



Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: January 22, 2018

MDE Announces Regional Literacy Meetings for Parents of K-3 Students

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Education announced today a series of regional meetings across the state for parents of students in Kindergarten through grade 3. At the meetings, parents will receive an overview of the state law concerning literacy and assessment, as well as strategies that can be used at home to help improve reading outcomes for children.

The state law, known as the Literacy-Based Promotion Act, focuses on prevention and intervention to help children develop the reading skills required for 4th grade. The law requires that 3rd grade students who do not meet reading standards by the end of the school year will not be promoted to 4th grade, unless they meet specific standards for exemption.

The Literacy-Based Promotion Act has made reading instruction a major focus of Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Throughout the school year, teachers provide intensive reading instruction to students reading below grade level. Parent involvement is also critical to students' success.

“Parents are their child’s first teacher, and reading with children is a proven way to promote early literacy,” said Dr. Kymyona Burk, state literacy director. “By reading with children for 20 minutes per day and making a few simple strategies a part of their daily routine, parents can make a positive impact on their child’s success in school.”

All meetings will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. No registration is required. Parent meeting dates and locations are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thursday, February 15, 2018	Oxford	Oxford Conference Center 102 Ed Perry Blvd Oxford, MS 38655



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Ensuring a bright future for every child

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Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Meridian

MSU Kahlmus Auditorium

1000 Hwy 19 N
Meridian, MS 39307

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Cleveland

DSU Walker Alumni House

Hwy 8 West
Cleveland, MS 38733

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Jackson (South)

Bates Elementary School

3180 McDowell Road Ext.,
Jackson, MS 39204

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Jackson (North)

**McWillie Elementary
School**

4851 McWillie Circle
Jackson, MS 39206

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Gulfport

Knight Non-Profit Center

11975 Seaway Rd.
Gulfport, MS 39503

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Hattiesburg

Lowery Woodall Center

906 Sullivan Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

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