



Mississippi Curriculum Testing Scheduled in May

Students in grades 3-8 will have MCT2 (Mississippi Curriculum Test) testing on May 11, May 12, and May 13. Makeup tests for any missed tests are scheduled for May 14. It is imperative that parents encourage their children to get plenty of rest and eat nutritious meals during this time since it has been proven that well-rested and well-nourished children perform better on academic tests. These tests measure student achievement and will determine our schools' and district's performance levels.

Although there will be a Spring Fair at the Grenada Lake Spillway on May 12-16, parents are encouraged to keep these testing dates in mind when scheduling any after school activities and to make the fair a weekend activity instead of a school night activity.

All Youth Leagues have agreed to postpone games during this week and the school district has not scheduled any practices, games, or performances during this time. The Grenada School District wants all students to be successful on the 2010 MCT2 tests.



Students recognized at Superintendent's Breakfast...

Students with yearlong averages of 90 or above in every subject in grades 2-12 were recognized recently for their academic achievements at two Superintendent's Breakfasts. Students Jarvis Benson (seated from left) and Rachel Braswell are conversing with Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault (back) and School Board Member Dr. David Braswell, Rachel's proud Dad.

GSD Responds to State Budget Cuts

The Grenada School District has been forced to make adjustments to the 2010-11 budget due to the reductions in funding from the State MAEP (Minimum Adequate Education Program.)

The Mississippi State Department of Education is recommending that districts reduce the budget (the June 2009 allocation) by 12-15%, which could possibly reduce Grenada's MAEP funding up to 2.5 million dollars each year. The State is projecting budget shortfalls for at least 2-3 more years.

The exact funding level from the State is currently unknown. The GSD is working to implement the best fiscal decisions possible with the information available. However, even after the budget has been set, as we have seen last year, the Governor has the authority to reduce the

budget after contracts have been issued. Two bills have been introduced into the legislature that could affect funding. Stimulus funds may also be received. However, the impact of these issues will only be available at a later date.

Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault states, "Difficult decisions have been made and are continuing to be made to ensure the financial solvency of our District. We must prudently prepare for the reductions in the State funds. All of the reductions that are being implemented have been carefully studied to reduce negative educational impact upon our students. The GSD will continue to educate our students effectively. We will perform our duties and teach our students in the best possible manner in these difficult economic circumstances, making approximately 1.6 million dollars in cuts in our budget."

GSD planned reductions:

- Reductions in number of assistant teachers
- Reduction in number of certified staff, including retirements, relocations, and reductions in force
- Reductions in extended day contracts
- Elimination of driver's education program and the lead teacher program
- Transfer of teachers within district
- Reductions in security and custodial services
- Limits out-of-district travel to essential trips
- School and program budgets reductions of 30-40%
- Completely close schools during the week of July 5-9, except for essential staff. All administrators, including superintendent, administrative assistants, principals, and assistant principals are taking a voluntary leave during this week and a reduction in salary to compensate for these days of closure.

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<http://www.gsd.k12.ms.us/newslettersignup2.html>

GSD 2010 Parent of the Year Selected



The Grenada School District has selected Laura Reid, nominated by Grenada Middle School, as the District-wide Parent of the Year for 2010. She has three children, Sydney, an eighth grader, Sloan, a sixth grader, and Russell, a first grader. Laura is married to Dr. Richard Reid. Laura has been actively involved with several organizations assisting our District including the GMS PTO, the GUES PTO in which she served as president, the Junior Auxiliary with the IMPACT Program, the GES HOSTS Program as a mentor, the GES Kids' Company as a volunteer, and GEAR UP Mississippi, currently serving as the Family and Community Outreach Coordinator for this initiative.

Mrs. Reid has served as the GEAR UP Mississippi Community Outreach Coordinator for the last two years. Some of her duties include communicating with parents about college readiness and working with the school administration to develop necessary programs. She strategically places posters and fliers at local businesses and workplaces for parent meetings, trying to reach parents where they are. Laura Byrd, our School Site Coordinator for GEAR UP states, "Laura has a passion for wanting to make sure that ALL students have course requirements they need in order to enroll in college. She

stresses education to ensure that all children have the opportunity to pursue higher education in a community college and or a four-year college or university."

Superintendent of Grenada Schools Dr. David Daigneault states, "Laura Reid's efforts to improve the opportunities available to students at our Middle School and her devotion to the reading and tutoring programs in the lower grades proves her willingness to strive for an excellent education for all children. She has worked extensively with our programs and her selflessness and willingness to go the extra mile in getting information to parents and students confirms her dedication."

According to GMS Principal Tim Wilder, "Mrs. Reid has done extensive work with many different organizations in our school, including GEAR UP Mississippi and PTO. She has been instrumental in getting parents involved with the GEAR UP Program and helping them understand the admission requirements their children need to enter college. We are lucky to have such a dedicated parent who is so involved with our school, our parents, and our students."

Laura States, "I want to encourage all parents to ask children, teachers and administrators the question, 'How can I help?' I have found that in every school, principals and teachers are receptive to help and suggestions from parents."

Grenada Middle School and Grenada School District are fortunate to receive the assistance from a parent so deeply involved and so committed to the students. Congratulations to the 2010 Parent of the Year, Laura Reid.

The new GUES video is now posted on the GSD website (<http://www.gsd.k12.ms.us/gues.html>). This video will be part of Grenada School District DVD available in the fall for incoming residents. Voice narratives were created by GUES students Anna Blair, Jaime Muilwik, Bailey Muselwhite, and Isaac Spears.