



Mississippi First (MSF) champions transformative policy solutions ensuring educational excellence for every Mississippi child. Mississippi First is dedicated to advancing the best education policy ideas through the policy continuum—research and analysis, public awareness and issue education, advocacy, implementation, and evaluation.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

By FY21, at least 35% of children will be in full-time, no-cost, high-quality pre-K seats.

In 2020, we will continue to build high-quality pre-K options through research, issue education, advocacy, and implementation work.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

By FY21, Mississippi will have 15 approved schools in at least three low-performing areas, with capacity to serve 17,250. No charter schools will be below a "C" after 3 years.

In 2020, we will focus on improving authorizing through strong policymaking and on strengthening the charter sector.

CURRICULUM

By FY22, MDE seeks an 80% adoption rate of the newly approved, high-quality math curricula as well as any English/language arts (ELA) curricula approved in Spring 2020.

In 2020, we will develop and execute a communications strategy that increases teachers' support for the use of high-quality, standards-aligned curriculum, with a focus on the most recently adopted math curriculum list.

EDUCATOR PIPELINE

By FY21, Mississippi will increase the percentage of low-income students served by a highly effective teacher.

In 2020, we will launch a new three-year initiative to study the educator pipeline in Mississippi and propose policy solutions that will increase the equitable access of quality teachers.

2019-2020 PROJECTS

RESEARCH: Release the third *State of Pre-K* report.

ISSUE EDUCATION: Increase awareness and support for the state-funded pre-K program among candidates for state office.

ADVOCACY: Raise the pre-K per-pupil rate from \$4,300 to \$5,000.

ADVOCACY: Increase and sustain support for the Early Learning Collaboratives among legislators through the Early Childhood Education Caucus.

IMPLEMENTATION: Design, conduct, analyze, and report on an annual parent and general public survey conducted via telephone to assess awareness, general sentiment, satisfaction levels, and concerns about charter schools.

IMPLEMENTATION: Support MCSAB in developing and adopting authorizer policies and procedures as identified by MCSAB or through the results of MCSAB's evaluation.

IMPLEMENTATION: Work closely with the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools to provide sector support.

ADVOCACY: Use a communications campaign to increase demand among teachers and administrators for high-quality curricula.

RESEARCH: Establish a research plan and strategy for addressing educator pipeline issues in Mississippi in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Education.

RESEARCH: Conduct research on the current state of the educator pipeline in Mississippi.