



Board Workshop

September 24, 2026 5:00 -700

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.e/j/6013111423>

Agenda/Minutes

Location - Conference Call

1. Call to Order
 - A. Moment of Silence
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. September Meeting Rescheduled
 - D. Accountability
 - E. Renewal
 - a. Performance Framework
 - b. Renewal Guidance
 - c. Rubric
 - F. Facilities Update
 - G. Personnel Update
 - H. Open House
 - I. Workshop Dates

Board Retreat

2. Executive Cabinet
3. Adjournment

Mississippi Department of Education Guidance on Using Accountability Scores

The **Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)** says accountability scores are designed to show how well schools and districts are meeting state and federal performance standards, and they should be interpreted by looking at **all components** rather than just the letter grade

[Columbus Municipal School District](#).

How MDE defines the system

- **Annual A–F grades** are assigned to each school and district based on multiple indicators, including:
 - Student performance in math, ELA, and science on state assessments (grades 3–8, high school Algebra I & English II, and selected science courses)  [The Mississippi Department of Education](#)
 - Percentage of students meeting annual expected growth in math and ELA, with special emphasis on the lowest 25% of students  [The Mississippi Department of Education](#)
 - Four-year graduation rates  [The Mississippi Department of Education](#)
 - English learner progress toward proficiency  [The Mississippi Department of Education](#)
 - For high schools/districts: college and career readiness, acceleration, and other readiness metrics  [Mississippi Succeeds+1](#)
- **Points system:** Schools/districts earn points in each category; total points determine the letter grade  [Mississippi Succeeds](#).
- **New baseline (2025–26):** Starting this year, standards are higher because state law requires raising the bar when 75% of students are proficient or 65% of

schools/districts earn a B or higher



[The Mississippi Department of Education+2](#). Grades

cannot be compared year-to-year because the baseline changes [Columbus Municipal School District+1](#).

MDE's guidance on use

- **Look beyond the letter grade:** MDE urges parents, community members, and stakeholders to **analyze the individual components** that make up a school or district's score, not just the overall grade [Columbus Municipal School District](#).
- **Focus on improvement:** The system is meant to drive continuous improvement, so changes in a letter grade reflect whether a school met the *new* higher bar, not necessarily a decline in student performance [WAPT Channel 16](#).
- **Use as a tool for decision-making:** Accountability scores help educators, families, and

communities understand performance and identify areas for growth



[The](#)

[Mississippi Department of Education](#).

- **Check official resources:** MDE provides fact sheets, the "Understanding the Accountability System" PDF, and the Mississippi Succeeds Annual Report Card User

Guide for detailed breakdowns



[The Mississippi Department of Education+1](#).

Key takeaway: MDE says accountability scores are a **multi-factor performance measure** that should be interpreted in context, with attention to each indicator, and they now operate under

higher standards starting in 2025–26



[The Mississippi Department of Education+2](#).