

# Mississippi School for the Blind (MSB) 2002-2003

<b>I. Instructional Services</b>							
K-12 net enrollment	73						
Early Intervention enrollment	61						
Percent grade averages of “B” or “S” or better maintained by: Elementary students Pre-vocational students Junior/Senior High student	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Elementary students</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Pre-vocational students</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Junior/Senior High student</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45%</td> </tr> </table>	Elementary students	60%	Pre-vocational students	2%	Junior/Senior High student	45%
Elementary students	60%						
Pre-vocational students	2%						
Junior/Senior High student	45%						
Instructional training provided	Required and elected courses that are comparable to those offered in other accredited public schools in addition to Braille, low vision, orientation and mobility, daily living skills, and the use of adaptive technology.						
Standardized tests administered through MDE’s state assessment plan	FLE: 2 students tested MCT: 34 students tested in grades 2-8 SATP: 11 students tested English II Writing: 3 students tested 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing: 2 students tested 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing: 5 students tested						
MSB accreditation	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The reevaluation, self-study following the School Improvement: Focusing on Student Performance guidelines developed by the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE) was initiated.						
MSB memberships	Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA), South Central Association of Schools for the Blind (SCASB), Council of the Schools for the Blind (COSB),  Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)						
Other programs in which students participated	Approximately 70% of all junior and senior high students participated in one or more athletic activities. 90% of junior/senior high school students enrolled in applied band. 60% of junior/senior high school students enrolled in choir.						

Curriculum	<p>*Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) was instituted at MSB with all K-12 students included in three distributions of free books.</p> <p>*Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Students and teachers spend the first 15 minutes each Monday through Thursday morning reading a book of their choice.</p> <p>*Supplemental Learning/Reading Program (SLRP) MSB continues its own version of the “AR” program by having students read books, write reports on those books, and earn points toward prizes.</p> <p>*MSB initiated a “Listening Ears” program - Elementary and secondary students read twice a week to a volunteer listener.</p> <p>*Math tutorial continued</p> <p>*MSB included all elementary students in special science labs assisted by a college lab assistant utilizing science kits from MS Museum of Natural Science.</p> <p>*Master Braille Cell – Ongoing Professional Development designed for instructional staff to acquire and/or improve Braille skills.</p> <p>*Third annual science and reading fairs were held. A third grader placed second at the regional level. One third-grade student placed second during regional competition. One high school team placed first in regional competition and advanced to participate in the state science fair.</p> <p>*Outstanding Performance of State Tests (OPST) program was initiated to help prepare MSB students for the MCT and SAT in a level-oriented fun practice session in which test-taking skills were reviewed.</p>
<b>II. Comprehensive Home-based Intervention Program (CHIP)</b>	
Eligibility	Visually impaired children from birth to age five.
Number of children served	61 children residing in 30 counties.
Instruction	<p>*Teachers are specially trained in both the needs of visually impaired children, as well as in the needs of young children.</p> <p>*Services are home-based with the goal of preparing children for enrollment in appropriate classroom learning environments.</p> <p>*Specific developmental needs of each child are addressed and directed training in methods appropriate for enhancing each child’s overall development is provided for parents.</p> <p>*Intervention may also include instruction-using technology.</p>

Transition services	Approximately, 12 transition meetings were scheduled for children enrolling in their local school districts and the Mississippi School for the Blind.
<b>III. Low Vision Clinic (LVC)</b>	
Jackson Central Lions Club Low Vision Clinic at Mississippi School for the Blind	Serving visually impaired students of Mississippi, regardless of their educational setting, free of charge, open Wednesdays during the school year.
Services provided	241 appointments, including 167 off campus students. This represented a 12% increase over 2001-2002. These services included 95 full evaluations, 76 pathology checks, 154 follow-up appointments, 51 training sessions for off-campus students, and 724 training sessions for on-campus students.
<b>IV. Mississippi Instructional Resources Center (MIRC)</b>	
Purpose	Serves as a repository for Braille and large print textbooks and other specialized learning aids for students enrolled in schools across the state.
Materials	Braille and large print textbook and other specialized learning aids.
Number served	205 students enrolled in 80 school districts
<b>V. Outreach Program</b>	
Number served	*243 people were served. *34 educators representing 13 different schools or school districts participated in the Outreach Professional Development programs offered.
Training provided	*Services were provided through tours, informational training, phone conferences, in-service training programs, and conferences. *Continued monthly Outreach Professional Development program designed to expose participants to information about visual impairments, curricula, accommodations/modifications, special educational concerns for visually impaired children, orientation and mobility, low vision assessments and training, and guidelines for obtaining large print and Braille materials. *MSB hosted the 2003 Librarian and Media Specialist of the Southeast Annual Conference.

	*Evaluated students who have visual impairments with additional disabilities and orientation and mobility needs for a limited number of school districts upon request.
<b>VI. Residential Services</b>	
Students receiving services	Over 65% of students enrolled at Mississippi School for the Blind received residential education services in two dorms for females, three dorms for male students, and the independent living house.
Services provided	<p>*35 staff members in the residential educational department ensure that students experience a home-like environment to help meet students' needs.</p> <p>*Residential Education staff members received on-going professional development including initial and re-certification training in the MANDT System, transportation safety, rights and responsibilities of students and staff, basic sign language and other communication skills, basic Braille, and computer applications.</p> <p>*Elementary students participated in Top Soccer.</p>