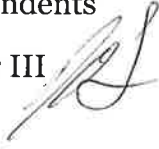




MEMORANDUM

To: School District Superintendents

From: Ken Stamps, Staff Officer III
Office of Accreditation 

Date: February 11, 2019

Subject: ***2019 Parent of the Year Selection***

The State Board of Education strongly promotes the active involvement of parents in their children's education in all Mississippi public schools. It is undeniable that regardless of socioeconomic status, parent involvement and support has a powerful effect on the success of our schools, the improvement of student performance, and largely, the extent of positive support that schools receive from the community. The critical importance and positive impact of parent involvement upon our schools was acknowledged with the enactment of MS Code Ann. § 37-3-73. This law authorized the State Board of Education to establish an awards program to publicly recognize each year the dedication and commitment of parents who have partnered with their local schools to help insure the success of their school improvement efforts.

The Parent of the Year Program invites each district to select an outstanding parent who has made a significant commitment to their local school through their dedication to students and their generous gifts of time and other resources. The district's candidate for Mississippi Parent of the Year should be submitted to our office using the enclosed application form. Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of parents, former teachers, and school administrators. A finalist will be selected from each Congressional District, and from these finalists, the *2019 Mississippi Parent of the Year* will be named.

Thank you for promoting parent involvement in your district that results in substantial benefits for everyone. We appreciate your efforts to acknowledge these parents and the important role they play in the success of our schools. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact me at (601) 359-3764 or kstamps@mdek12.org. The deadline for receipt of applications is 5:00 p.m., March 29, 2019.

Enclosure

c: Paula A. Vanderford, Ph.D.



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Ensuring a bright future for every child

2019 Mississippi Parent of the Year Program Application

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

MARCH 29, 2019 5:00 p.m.

Parent of the Year Nomination
Office of Accreditation
Mississippi Department of Education
P. O. Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205

(attach picture)

(please type)

Nominee's Name

School District

County

Congressional District (1, 2, 3, or 4)

Telephone

Email Address

Home Address

Employment

Children's names, ages, occupations (if students, list name of school and grade level)

If married, spouse's name and occupation

Superintendent's signature _____
(Required)

Date _____

Nominee's School Improvement Efforts (*Maximum length: two double-spaced pages*)

Describe the school improvement efforts of the Parent of the Year nominee in his/her school district. Include awards and other special recognitions received. Describe involvement in service-oriented activities, including categories of involvement (such as homeroom activities, PTA, district work, community work, financial involvement, athletics, etc.). Be specific in describing projects, awards and recognitions. Make sure all titles of awards, projects and programs are explained in detail. Include dates of involvement, current and past.

Letters of Support (*Limit of three letters*)

Include three (3) letters of support from among any of the following: superintendent, principal, colleague, PTA/PTO president, student or civic leader. Please attach to application.

Please note:

- Submit one (1) original and four (4) copies **stapled, not paper clipped**, of the completed application form and the three (3) letters of support.
- Provide all information requested in the application form. Do not change or add to the application in any way.
- When describing projects, awards and other recognitions, be sure to describe in detail and make sure all titles of programs and awards are explained.
- Limit your answers to two (2) double-spaced pages as requested. In order to provide all applicants with an equal opportunity, only the number of pages requested will be accepted. Material beyond the first two (2) pages, cannot be presented to the Selection Committee.
- The original application must include **one (1) photograph** for publicity purposes. Attach one (1) picture to the original application. If selected Parent of the Year, additional pictures may be requested.
- The application package must be received by mail in the Office of Accreditation by **5:00 p.m.** on **March 29, 2019**.

2019 Parent of the Year Timeline

- February 11, 2019** Applications are provided to school district superintendents and posted at www.mdek12.org/Accred/index
- March 29, 2019** Nominations are due in the Office of Accreditation
- April 15-19, 2019** The Selection Committee meets and selects the *2019 Parent of the Year*
- June 20, 2019** *2019 Parent of the Year* is recognized by the State Board of Education