



# LAFAYETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Instructional Time for Carnegie Unit Credit – Process Standards 13.2 and 14

**Background** Process Standards 13.2 and 14 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2020*, require school districts to ensure that a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each course where students can earn a full Carnegie unit and that a minimum of 70 hours of instruction is provided for each course where students can earn one-half ( $1/2$ ) Carnegie unit.

**MDE Proposed Suspension and/or Revision of Rules** On March 26, 2020, the State Board of Education (SBE) suspended the requirement of the minimum of 140 hours of instruction required for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each one-half ( $1/2$ ) unit offered for the 2019-2020 school year. School districts were required to determine a process for awarding a Carnegie unit credit for courses that were incomplete for the 2019-2020 school year. Carnegie units were not to be granted for courses where the student was never enrolled during the 2019-2020 school year. Districts were not allowed to enroll a student in a Carnegie unit bearing course after March 16, 2020, the first date of the school closures due to COVID-19, for the 2019-2020 school year for the sole purpose of awarding a Carnegie unit credit, unless a specific condition was met. This condition did not apply to transfer students enrolling in the school district after March 19, 2020.

For the 2020-2021 school year, MDE has requested to the SBE an additional one-year suspension of the minimum of 140 hours of instruction for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours of instruction for each one-half ( $1/2$ ) unit offered. This suspension allows districts flexibility within their re-entry plans and scheduling options in an effort to comply with the MS Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control guidelines as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year.

The State Board approved the request and each district is required to develop a plan to ensure the mastery of content for each Carnegie unit awarded in lieu of meeting the instructional time requirements for courses where students can earn credits. The plan must be approved by the local school board and posted on the district's website no later than September 30, 2020.



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**Our District's Goals and Assurances** The Lafayette County School District desires for all students to be successful. Our goal is for students to master content for all courses, including secondary courses that bear Carnegie unit credit upon successful completion. For the 2020-2021 school year, the District will implement the following procedures to ensure that students master course content and that our district remains in compliance with Process Standards 13.2 and 14 of the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2020, on page 2 of this plan.

Instructional Time for Carnegie Unit Credit – Process Standards 13.2 and 14

## **Our District's Goals and Assurances**

1. Instruction will be provided via Google Classroom, our digital Learning Management System (LMS) and MDE approved courses on the Mississippi Online Course Application (MOCA) list while students are distance learning. For traditional learning students, teachers will provide face-to-face instruction for students attending school and will also continue to utilize Google Classroom to deliver instruction on course content.
2. All courses carrying either a 1 Carnegie unit or ½ Carnegie unit credit will be based on the standards from the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Frameworks for the said courses.
3. Weekly lesson plans and learning modules created by teachers in the LMS and outlined in MOCA courses will be checked and monitored by administrators to ensure that full course content is being delivered through instruction. Principals will also observe instruction (both online and face-to-face) and provide regular feedback on instructional planning and delivery.
4. Student mastery of curriculum content and course standards will be assessed through assignments completed, quizzes, tests, and benchmark assessments given throughout each grading period.



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5. Student mastery of course content and awarding Carnegie unit credit will be based on policies approved by the local school board (ref: **Policy IB Instructional Goals, Policy ID Instructional Program Management, Policy IHA Grading System, Policy IHF Graduation Requirements**).

9/8/20

Approval Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith Thompson".

School Board President