



APPROVED ON
JUN 17 2021
DeSoto County
Board of Education

Dropout Prevention Plan 2021-2022



#TeamDCS #Raisethebar

Mr. Cory Uselton
Superintendent

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BY
DESOTO COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan Assurances Page

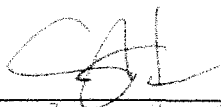
On behalf of DeSoto County Schools, I hereby submit the Dropout Prevention/Restructuring Plan to provide goals, activities, and services necessary to meet the overarching goals of the state dropout prevention plan:

- Reducing the retention rates in grades kindergarten, first and second.
- Targeting subgroups that need additional assistance to meet graduation requirements.
- Developing dropout recovery initiatives that focus on students age seventeen (17) through twenty-one (21), who dropped out of school (i.e., Mississippi Works).
- Addressing how students will transition to the home school district from the juvenile detention centers.

I hereby certify that our school district will evaluate our district dropout prevention plan on an annual basis to determine appropriate changes needed for future school years.

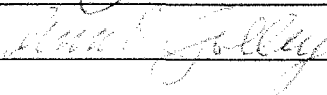
I hereby certify that our District School Board has reviewed and approved this plan for submission to the Mississippi Department of Education.

District Superintendent: Cory Uselton

Signature: 

Date: 7/9/21

School Board Chair: Ann Jolley

Signature: 

Date: 7/9/21

DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS DROPOUT PREVENTION PLAN 2021-2022

Goal 1: Increase the graduation rate and reduce the dropout rate for all of DeSoto County Schools in conjunction with dropout recovery initiatives.

Focus Area	Specific	Actions for Achieving Goal	Measure	Person(s) responsible for activities	Timeline
Course Performance	Reduce retention rate in grade 9 by 5% within two years.	Freshmen Orientation	handbooks, graduation requirements	academic directors, principals, counselors	July yearly
		monitor student performance, progress, and grades	progress reports/teacher feedback forms and midterm grades, PowerSchool, teacher feedback forms, Schoology	administrators, teachers, coaches, specialists, academic directors	August 2021 – May 2022
		compare student performance, progress, grade, track to graduation	results of diagnostics, assessments, and remediation and/or intervention monitoring, credit checks, PowerSchool, School Status	administrators, teachers, coaches, specialists, counselors, academic directors, MTSS	August 2021 – May 2022
		Professional Development	Essential Standards documents, initial student data, foundational reading skill strategies, 5 components of reading documents, previous retention and dropout rates	specialists, coaches, teachers, administrators, academic directors	ongoing
Other- Graduation Progress	Create and maintain individual success plans	Professional Development	data integration, goal setting, implementation, Career Readiness Standards, EWS	Major Clarity Rep, school counselors, district data rep., Mental Health Director, MTSS	ongoing
		assessments, pacing activities, and goals	Progress monitoring through Major Clarity	counselors, teachers, school officials	October 2021 - May 2023

		progress monitoring of career exploration – beyond high school	Major Clarity, parent/student conferences, standards	counselors, school officials	December 2021 – May 2023
Other – Graduation Progress/Dropout Recovery	Track students who leave the school/district	data monitoring, conferences-phone calls to parents, follow-up with students, school/career options	MIS reporting, PowerSchool, Leaver Controls, Major Clarity	Cohort Clerk, counselors, MSIS Coordinators	ongoing
Attendance	Reduce absences by 5%	PBIS – Tier 1	Data, School Status, PowerSchool	MSIS Coordinators, counselors, administrators, PBI Specialist, Executive Director of Academic Support	August 2021 – May 2023
		parent notification 2x daily- electronically & automated phone messages, ADA coordination to address attendance, Truancy notifications to SAO daily, Individual BIPS	PowerSchool, School Status, Board Policy JBA	ADA Clerks, SAOs, MSIS Coordinators, administration, counselors	daily and ongoing
Behavior	Reduce Office referrals by 5%	PBIS – Tier 1	data, School Status, PowerSchool, referrals	MSIS Coordinators, Counselors, PBI Specialist, Executive Director of Academic Support, administrators	August 2021 – May 2023
Other – Graduation Progress/Dropout Recovery	Career Tech opportunities available for all students	resume building, interview skills, contact between post-secondary colleges/potential employers, progress monitoring	interest inventories, PowerSchool, graduation requirements	Career Tech staff, Career Tech Coordinator, administrators, counselors	ongoing
		testing for certifications, career preparedness	progress monitoring, graduation requirements, job requirements	Career Tech staff, Career Tech Coordinator, administrators, teachers, counselors	Ongoing
Attendance	Decrease amount of unexcused absences in Career Tech setting and home-school setting	check points each semester, parent notifications, conference, individual plans	PowerSchool, attendance reporting	Career Tech staff, Career Tech Coordinator, administrators, teachers	Ongoing

Goal 2: Reduce retention rates in grades kindergarten, first, and second.

Focus Area	Specific	Actions for Achieving Goal	Measure	Person(s) responsible for activities	Timeline
Course Performance	Reduce retention rates in kindergarten, first, and second grades by 5% in two years.	Professional Development	Essential Standards documents, initial student data, foundational reading skill strategies, 5 components of reading documents, previous retention and dropout rates	specialists, coaches, teachers, administrators, academic directors	ongoing
		Compare student performance, progress, and grades	results of screeners, diagnostics, assessments, and remediation and/or intervention monitoring	administrators, teachers, coaches, specialists, academic directors	August 2021 – May 2023
		Develop appropriate IEPs based on student deficits	IEP goals written based on deficits indicated from screeners, diagnostics, assessments, progress monitoring	SPED Teachers, Gen Ed Teachers	ongoing
		Compare end of the year retention numbers	PowerSchool, MIS, EOY grades for K, 1 st , and 2 nd	administrators, teachers, coaches, specialists, academic directors	May 2022 and May 2023
Attendance	Reduce absences by 5%	PBIS – Tier 1	Data, School Status, PowerSchool	MSIS Coordinators, counselors, administrators, PBI Specialist, Executive Director of Academic Support	August 2021 – May 2023
		Parent notification daily-electronically & automated phone messages, ADA coordination to address attendance, Truancy notifications to SAO daily	PowerSchool, School Status, Board Policy JBA	ADA Clerks, SAOs, MSIS Coordinators, administration, counselors	daily and ongoing

Behavior	Reduce Office referrals by 5%	PBIS – Tier 1	data, School Status, PowerSchool, referrals	MSIS Coordinators, counselors, administrators, PBI Specialist, Executive Director of Academic Support	August 2021 – May 2023
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Goal 3: Support subgroups that need additional assistance to meet graduation requirements.

Focus Area	Specific	Actions for Achieving Goal	Measure	Person(s) responsible for activities	Timeline
Course Performance	Reduce dropout rate for EL students by 15% in middle and high schools	Build a school community	attitudinal surveys, documentation	MS/HS specialist, EL teachers, other school staff, administrators, students	September 2021
		Create a Language Learners' Mentoring Club	sign-in sheets, attitudinal surveys, documentation, communication logs	MS/HS specialists, EL teachers, academic teachers, administrators, students, current and exited EL students	August 2021
		Professional Development	provide procedures, samples, and training to EL teachers about creating a club at their school.	MS/HS specialists, EL teachers, EL director	ongoing
		Compare student performance, progress, grade, track to graduation	results of diagnostics, assessments, and remediation and/or intervention monitoring, credit checks	MS/HS specialists, EL teachers, administrators, EL director	May 2022 and May 2023
Attendance and Course Performance	Promote parent engagement to partner with school to increase engagement and attendance	School events, workshops, Recorded videos with translations	communication logs, School Status, sign in sheets, data, attitudinal surveys, PowerSchool	MS/HS specialists, EL teachers, administrators, EL director	ongoing
Course Performance	Graduate 85% of all students with disabilities with a Traditional or Alternate Diploma (for SCD students) within two years.	Professional Development – services, best practices, postsecondary and professional opportunities, professional performance	Special Education documents, Essential Standard documents, Alternate Diploma Standards/ Essential Standards	Central Services SPED department, Special Education Teachers, director and assistant director of SPED, administrators	ongoing
		Develop appropriate IEPs based on student deficits	IEP goals written based on deficits indicated	SPED Teachers, Gen Ed Teachers	ongoing

			from screeners, diagnostics, assessments, progress monitoring		
		Increase best practices for instruction and lesson planning	Technology, PLC, Essential Standard documents, initial student data, foundational reading and math strategies, NWEA data, Teacher Rubric Essentials	Central Services SPED department, Special Education Teachers, director and assistant director of SPED, administrators, support staff, SPED supervisors	Ongoing
	Increase foundational and math skills	Monitor student progress	Individual IEPs, goal sheets, NWEA reports	Central Services SPED department, Special Education Teachers, director and assistant director of SPED, administrators, support staff, SPED supervisors	Each nine weeks
Behavior	Decrease office referrals by 5% increase student engagement	Training on social/emotional/behavioural strategies to decrease discipline	Review 360 data, PowerSchool, behavioural modification plans, functional behavior assessments, behavior intervention plans, IEP goal reports	Central Services SPED, positive behavior specialists, therapeutic invention specialist, SPED teachers	August 2021 – September 2021 August 2022 – September 2022
Other – Graduation Progress/Dropout Recovery	Career Tech opportunities for postsecondary and career opportunities and employability skills	Resume building, interview skills, contact between post-secondary colleges/potential employers, progress monitoring	Career interest inventories, Individual education plans, conferences	Career Tech staff, Career Tech Coordinator, administrators, counselors, SPED staff	Ongoing

Goal 4: Successful transitions for students to the home school district from the juvenile detention center.

Focus Area	Specific	Actions for Achieving Goal	Measure	Person(s) responsible for activities	Timeline
Behavior	Transition plan in place when student is preparing to return to the home school environment, for social emotional, and behavioural support	Individual student goals, transition plan, meetings with case managers, assigned mentors, parental contact, Character Education	Student interview results, diagnostic screener, PowerSchool, mentoring program	Case manager, School staff, administration, counselors, Youth Court, JDC staff, Special Education Teachers	daily and ongoing
Course Performance	Individual academic goals for academic success	Tutoring program, continuation of academic classes at JDC	Diagnostics screener – Math and ELA, progress monitoring, PowerSchool, conference, parental contact	Case Managers, tutors, school staff, administration, counselors	ongoing
Attendance	Individual return to school plan with required attendance	Check-ins, mentorship, required	PowerSchool, School Status, daily attendance log	Youth Court, Case Manager, counselors, administration	ongoing