in PreK, K-12 and adult education classrooms. In addition, MPB's collaborative efforts with schools and communities have proven to promote and support high-quality programs and services for children and their families.

Maggie Stevenson is deputy executive director for education for MPB, where she oversees implementation of MPB's statewide education initiatives, including early childhood, dropout prevention, college and career readiness, professional development for educators, outreach events, and much more. A native of Mobile, Alabama, she is an up-and-coming leader in the fields of public media and education. With over 15 years of experience in media and education, Stevenson's professional experience encompasses educating and empowering children, youth, and adults, along with developing and creating instructional media for PreK-adult education. Her focal areas have been literacy, technology integration, and community development. Stevenson earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama and her master's degree from the University of South Alabama.

Plenary Session with Nick Wallace of "Chopped"



Nick Wallace was born and raised in Edwards, Mississippi, and has always given credit for his cooking abilities to his grandmothers Queen Morris and Lennel Donald. A leader in redefining the Southern food experience, Wallace blends his Mississippi family-farm origins with sophisticated French techniques to create exceptional dining experiences.

With a desire to take on any challenge the culinary world has to offer, Wallace possesses the creativity, innovation, and drive to deliver exceptional cuisine of the highest quality. His culinary philosophy and passion reflects the growing trend towards a healthier lifestyle, and working with local farmers, Wallace uses the finest local and regional organic produce in his dishes.

Wallace participated in the James Beard Foundation's third Chefs Boot Camp for Policy & Change at Glynwood in Cold Spring, New York in September 2013. He has served as chef at The Beard House in New York City on two occasions, most recently hosting a sold-out "Southern Hospitality" dinner in December 2013. Wallace was also featured on the list of "Best Chefs America" in 2013 and 2017 and won Food Network Chopped: Alton Brown Challenge in October 2017.

Wallace is an independent executive chef and owner of Nick Wallace Culinary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios - Tuesday (Continued)

Concurrent Sessions - 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Session 1: Mindset: Changing the Way Students Approach Learning

Presenters: Dr. Rebekah Mincey, Dr. Catherine Wasson

The ability to persist in the face of difficulty is a trait students need in today's culture. There are different theories of intelligence that lend individuals to approach tasks differently. This session will focus on the role of an individual's mindset in establishing a conducive learning environment, designing effective instruction, and creating behaviors in students that encourage them to approach learning, and specifically learning difficult tasks, in a different way.

Rebekah Mincey is a former elementary and high school math teacher. She has also served as an administrator in the form of a district test coordinator. She holds a bachelor of science degree in elementary education with minors in math and music, an MED in gifted education, an Ed.S in educational leadership and administration, and a Ph.D. in educational leadership and administration with an emphasis in research. After teaching adjunct at William Carey University and The University of Southern Mississippi for several years, she started teaching full time at Belhaven University for the graduate department. She specializes in measurements and evaluation, research, and curriculum as well as supervises the internship program for alternate route teachers. She presents regularly at conferences where she can share her love of research and learning. Areas of research include how the brain works/learns, mindset, and effective homework strategies.

Dr. Catherine Wasson serves as professor of Graduate Teacher Education at Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi. She was recruited to Belhaven as the director of Graduate Teacher Education to design and implement the master of education and master of arts in teaching programs. Before coming to Belhaven, Dr. Wasson served as coordinator of Administrator Preparation Programs K-12 and assistant professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Educational Psychology at the University of Mississippi. In her tenure at the Mississippi Department of Education, Dr. Wasson held the positions of interim associate superintendent for Academic Education, director of the Office of Leadership Development and Enhancement, and program manager and LEAD project director in the School Executive Management Institute. Dr. Wasson served the public schools of Mississippi in a variety of administrative positions with district-wide responsibilities for counseling, curriculum and assessment and as both an elementary and secondary teacher. She earned her doctorate degree in educational leadership from the University of Mississippi, her master's degree in guidance and counseling from Delta State University and her bachelor's degree in education from Mississippi State University. She is a member of the board of the Millsaps Principals' and Teachers' Institute and secretary for the governing board of the International Community of Christians in Teacher Education.

Session 2: Media View of State and Local Education Reforms

Moderator: Jean Cook, APR, Mississippi Department of Education; MAPE board member

Panelists: Jeff Amy, Kate Royals and Jackie Mader

Journalists from Mississippi's top news organizations will share their perspectives on the state of public education in Mississippi, which reform efforts have been the most effective and how school districts are adapting to higher expectations.

Jeff Amy has covered education and other topics for The Associated Press in Mississippi since 2011. Before that, he worked for newspapers in Mobile and Anniston, Alabama. Jeff holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a master's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Mississippi Today reporter **Kate Royals** is a Jackson native who previously worked as a reporter for The Clarion-Ledger covering education and state government and was a news producer at MassLive in Springfield, Massachusetts. She holds a master's degree from Louisiana State University's Manship School of Mass Communications and attended Millsaps College.

Jackie Mader is an award-winning multimedia editor and a staff writer for The Hechinger Report, a nonprofit education news outlet. She is a former teacher and covers education in Mississippi, as well as early childhood education nationwide. Her work has appeared in newspapers across the country and on radio stations including MPB and WNYC, and she has been published by online outlets including PBS and The Atlantic.

Session 3: Planting the Seeds of Partnerships to Harvest Sustainability

Presenters: Donna Loden and Mary Ann Plasencia

Growing Healthy Waves, a district-themed Farm to School initiative, and national organization, FoodCorps, partnered to change the palates of children in the Tupelo Public School District so that students know what healthy food is, fall in love with it, and eat it every day. With trowels, plant starts, pots, pans, and enthusiasm, this Governor's Award of Distinction honoree is empowering students to grow, count, measure, stir, and cook their own food. This session will give you tips on raking in partners, germinating ideas for program sustainability, and sprouting an award-winning application.

Donna Loden has 33 years of teaching experience in Mississippi and Tennessee. After retiring, she served as education coordinator at HealthWorks! North Mississippi, an interactive children's health education center in Tupelo. Donna is currently a trainer for the Professional Growth System and an accreditation auditor for the Mississippi Department of Education Office of Accreditation. She volunteers with the Tupelo Public Schools as coordinator of Growing Healthy Waves and as supervisor of a FoodCorps service member. You can often find her dressed as the Tomato Lady encouraging kids to try new things.

Mary Ann Plasencia has been with Tupelo Public Schools for eight years and currently serves as the communications director. She has been involved with bringing health and wellness initiatives to the district's students and staff including free swimming lessons to all first and second graders, free gym memberships for staff, and most recently, onsite employee clinics. Thanks to Growing Healthy Waves, she now loves all things kale — salad, chips, and even in smoothies.

Session 4: Bringing Data into the Conversation

Presenter: Nicholas Peterman, SchoolStatus

In this session, we will discuss tactics for improving your data analytics and parent engagement for student success, including tools for disaggregating student data, day-to-day instructional decisions, and monitoring and tracking parent communication.

Nick Peterman, vice president of SchoolStatus, is a former high school math teacher, former district technology director and all around good guy.

Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios - Tuesday (Continued)

Breakout Sessions - 1:30 to 2:15 p.m.

The Bower Foundation - Let's MOVE to Learn! **Presenters: Larry Calhoun and Dale Dieckman**

Better grades. Better health. That's what Move to Learn is about. Studies have shown that physical activity increases children's ability to learn. That's why Move to Learn incorporates movement in the classroom. This program is designed to be fun for students, improve learning, increase time on task and assist teachers with classroom management.

Coach Larry Calhoun is the division director of the Office of Healthy Schools for the Mississippi Department of Education. He has over 25 years of experience in education, teaching in several school districts in Mississippi. He shares his infectious enthusiasm for a healthy, active lifestyle with students in the state – inspiring them to get fit and stay fit. Coach Calhoun is a graduate of Jackson State University, where he earned both his bachelor's degree in history and master's degree in education with an emphasis on health, physical education, recreation and dance.

Dale Dieckman ATC, CSCS, is the physical education specialist for the Office of Healthy Schools in the Mississippi Department of Education. Dale works with school districts to assist them by providing resources and training. He also works with The Bower Foundation traveling to school districts across the state helping present Move To Learn. Dale holds a degree in coaching and sports administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and holds certifications with the National Athletic Trainers Association and National Strength and Conditioning Association.

The Kirkland Group - Connecting the ELA Shifts to STEM **Presenter: Chan Cleveland**

The ELA MSCCR standards emphasize challenging shifts that require students to think differently, teachers have to change instructional strategies, and administrators have to reconsider the support needed in order to enable success. In this presentation, we will discuss how ELA teachers can connect the key shifts with STEM. Participants will learn what these shifts really mean; how the various reading informational text standards connect to support them; and practical applications for addressing STEM and shifts in the classroom.

Chan Cleveland is executive vice president of The Kirkland Group, an educational firm that provides technical assistance to school districts throughout the southeastern region. With over 17 years of experience in the field of education, Mr. Cleveland has written "Praxis Core for Dummies," "1001 Praxis Core Questions for Dummies," and "Praxis Elementary Education for Dummies."

Breakout Sessions - 2:15 to 3 p.m.

Escape the Classroom **Presenter: Ashley Kazery and Elise Brown**

It's no puzzle why escape rooms are so popular. In this session, participants will experience an escape room and learn how to create escape rooms collaboratively across all subjects (ELA, math, science, and social studies). In addition, a strong emphasis will be placed on ways escape rooms can be used to teach teamwork, perseverance, and problem solving while assessing content knowledge.

Ashley Kazery is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and has ten years of classroom experience. She spent the last three years in a district as an elementary curriculum coordinator. Kazery is working toward her doctorate degree in leadership with an emphasis in curriculum and instruction. She is currently working with the Mississippi Department of Education and The University of Mississippi as a professional development coordinator.

Elise Brown is a professional development coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Education. She provides training and implementation support to educators, administrators, and curriculum coordinators on the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Mathematics. Brown has been an educator in Mississippi for over ten years. Before serving as a professional development coordinator, Brown served as a coach, teacher, and teacher leader at the secondary level. She received her master of education degree in K-12 leadership in 2015 from The University of Mississippi and currently holds a teaching and administration license. Her educational interests include instructional technology, growth mindset, and effective teaching strategies.

Writing in Science and Math Classrooms **Presenter: Dr. Tricia Bridges**

As students engage in STEM classes and expand their knowledge in science, mathematics, and technology, they soon learn that what they know is important, but what they can do with what they know is essential. A key tool for making sense of information is writing, yet teachers of subjects other than English/Language Arts often feel ill-equipped to infuse writing as a teaching and learning task even though Mississippi College and Career Standards include standards for literacy/writing in science, social studies, and technical subjects.

This session will focus on participants building understanding of the role of writing to learn. They will learn methods for developing writing tasks and assignments aligned to MCCRS in STEM classrooms, strategies for providing instructional support to students as they write, and methods for providing teacher and peer feedback on writing tasks. Participants will also examine scoring writing using a Standards-aligned rubric.

Dr. Tricia Bridges is a career educator with experience as a secondary classroom teacher, a district level administrator, a teacher-coach, and an author and presenter of professional development sessions locally, state-wide, and nationally. After 26 years in public education, Dr. Bridges joined JBHM Education Group to begin the teacher-coaching division of the school-improvement company. She served seven years as corporate director of Teacher Coaching before being named as state director for Mississippi. Dr. Bridges continued to serve as Mississippi director after JBHM was purchased six years ago and the name of the company was changed to Generation Ready.

PREPS Value Added and Special Awards Luncheon

Feb. 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.**Salon C**
PresidingDr. Ben Burnett, Executive Director, PREPS and
Dean of William Carey School of Education

PREPS Special Awards

Hugh I. Peck Memorial Research Award was established in memory of Dr. Hugh Peck, former Executive Director of PREPS. It is awarded to school districts or other educational organizations that have participated in worthwhile research and development for the betterment of schools in the state

Mr. Glen East, Superintendent – Gulfport Public School District

The Dan Merritt Courage Award was given at the first PREPS Winter Conference in 1996 to Dr. Dan Merritt who was chosen as the first recipient for his continued and repeated service to the Jackson Public School System. In memory of Dr. Merritt, this award was established for a school district or an individual who is recognized for taking a professional risk for the greater good of Mississippi Public Schools.

Dr. Amy Carter, Superintendent – Meridian Public School District

Mr. Brian Freeman, Superintendent – Forrest County School District

Dr. Robert Williams, Superintendent – Hattiesburg Public School District

The PREPS Partner Award is awarded to the partner who has generously given time and effort in assisting PREPS to make positive strides in Mississippi public schools.

Dr. Johnny Purvis

Board Member Recognition of Service: Three of our board members will be retiring at the end of the year. We would like to recognize them for their dedication and service to our organization.

Mr. Randy Hodges - Superintendent of Lauderdale County Schools

Dr. Gearl Loden - Superintendent of Tupelo Public Schools

Dr. Ronnie McGeehee - Superintendent of Madison County Schools

We would also like to recognize and welcome our newest board member:

Dr. Eddie Peasant - Superintendent of Starkville Public Schools

Collaborating to Empower Others – Principal Academy

With a generous grant from the Phil Hardin Foundation, PREPS held a Principal Academy this school year. We would like to recognize the 2017-18 participants who successfully completed the academy as well as thank the Phil Hardin Foundation for their support.

Mr. Lloyd Gray, Executive Director, Phil Hardin Foundation

Dr. Bob Thompson, Facilitator

Mr. Brian Freeman

Mrs. Teresa Carter

Mrs. Patti Permenter

Principal Academy participants:

Charlette Artis- Harris – Coahoma County School District

Walter Atkins - Quitman County

Jason Bennett - Vicksburg-Warren School District

Elliot Brewer – Lauderdale County School District

Deborah Brown – Lauderdale County School District

Jeremiah Burks – De Soto County School District

Kevin Carter – Coahoma County School District

Tyrone Catledge - Tupelo Public School District

Tameka Davis - Vicksburg – Warren School District

Shannon Edmondson – Tishomingo County School District

Shari Franklin – Pearl River County School District

Nathan Hall – Corinth Public School District

Katrina Hills – Vicksburg- Warren School District

Angela Jones – Greene County School District

Lynn Lang – Coahoma County School District

Lesha Lott – Greene County School District

Phelton Cortez Moss - Quitman County

Rosalind Operton – Meridian Public School District

Darnell Payton – Forrest County School District

Tracy Pierre – Forrest County School District

Jay Rayborn – Marion County School District

Sandy Reid – Lauderdale County School District

Lynn Revette – Wayne County School District

Fredrick Robinson - Quitman County

Felicia Ruffin – Meridian Public School District

Howard Savage, Jr – Quitman School District

Eric Smith – Wayne County School District

LaShonda Keyes- Smith – Vicksburg- Warren School District

Traci Sullivan – Marion County School District

Latasha Turner – Coahoma County School District

Shondra Turner- Wayne County School District

Van D. Roberts II - Tishomingo County School District

Tara White – Pearl River County School District

Vol White – Pearl River County School District

PREPS Value Added Awards

PREPS recognizes member schools who are achieving beyond their circumstances. We applaud these efforts, hard work, and innovation put forth to accomplish student achievement.

High School Special Recognition Value Added - ALL Subject Areas

North Forrest High School
Forrest County School District

Velma Jackson High School
Madison County School District

Gautier High School
Pascagoula-Gautier School District

Pascagoula High School
Pascagoula-Gautier School District

Pass Christian High School
Pass Christian School District

Picayune Memorial High School
Picayune School District

Poplarville Junior/Senior High School
Poplarville School District

New Site School
Prentiss School District

East Union Attendance Center
Union County School District

Winona Secondary School
Winona School District

The following Value Added Awards are recognized by district:

Aberdeen School District
Aberdeen Elementary – ELA
Aberdeen Elementary – Math
Aberdeen High School – Algebra 1

Amory School District
Amory High School – English II

Bay-St. Louis Waveland School District
Bay-Waveland Middle School – ELA
North Bay Elementary – ELA and Math
Bay-Waveland Middle School – Math
Bay High School – Algebra I, Biology I, English II

Biloxi Public School District
Biloxi Jr. High – Math
Gorenflo Elementary – Math
Popps Ferry Elementary – ELA
Biloxi High School – U.S. History

Cleveland School District
Bell Elementary School – ELA
East Side High School – Algebra I
East Side High School – English II

Coahoma School District
Sherard Elementary School – Math
Sherard Elementary School – ELA

Desoto County School District
Center Hill Middle – Math
Horn Lake Middle – Math
Lake Cormorant Middle – Math
Lewisburg Middle – Math
Hernando High School – Algebra I
Southaven High School – Algebra 1, Biology I, U.S. History
Desoto Central High School – Algebra I, U.S. History
Horn Lake High School – Biology I, U.S. History
Olive Branch High School – Biology I, U.S. History

Forrest County Agricultural High School District
Forrest County Agricultural High School – Biology I

Forrest County School District
Rawls Springs Attendance Center – ELA
North Forrest Attendance Center – ELA
North Forrest High School – Algebra I, Biology 1, U.S. History, English II

Greene County School District
McLain Elementary School – ELA
Green County High School – Algebra I, Biology I, English II

Grenada School District
Grenada Elementary School – Math
Grenada Elementary School – ELA

Gulfport School District
Bayou View Elementary School – ELA, Math
Gaston Point Elementary School – ELA, Math
Pass Road Elementary School – ELA, Math
West Elementary School – ELA, Math
Gulfport High School – Algebra I, English II

PREPS Value Added Awards (Continued)

Harrison County School District

D'Iberville Elementary – Math
D'Iberville Senior High School – U.S. History, English II, Biology I
Harrison Central Elementary – ELA, Math
Pineville Elementary School – Math, ELA
West Harrison High School – U.S. History
Saucier Elementary School – ELA

Hollandale School District

Simmons High School – Algebra I

Houston School District

Houston Middle School – Math
Houston Upper Elementary – ELA
Houston High School – Algebra I

Jackson County School District

St. Martin East Elementary School – ELA
St. Martin North Elementary School – ELA
St. Martin High School – Biology I

Jackson Public School District

Bailey Middle APAC School – ELA, Math
Casey Elementary School – ELA, Math
Davis Magnet School – ELA, Math
Lake Elementary School – Math
Northwest Middle School – ELA, Math
Power APAC School – ELA, Math
McWillie Elementary School – ELA
Murrah High School – English II

Jefferson County School District

Prentiss Senior High School – Biology I

Kosciusko School District

Kosciusko Senior High School – Algebra I

Lafayette School District

Lafayette High School – Algebra I

Lamar County School District

Oak Grove High School – Algebra I, U.S. History

Lauderdale County School District

Southeast Lauderdale High School – Biology I, U.S. History

Laurel School District

Nora Davis Magnet School – ELA

Louisville Municipal School District

Nanah Waiya Attendance Center – Math
Noxapater Attendance Center – Biology I, U.S. History
Louisville High School – U.S. History

Lumberton School District

Lumberton High School – Biology I
Lumberton High School – U.S. History

Madison County School District

Luther Branson School – ELA, Math
Camden Elementary – Math
Velma Jackson High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II
Ridgeland High School – Biology I, U.S. History, English II

Marion County School District

West Marion Primary School – ELA, Math
East Marion High School – Algebra I, Biology I, English II
East Marion High School – Math
West Marion High School – Algebra I, English II

Marshall County School District

Byhalia High School – English II

Meridian Public School District

Poplar Springs Elementary School – ELA, Math

Moss Point School District

Moss Point High School – English II

North Tippah School District

Falkner High School – English II, Biology I

Pascagoula-Gautier School District

Beach Elementary School – ELA, Math
Eastlawn Elementary School – ELA, Math
Martin Bluff Elementary School – ELA, Math
Singing River Academy – ELA
Gautier Elementary School – ELA, Math
Gautier Middle - Math, ELA
Lake Elementary School – Math, ELA
Cherokee Elementary – Math
Jackson Elementary – Math
Gautier High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II
Pascagoula High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II

PREPS Value Added Awards (Continued)

Pass Christian School District

Pass Christian High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II

Pearl River County School District

Pearl River Central Upper Elementary School – ELA

Petal School District

Petal Upper Elementary School – ELA, Math
Petal Middle School – Math
Petal High School – Algebra I, English II, U.S. History

Picayune School District

Southside Elementary School – ELA
Picayune Jr. High – Math
Picayune Memorial High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II

Pontotoc School District

North Pontotoc Upper Elementary – ELA
North Pontotoc High School – Biology I

Poplarville School District

Poplarville Junior/Senior High School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II

Prentiss County School District

Marietta Elementary School - Math, ELA
Jumpertown High School- Algebra I, Biology I, English II
New Site High School- Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II
Wheeler High School – Algebra I
Hills Chapel School – ELA

Rankin County School District

McLaurin Attendance Center – U.S. History

Starkville – Oktibbeha Consolidated School District

West Elementary School – Math

Stone County School District

Perkinston Elementary – ELA
Stone High School – U.S. History

Tishomingo County School District

Belmont School – Math, English II
Tishomingo County High School – English II

Tupelo Public School District

Milam Elementary School – Math

Union County School District

Myrtle Attendance Center – ELA, Biology I, U.S. History, English II
West Union Attendance Center – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History
East Union Attendance Center – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II
Ingomar Attendance Center – English II, U.S. History

Vicksburg-Warren School District

Bovina Elementary – ELA, Math
Bowmar Avenue School – ELA, Math
Redwood Elementary School – ELA, Math

Wayne County School District

Clara Elementary School – ELA

Webster County School District

East Webster High School – Biology I
Eupora High School – U.S. History

Western Line School District

Riverside Elementary School – ELA
O'Bannon Elementary School – Math
Riverside High School – Algebra I, English II

Winona School District

Winona Secondary School – Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, English II

Governor's Awards Luncheon

Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.Ballroom

PresidingMaggie Stevenson, President
Mississippi Association of Partners in Education

Invocation & Introductions
Lunch
Education Heroes Award Presentation
Partnership Excellence Awards Presentation
Governor's Awards Presentation
Audience Choice Award - Electronic Voting
ADJOURNMENT

Education Heroes Award: Dr. Virgil Belue



MAPE is honored to present the inaugural Education Heroes Award to Dr. Virgil Belue, who served as the first superintendent of the Clinton Public School District from 1970 to 1992. Under his leadership, the district grew from three schools to seven schools and a vocational center while emerging as one of Mississippi's top school districts.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Belue recognized the importance of working with communities to strengthen public education, which is integral to MAPE's mission. His commitment to public education remains an inspiring example of leadership, courage and vision.

Clinton schools and Dr. Belue made recently national headlines when the "The Huffington Post" and "The Atlantic" published articles about the innovative approaches he took to create a community school system ("How One Mississippi School District Made Integration Work" and "Restoring the Promise of Public Education"). Read more about Dr. Belue's accomplishments at www.mapie.org on the Calendar/News page.

Partnership Excellence Awards

Elementary Level

Harrison County School District with Hancock & Whitney Bank – Career fairs, financial literacy programs, academic support, grant to replace electronic equipment destroyed by vandalism

Lillie Burney STEAM Academy (HPSD) with Retired Educators Association, Junior Auxiliary of Hattiesburg, Families First for Mississippi and Economy Supply – Community partnership programs to improve student attendance and behavior

High School Level

Hattiesburg High School with Venue Church – Donations of school supplies, uniforms, and meals; volunteer hall monitors to support state testing; inspirational advisors to support football team's undefeated season

Write for Mississippi and 33 high schools in Mississippi – Creative writing workshop to produce "What Can We Do for Our Country?" essay collection

University Partnership

Mississippi Department of Transportation and Mississippi State University - Pre-service teacher training sessions to prepare future teachers to train tomorrow's workforce

Governor's Awards

Elementary Level

Hawkins Elementary (Hattiesburg) with Ekklesia Ministries – "Neighbors @ Hawkins" tutoring, mentoring and career-readiness programs

North Jackson Elementary (JPS) with Pepsi/Brown Bottling Group - Programs to support reading and math proficiency, honor roll achievement, attendance and citizenship

(Continued on next page.)

Governor's Awards Luncheon

Elementary Level (continued)

Spann Elementary (JPS) with Comcast, Junior League of Jackson, Bellwether Church, Jackson Rotary Club, Northminster Baptist and Raising Cane's #30 (Ridgeland) – "Project #RiseUp" to improve technology and literacy resources

Middle School Level

N.R. Burger Middle School (Hattiesburg) and multiple community partners – "Power Partners" collaborative to promote academic proficiency and social responsibility.

High School Level

Pelahatchie High School (RCSD) with Multicraft International – "Multicraft Academy" two-year manufacturing course curriculum for high-school students

Puckett High School (RCSD) with multiple community partners – Gardens of Puckett school and community beautification initiative

Woodward Hines Education Foundation Get2College Program with College Countdown MS - Pilot initiative to implement best practices for creating a college culture in eight high schools: Bruce High School, Lake Cormorant High School, St. Martin High School, Moss Point Career and Technical Center, Pelahatchie Attendance Center, Taylorsville High School, O'Bannon High School, Riverside High School

Multi-Level

Tenn-Tom Waterway with 61 schools in Clay, Itawamba, Lowndes, Monroe, Oktibbeha, Noxubee, Prentiss, and Tishomingo counties – "Tenn-Tom Educational Outreach Program" to provide teacher training, hands-on lesson plans and resources to enhance STEM instruction for schools bordering the waterway

Vicksburg Warren School District with Vivian Burey Marshall Academy STEM Pilot Initiative, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Engineer Research and Development Center, Alcorn State University and Jackson State University – Program to increase participation of underrepresented and often under-resourced students in STEM fields

District and Community-Wide

"Good Food for Oxford Schools" healthy nutrition program - Oxford School District with FoodCorps (an AmeriCorps program), Chicory Market, United Way of Oxford & Lafayette County, the University of Mississippi, L.O.U. Reads Coalition, Boys & Girls Club, Leap Frog, local fitness instructors, local artists, local farmers

Mississippi Community Symphonic Band / Mississippi Swing! Big Band (Jackson, MS) and Siwell Middle, Northwest Jackson IB, Chastain Middle and Davis Magnet (JPS) and Pelahatchie High School (Rankin County SD) - Instrument drive for band students

Pascagoula-Gautier School District with PREPS, Howard Technologies, Curriculum Associates, School Status, Camcor, EverFi, Canvas, 5 Points - Tech Camp for Teachers to provide free training on instructional technology and technology implementation for Mississippi school

Governor's Award of Distinction

Quitman High School and City of Quitman Mayor's Office, Jones County Junior College Center, William Carey University, Petal School District and multiple community partners - "Promoting College & Career Readiness Through Partnerships"

Award Judges

MAPE Judging Co-Chairmen: **Susan King** and **Jane Beach**

Linda Clifton
Clifton Educational Services

Shonnie Cooley
Parents for Public Schools

Beth Fisher
Trustmark

Nadine Gilbert
Jackson State University

Phil Hardwick
Else School of Management,
Millsaps College

Betty Lou Jones
Mississippi State Parole Board

Vickie Powell
Mississippi Economic Council

Susan Puckett
Mississippi Department of Transportation

Sloane Smith
BankPlus

Jessica Younger
Mississippi Department of Transportation

Governor's Award Winners

The following are summaries of partnership programs honored by MAPE this year. These will be added to the "Partnership Spotlight" page at www.mapie.org to expand our online idea bank of award-winning partnership programs that can be replicated in schools and communities across Mississippi. You may also contact schools, districts and organizations directly for more information about these programs.

GOVERNOR'S AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Quitman High School (Quitman School District) - Promoting College & Career Readiness Through Partnerships

Partners: University of Mississippi School of Nursing, City of Quitman Mayor's Office, Jones County Junior College Center, William Carey University, Petal School District, Simply Irresistible, Skidmore Restaurant, Sweet D's Snowballs, Majures Jewelry and Gifts, Scott Evans and Associates, Subway, Shine 4 Less, Pizza Hut, Los Totopos LLC, Bubba's Catfish House, Fantasy Cottage Flowers & Gifts, Railroad Bakery, M & M Flowers & Gifts, Hardees, The Body Shop LLC, McAlister's Deli, IHOP, Books-A-Million

Students impacted: 523
Partnership duration: 2 years

Quitman High School and Jones Community Junior College created a partnership allowing students to earn certifications in welding and entry-level petroleum engineering as part of a dual enrollment program at the JCJC Center in Stonewall. QHS also partnered with William Carey University to offer academic dual credit for freshman college level courses in English Composition I and II, College Algebra, and College Trigonometry. More than 20 community businesses signed up for the Panther Perk Program, which provides discounts and incentives for teachers and builds community stakeholder involvement.

Activities:

- Created Quitman High School ACT progression
- Principal conducted individual meetings with all teachers and students to assess needs, goals
- Video marketing campaign raised QHS profile in community
- Faculty hiring committee formed to involve community stakeholders in interviewing, ranking process

Impacts:

- At least 50% of 2018 grads will have at least 3 college hours; 25% will graduate with at least 6
- QHS grew in 9 of 12 indicators on MS Accountability Model; school improved 193 total points — the highest growth of any high school in Mississippi in 2017
- Increased teacher retention rates by 64% in 2016-2017
- "Panther Nation Unite" was largest community event in QHS history, with 800+ in attendance

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Hawkins Elementary (Hattiesburg Public School District) - Neighbors @ Hawkins

Partner: Ekklesia Hattiesburg Ministries

Students impacted: 312
Volunteers: 10
Duration of partnership: 10 years

Neighbors @ Hawkins is a community-rooted program created by Ekklesia Hattiesburg Ministries. The program's mission is to help provide a quality education for all students by direct tutoring, volunteering and connecting financial resources to classroom needs. Neighbors @ Hawkins has provided a full-time program coordinator to work at Hawkins to coordinate volunteer efforts and also partnered with America Reads Mississippi to hire four full-time AmeriCorps tutors.

Activities:

- Partnership programs supported by 4 full-time tutors (AmeriCorps), 30 regular volunteers, 15 active student mentors, 4 active church partnerships, 1 program coordinator
- Small-group after-school tutoring for students
- Mentoring, book reading, tutoring, assisting with assignments
- Volunteers help teachers by filing papers, decorating bulletin boards, making copies
- Support for Fall Festival, school dances, Field Day, Honor Roll Recognition and other events

Impacts:

- Mid-year I-Ready Assessment diagnostics revealed increases in student scores
- 50% of 3rd graders advanced in math
- 70% of 4th graders and 15% of 5th graders showed significant gains
- 97% of third graders passed spring 2017 Third Grade Reading Gate on first attempt — the highest rate within Hattiesburg Public School District
- Fewer students reading below grade level based on 2017-2018 data

North Jackson Elementary (JPS)

Partner: Pepsi/Brown Bottling Group

Students impacted: 78
Volunteers: 2
Duration of partnership: 35 years

Although Brown Bottling Group works with all students throughout the year, the focus for this project was to increase the average percent correct on the 5th grade math benchmark exam by at least 5%. The "Top 3 Go and See" project was designed to give students a better understanding of test scores, goals to strive for, and support through extra instruction and incentives. The Top 3 students demonstrating good attendance, positive behavior and course performance visited Brown's facility in Brandon to see connections between school performance and occupations in the community.

(Continued)

Governor's Award Winners (Continued)

North Jackson Elementary (Continued)

Activities:

- Brown Bottling's HR director, Abbe Truman, tutored 5th graders in math
- Small-group learning sessions helped students focus on preparing for assessments
- Incentives and mini-competitions helped engage and motivate students

Impacts:

- Exceeded goal to improve 5th grade math scores. Original target was to increase scores from 22% correct to 30% correct. End result: 31% correct.
- Each 5th grade class averaged percent correct increases of at least 5 points.
- 2% increase in 5th grade math proficiency

Spann Elementary School (JPS) - Project #RiseUp

Partners: Comcast, Junior League of Jackson, Bellwether Church, Jackson Rotary Club, Northminster Baptist Church, Raising Cane's #30 (Ridgeland)

Students impacted: 150 4th and 5th graders

Volunteers: 200+

Partnership duration: Comcast - 1 year; JLJ - 15+ years; Bellwether - 4 years; JRC - 3 years; Northminster - 35 years; Raising Cane's - 9 years

Project #RiseUp focused on helping Spann become more technologically integrated in an effort to improve the school's accountability level, which in 2016 had fallen to "F" for the first time in school history. Analysis of student data revealed that the shaky transition from paper-pencil testing to computerized state assessments was a major reason for the drop. Project #RiseUp brought Comcast and 100+ volunteers to Spann to serve for multiple work days along with employees, students, and parents to help boost school morale, achievement and computer literacy.

Activities:

- "Boot Camp" after-hours program focusing on ELA and Math
- MAP Group meetings to help struggling students
- Jr. League: \$10,000 in grants for technology and literacy
- Bellwether Buddy: Tutoring program for 4th graders
- Northminster: Gift cards for 4th grade teachers
- Rotary Club: Volunteer reading sessions
- Raising Cane's: Donations, volunteers, Boot Camp gift cards

Impacts:

- Rating improved from 2016 Level F to 2017 Level B
- Donations used to buy laptops, extended WiFi, Brain Pop and other educational learning programs
- 35.3% to 61.7% growth in Reading and Language Arts
- 36.2% to 70.8% growth in Math
- Bottom 25% of students attained Reading/Language Arts growth score of 72.1% and Math growth score of 72.3%

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL

N.R. Burger Middle School – Power Partners (Hattiesburg Public School District)

Partners: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity - Hattiesburg Chapter, Kendrick Parkman, Mississippi Fellowship of Christian Athletes - Pinebelt Chapter, Topher's Restaurant, South Mississippi Rural Health Initiative, Hattiesburg Housing Authority, Retired Educators of Hattiesburg, NAACP - Hattiesburg Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi - Hattiesburg Chapter, Innovative Designs & Engineering Services, House of the Lord, Concerned Men Group of Hattiesburg, Wright Medical, Smile Design Orthodontics, Terrance Taylor, Milan & Stephanie Hoze, Dr. Carolyn Eubanks, University of Southern Mississippi - Department of Curriculum and Instruction, HPSD Foundation, Lashaun Floyd, Jawanda Grant, Jalarna Grant, James Howard, Mitchell Williams, Mr. Minor and Mrs. Hilda Harwell

Students impacted: 556

Partnership duration: 1-6 years

The "Power Partners" collaborative involves students, staff, and community in activities and initiatives to promote school-wide academic proficiency and social responsibility. Its strategy entails the purposeful assignment of partners, sponsors, and mentors to work closely with specific teams/pods, teacher teams, student clubs/organizations to increase the number of students meeting and exceeding academic expectations; to improve average daily attendance; and to lower office referrals.

Activities:

- Power Partners-Building Walks & Pep Talks
- Well-attended P-16 family & community council meetings
- Incentives to support school-wide PBIS for students
- Hattiesburg Housing Authority "Community Caravans"
- House of the Lord's Back to School Gear Up for Education
- USM Department of Curriculum and Instruction to improve teacher preparation

Impacts:

- Accountability rating rose from 341 to 353, only 24 points from a B rating
- ADA rose from 93.59% (2015-2016) to 95.3% (2017-2018)
- 85% of student body had zero disciplinary referrals; over 96% had fewer than 3 disciplinary referrals (2017-18)

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Pelahatchie High School (Rankin County School District) – "Multicraft Academy"

Partner: Multicraft International

Students impacted: 52

Volunteers: 5-25 Multicraft employees

Partnership duration: 1 year

Multicraft International, a full-service manufacturer supplying world class electronic and electromechanical components, works with PHS to enhance education and training for students interested in manufacturing careers. Funded by RCSD, Multicraft Academy provides a two-year manufacturing course curriculum leading to Basic Manufacturing Certification, OSHA Certification and a Silver Level Career Readiness Certificate. The program is free to students and counts as college credit for those who plan to pursue two- or four-year degrees or Career Technical Education Certifications.

(Continued)

Governor's Award Winners (Continued)

Pelahatchie High School (Continued)

Activities:

- Paid internships for seniors and work-study programs for incoming seniors
- Hands-on training on manufacturing systems and equipment
- Students have direct interaction and Q&As with employees and Multicraft engineers
- Students participated in product design project for Multicraft Ventures

Impacts:

- 9 students enrolled in first year of two-year program
- 43 junior high and 9th graders in pipeline taking Career Explorations, impacting 14% of junior and senior high schools
- Academy plans to become certified as an Adult Craft Center for the community
- Qualified students may enroll in Hinds Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Program without taking prerequisite courses

Puckett High School (Rankin County School District) - Gardens of Puckett

Partners: TempStaff, People's Bank, Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Keep the Rez Beautiful, Woodmen of the World, Mississippi Manufactured Housing Association, Puckett Industries, Lowe's, The Town of Puckett, Rankin County Board of Supervisors, Mississippi Watercolor Society, Walmart, Rivers Plant Farm, The Marble Place, The Scott Miracle Grow Company, Medical Assurance of Mississippi, Lakeland Yard and Garden, City of Flowood landscape engineer, Mrs. Shelia Downs, Mrs. Lana Sturgon, Dr. Milton Matthews, Mrs. Linda Dees, Mrs. Cathy Allen, Dr. Tom Burnham, Mr. Prentiss Calhoun, Mr. Bob Stribling, Miss Samantha Moore, Mrs. Susan Wellington, Mr. Robert Means, Bro. TJ Bates, Lowe's Heroes, Rhonda Rivers, Joy Rivers, Mississippi Urban Forestry Council, Mississippi Cut-Flower Association, Mr. Walt Grayson of WLBT, Hometown Rankin, WGK Inc., Rankin County News, Mr. Robert Crain, Mrs. Nichole Robinson, Mrs. Amy Tullos, Dr. Tanya Crain, Dr. Sue Townsend

Students impacted: 350

Volunteers: 20 organizations

Partnership duration: 7 years

Gardens of Puckett was the first of many student-led projects to improve the aesthetics and sense of ownership on campus. Under the direction of art teacher Chuck Rhoads, students formed a committee to plan and design solutions with local school administration. Collaboration has been central to success by bringing together art, math and vocational departments to plan and implement projects. Through the years, the gardens have expanded from a small 6' x 80' garden to two gardens covering more than an acre. Students solved a drainage problem by installing a man-made creek and also built a water fountain from recycled materials. More recent projects included five raised flower beds and butterfly gardens.

Activities:

- Cross-campus collaboration to design and build gardens, including 7-month butterfly and raised-bed garden projects
- Staged Spring Art Day event with support of \$2,000 grant from Keep Mississippi Beautiful
- Engagement with Mississippi Urban Forest Council, which donated 2500 daffodil and tulip bulbs

- Art students recycled granite remnants into cheese trays to sell during school fundraisers

Impacts:

- Increased environmental awareness
- Increased knowledge of native butterfly species and plants that attract them
- 3,000 volunteer hours donated by community
- Art students assist with other beautification projects in the community

Woodward Hines Education Foundation Get2College Program pilot initiative in Bruce High School, Lake Cormorant High School, St. Martin High School, Moss Point Career and Technical Center, Pelahatchie Attendance Center, Taylorsville High School, O'Bannon High School, Riverside High School

Partner: College Countdown MS

Students impacted: 1,600+

Partnership duration: 2+ years

National reports on college access reveal alarming data about postsecondary participation and college graduation for low-income students and students of color. Many of these students often do not have access to college guidance that more privileged students do. In order to provide expert advising to help students enroll in college and graduate, Get2College designed a pilot program to implement best practices for creating a college culture in high school. Since fall 2016, Get2College has provided support to administrators, counselors, teachers, students, and parents at pilot schools in a three-pronged approach of workshops, special events, and individual counseling in an ongoing multi-year partnership.

Activities:

- Workshops for students and parents
- College Days, Application Days and FAFSA Days
- Campus tours
- ACT workshops

Impacts:

- 86% of seniors at pilot schools completed college applications in 2016, with an average of 3.13 applications
- 74% completed college applications in 2017 with an average of 2.6 applications
- HELP grant eligible pilot students rose from 26 in 2014-15 to 66 in 2017-18
- 73% of 2016 graduates attended a college tour
- 100% of pilot schools hosted Get2College staff to present student workshops, parent events, and faculty professional development

Governor's Award Winners (Continued)

MULTI-LEVEL

Tenn-Tom Waterway with 61 schools in Clay, Itawamba, Lowndes, Monroe, Oktibbeha, Noxubee, Prentiss, and Tishomingo counties – Tenn-Tom Educational Outreach Program

Students impacted: 3,080
Volunteers: 100
Partnership duration: 4 years

In keeping with its history of partnerships, the Tenn-Tom Waterway Council received an Appalachian Regional Commission Grant in 2013 to develop a waterway curriculum and train teachers to use the many resources of the waterway to improve STEM instruction in Mississippi schools that border the waterway. The Tenn-Tom Educational Outreach Program provided training for teachers, hands-on lesson plans, and resources to enhance instruction. Additionally, a Tenn-Tom Museum was developed through partnerships to preserve the history of the waterway.

Activities:

- Practicing teachers developed a curriculum composed of hands-on STEM activities centered around the waterway
- Curriculum activities aligned with state and national standards.
- Two days of training held for designated teachers
- Museum video allows students to virtually participate in the waterway's construction

Impacts:

- 154 teachers attended and received resources
- 61 schools participated from 8 counties
- Museum is open to both in and out-of-state teachers and students/visitors
- Program was so successful in Mississippi it has been replicated in Alabama

Vicksburg Warren School District

Partners: Vivian Burey Marshall Academy STEM Pilot Initiative, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Engineer Research and Development Center, Alcorn State University, Jackson State University

Volunteers: 150
Partnership duration: 2 years

In 2015, the Thurgood Marshall College Fund chose Vicksburg Warren School District as a site for the Vivian Burey Marshall STEM Pilot Initiative. Funded by the U.S. Army, the initiative is designed to increase participation of underrepresented and typically under-resourced students in STEM fields. Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, 107 students in grades 6-10 received out-of-school support from student mentors attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities as well as U.S. Army scientists and engineers. The program provides access to university and Army facilities and a collection of programs and experiences to support students' development and nurture a life-long love of STEM.

Activities:

- Students participate in Scholar Science Scene activities twice a week
- Army Education Outreach Program: GEMS Camp, Junior Solar Sprint, robotics coaches, tours, etc.
- Field trips to Nissan, Davis Planetarium, etc., and conferences in Boston, Orlando, Washington, D.C.
- Student competitions: FIRST Lego League, FIRST Tech, FIRST Robotics, MathCounts, etc.

Impacts:

- 1st Junior Solar Sprint team in Mississippi; advanced to National Championship
- MathCounts: 7th Place out of 17 Teams
- Future City Competition: 4th Place, Louisiana Region
- Numerous awards in FIRST competitions
- Vicksburg Teacher Fellow Alumni selected for AEOP RESET cohort for 2017-18 school year

DISTRICT and COMMUNITY-WIDE

Good Food for Oxford Schools - Oxford School District

Partners: FoodCorps, Chicory Market, United Way of Oxford & Lafayette County, the University of Mississippi, L.O.U. Reads Coalition, Boys & Girls Club, Leap Frog, local fitness instructors, artists and farmers

Students impacted: 4,312
Volunteers: Average of 121 per year
Partnership duration: 5 years

Good Food for Oxford Schools (GFOS) is a program of Oxford School District Child Nutrition Department. Working as a community, we connect kids from seed to harvest to cafeteria menu to create district-wide healthy changes. We provide nutrition education, working to improve school lunches and increase student participation with the vision of creating a school-wide culture of health focused on healthy eating habits, physical fitness and overall wellness. Each school has its own health council and policies, with many policies including GFOS programs and staff to achieve help all schools succeed.

Activities:

- Program provided 172 classroom lessons and 43 after school lessons, facilitated 6 purchases from local farms, held 9 taste tests in school cafeterias
- Reading intervention and enrichment activities
- Carrot Camp focusing on fitness, art and animals
- Martin Luther King Jr Community Breakfast involving around 200 community neighbors

Impacts:

- 46.4% of parents surveyed said their children share what they learn about healthy foods in school; 35.5% stated that GFOS increases number of times their child(ren) eat in cafeteria.
- 67.7% of parents had eaten lunch with their student in the cafeteria, 30.5% had worked in a school garden, 23.2% had participated in a cafeteria tasting activity
- FoodCorps service members spent an average of 202 hours per week in classroom and facilitated 144 volunteers who donated 241 hours to program

(Continued)

Governor's Awards and Partnership Excellence Awards

DISTRICT and COMMUNITY-WIDE (Continued)

Mississippi Community Symphonic Band / Mississippi Swing! Big Band (Jackson, MS)

**Partners: Christ United Methodist Church,
Mississippi Music, Mississippi Association of
Partners in Education, Chastain Middle School,
Siwell Middle School, Davis Magnet IB School,
Pelahatchie High School, Ardenland Entertainment**

Students impacted: 150+ band and instrumental students
Volunteers: 20+
Partnership duration: 3 years

Beginning in June 2015, as part of its 10th Anniversary Celebration, the Mississippi Community Symphonic Band's all volunteer big band Mississippi Swing! hosted a used musical instrument drive to benefit local middle school band programs. The goal was to collect instruments that local middle schools could use as loaners to low-income families that could not afford to rent or purchase instruments for their children. Donated instruments are inventoried, tested, cleaned, repaired and stored until distribution. Since the first distribution, 14 schools representing 4 school districts have received musical instruments, and they're still coming in!

Activities:

- Collaborative effort involving educators, local musicians, instrument repair technicians, local businesses
- Instrument repairs done by local volunteer musicians
- Donated instruments become property of the schools

Impacts:

- As of January 2018, 120+ musical instruments collected and 108 distributed. Estimated value of instruments: \$14,000-\$20,000
- Increased student participation in instrumental music
- Majority of donated instruments are in use
- Musicians expressed joy in knowing their instruments would be used and appreciated by future generations

Pascagoula-Gautier School District - Tech Camp for Teachers

**Partners: PREPS, Inc., Howard Technologies,
Curriculum Associates, School Status, Camcor,
EverFi, Canvas, 5 Points**

Pascagoula-Gautier School District held its first free Tech Camp for Teachers in the summer of 2015. Its main objective was to provide free training on instructional technology and technology implementation for Mississippi school districts. The summer of 2018 will be the fourth year of Tech Camp for Teachers. In a three-year span, 350+ educators representing a broad cross-section of districts have attended the two-day event and have used their training to implement programs in their own schools. Tech Camp for Teachers also includes technology vendors used by the district. Camps have proven to be so successful, that a Tech Camp for Students was launched as a pilot program in 2017 and will launch in large numbers district-wide in the summer of 2018.

Activities:

- PGSD Technology Department selects and prepares faculty facilitators for camp
- Camp also includes student facilitators
- Breakout EDU room to build teamwork and critical thinking
- All resources shared during Tech Camp are made available in a shared Google Drive folder

Impacts:

- 350+ educators from 38 school districts have attended Tech Camp for Teachers
- 70+ teachers have presented sessions
- Educators earn CEUs for attendance
- OSLs and SEMIs offered for administrators
- Estimated to impact 8,000 to 10,500 students across state

Partnership Excellence Awards

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Harrison County School District

Partner: Hancock & Whitney Bank

Students impacted: 1,000+
Volunteers: 8
Partnership duration: 24

Hancock Bank has been a strong supporter of educational programs in the Harrison County School District, ranging from boosting academics to student morale. When vandals destroyed photography equipment at West Wortham Elementary & Middle School in 2017, Hancock Bank presented a \$2,000 donation to replace damaged equipment. Hancock & Whitney Bank also teamed with Everfi to present a financial literacy program to Orange Grove Elementary students. To reward a deserving student in the district, Hancock Bank offered a New Orleans Saints Junior Captain prize package that included four tickets to the Saints vs. Jets game.

Activities:

- "Financial Cents" online, interactive financial literacy program
- Financial support for digital photography and graphic design project supporting Humane Society of South Mississippi
- Volunteers and resources to present career fairs, financial literacy programs for district

Impacts:

- Humane Society project helped homeless animal get adopted
- Programs support STEM and creative-thinking skills
- Students understand importance of setting long-term financial goals

Lillie Burney STEAM Academy (HPSD)

**Partners: Retired Educators Association, Junior
Auxiliary of Hattiesburg, Families First for
Mississippi, Economy Supply**

Students impacted: 313
Volunteers: 7
Partnership duration: 1 year

(Continued)

Partnership Excellence Award Winners (Continued)

Lillie Burney STEAM Academy (Continued)

Lillie Burney S.T.E.A.M. Academy is a 6th grade school designed for science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. This year the school partnered with Community Cohort members and organizations in an effort to maintain and increase attendance and good behavior. We decided to streamline the work of our Community Cohort by assigning them to work with specific teams. The Community Cohort are also members of our P-16 Council and have helped us “Make Lillie Burney Great Again.”

Activities:

- Volunteers greet students at start of school day
- Donate gift cards and gift items for “teacher bags”
- Support campus clean-up days
- Support and participate in PBIS celebrations

Impacts:

- From August-November, 254 out of 309 students enrolled at S.T.E.A.M. had zero to 1 referral (76% success with Tier I Positive Behavior Incentive System)
- Partners have formed valuable two-way relationships with staff and students
- Used Self-Directed Improvement System to monitor discipline and attendance reports

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Hattiesburg High School

Partner: Venue Church

Students impacted: 500

Volunteers: 25

Partnership duration: 2 years

With a goal to increase community collaboration, Hattiesburg High School connected with Venue Church, which has provided great community support to students and has our school's best interest at heart. Hattiesburg High School has approximately 1,090 students and Venue has hundreds of members. Therefore, Venue Church's impact on HHS through their support is immeasurable. Venue wants to see HHS succeed!

Activities:

- Uniform drive and supply drive for needy students
- Volunteer hall monitors during state testing
- Catered lunch for teachers
- Inspirational adviser for championship football team

Impacts:

- Nearly 500 students made A & B honor roll first 9 weeks
- Nearly 450 students made A & B honor roll second 9 weeks

Write for Mississippi - “What Can We Do for Our Country?” essay collection

Participating high schools (33): Baldwyn, Clarksdale, Pontotoc, South Pontotoc, Mooreville, Eupora, Mississippi School for Math and Science, Winona, Kosciusko, Kemper County, Germantown, Rosa Scott, Sebastopol, Northeast Lauderdale, Meridian, Clinton, Murrah, Lanier, Northwest Rankin, Port Gibson, Crystal Springs, Mendenhall, Magee, Raleigh, Jefferson County, Franklin, Mississippi School of the Arts, Oak Grove, Hattiesburg, Greene County, Harrison Central, Vancleave, Pascagoula

Students impacted: 1,300

Volunteers: Approximately 30 writers and 40 teachers

Partnership duration: 1 year

In spring 2017, Write for Mississippi organized a series of creative writing workshops that put Mississippi writers into public high school classrooms across the state to help students generate poems, stories, and essays in response to the prompt “What’s a problem in your community, and how could you try to fix it?” A panel of elite judges selected the best 100 pieces to be included in a book entitled “What Can We Do for Our Country?” that was published and redistributed across the state. With help from a Mississippi Humanities Council grant, copies of the book were also distributed to all 236 public library branches in Mississippi.

Activities:

- Produced teachers’ guides and sample lesson plans
- Student workshops led by guest writers
- Program featured at 2017 Mississippi Book Festival

Impacts:

- Led 50 workshops in 26 counties, reaching 1,300 students
- Increased access to creative writing education
- Connected students with professionals in the arts
- Helped students achieve greater sense of self-worth and empowerment

UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Mississippi Department of Transportation

Partner: Mississippi State University

In addition to offering professional development training and materials to full-time K-12 educators, MDOT added training for pre-service teachers to help reduce the learning curve that is common for many new teachers. Two 2015 pre-service teacher training sessions at Mississippi State University and University of Mississippi served as pilot programs 2017 training at MSU. Student interns participated in hands-on activities, observed veteran teachers model activities and answer questions about real-life ways to increase student learning, and received more than 150 STEAM lesson plans. In addition, pre-service students hired as K-8 classroom teachers in Mississippi next year receive a trunk of manipulatives linked to the curriculum.

Activities:

- 2 veteran teachers to conduct STEAM training for 78 pre-service teachers in April 2018 at MSU
- MDOT and MSU divided responsibilities for training.
- Curriculum updated to align with STEAM, College and Career Readiness Standards, and national mathematics and science standards

Impacts:

- 1,560+ students will receive improved STEAM instruction annually as a result of training
- Will help students prepare for estimated 46,000 STEM-related jobs coming to Mississippi
- Vast majority of participants rated program as “excellent” on evaluation forms

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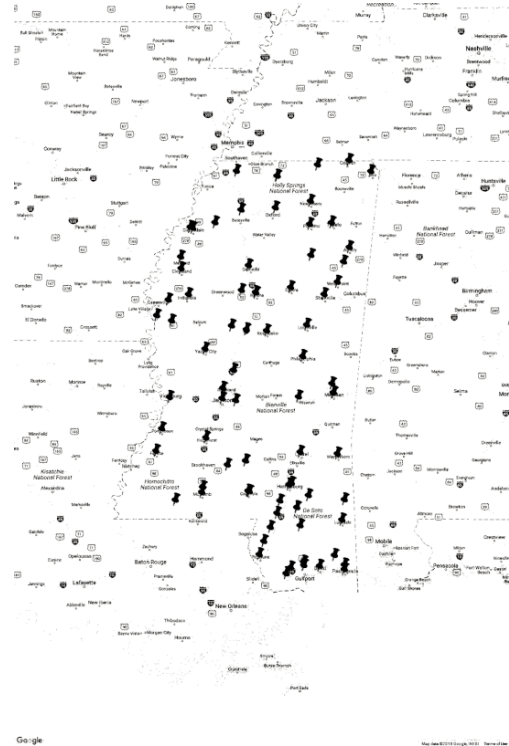
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