



**MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION**

*Ensuring a bright future for every child*

**Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education**

Office of Communications & Government Relations

Patrice Guilfoyle, APR, Director of Communications \*601-359-3706

Jean Cook, APR, Communications Specialist \*601-359-3519

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release: September 12, 2018*

### **Regional Meetings for Parents: Strategies to Improve Reading for 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 student improve their reading skills.

The state law, known as the Literacy-Based Promotion Act (LBPA), focuses on prevention and intervention to help children develop the reading skills required for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The law requires 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to meet reading standards by the end of the school year to be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

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

Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students must score at level 3 or higher on the reading portion of the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) English Language Arts test qualify for promotion to 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Parent resources in English and Spanish are available at: [strongreadersms.com/resources](http://strongreadersms.com/resources)

Session times are the same at all locations: 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

No registration is required

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thursday, October 4, 2018	Meridian	<b>MSU Kahlmus Auditorium</b> 1000 Hwy 19 N Meridian, MS 39307
Tuesday, October 9, 2018	Oxford	<b>Oxford Conference Center</b> 102 Ed Perry Blvd. Oxford, MS 38655



**MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION**

*Ensuring a bright future for every child*

**Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education**

Office of Communications & Government Relations

Patrice Guilfoyle, APR, Director of Communications \*601-359-3706

Jean Cook, APR, Communications Specialist \*601-359-3519

Wednesday, October 10, 2018	Hattiesburg	<b>Lowery A. Woodall Advanced Technology Center</b> 906 Sullivan Drive Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Thursday, October 11, 2018	Jackson (South)	<b>Bates Elementary School</b> 3180 McDowell Rd Ext. Jackson, MS 39204
Thursday, October 11, 2018	Jackson (North)	<b>McWillie Elementary School</b> 4851 McWillie Circle Jackson, MS 39206
Monday, October 15, 2018	Natchez	<b>Adams County Safe Room</b> 323 Liberty Rd Natchez, MS 39120
Tuesday, October 16, 2018	Cleveland	<b>Delta State University Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni House</b> Hwy 8 West Cleveland, MS 38733

###