Mississippi

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in partnership with ASCD, developed the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) framework to highlight the need for schools to address all aspects of children's physical, mental, and social well-being to help them learn and thrive. As part of the Together for Healthy and Successful Schools Initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Child Trends, the Institute for Health Research and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and EMT Associates, Inc., analyzed state statutes and regulations for key topic areas across the WSCC's 10 components. To understand whether and how local education agencies (LEAs) implement and/or extend state policy around the WSCC, UIC analyzed district board policies, regulations, codes of conduct, and student handbooks from a representative, random sample of districts in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

This profile highlights the extent to which 21 public school districts in Mississippi have policies that cover topic areas across the WSCC. The public school district data are weighted to be representative of public school districts in the state. Please note, because of the small number of charter LEAs sampled, they are not included in this profile.

The national summary report, profiles for each of the 19 states, and a detailed explanation of our methodology can be found on the Child Trends website.

Coverage of the WSCC in Mississippi School District Policies

	% of Elements Addressed within MS State Law	Average % of Elements Addressed within MS District Policies
Health Education	80%	43%
Physical Education and Physical Activity	71%	29%
Nutrition Environment and Services	17%	25%
Health Services	80%	46%
Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services	50%	62%
Social and Emotional Climate	64%	50%
Physical Environment	75%	54%
Employee Wellness	100%	22%
Family Engagement	100%	71%
Community Involvement	33%	99%

Overall LEA Coverage:

Limited

Key:
- Low
- Moderate
- Comprehensive

Average approach to selected topic areas by domain for Mississippi's public school districts

□	Indicates majority of public school districts in Mississippi cover topic similarly to state law
◊	Indicates majority of public school districts in Mississippi cover topic differently than state law
ϴ	Indicates categories in which most public school districts cover topics without a clear majority
o	Indicates how majority of public school districts in Mississippi cover topic, district policy only

WSCC Reference

	State Law	District Policies		
Coverage of WSCC	Addresses Coordinated School Health	Not addressed (6%)	Addresses Coordinated School Health (94%) □	Addresses WSCC (0%)
District-Level Wellness Councils	Required (does not address WSCC)	Not addressed (15%)	Encouraged (1%)	Required (does not address WSCC) (84%) □
School-Level Wellness Councils	Required (does not address WSCC)	Not addressed (0%)	Encouraged (0%)	Required (does not address WSCC) (100%) □
Wellness Leadership	Not addressed	Not addressed (30%)	Leadership identified (70%) ◊	
District Wellness Policy	District policy adopted	Not addressed (0%)	District policy adopted (100%) □	
Equity Policy	*Not analyzed at state level*	Not addressed (88%) o	District policy adopted (12%)	

Note: The District-Level and School-Level Wellness Councils rows also contain a fifth column "Required (addresses WSCC) (0%)".

Health Education

	State Law	District Policies		
National Health Education Standards	Referenced	Not addressed (57%) ◊	Referenced (43%)	
Health Education Professional Development	Addressed	Not addressed (94%) ◊	Addressed (6%)	
HE Curriculum ES	Required	Not addressed (1%)	Recommended (33%)	Required (66%) □
HE Curriculum MS	Required	Not addressed (1%)	Recommended (33%)	Required (66%) □
HE Curriculum HS	Required	Not addressed (6%)	Recommended (34%)	Required (60%) □
Healthy Eating/ Nutrition Curriculum	Required in all grade levels	Not addressed (45%) ◊	Required in some grade levels (12%)	Required in all grade levels (43%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Suicide Prevention (within HE)	Required in some grade levels	Not addressed (56%) ◊	Required in some grade levels (44%)	Required in all grade levels (0%)
Social and Emotional Learning (within HE)	Required in all grade levels	Not addressed (51%) ◊	Required in some grade levels (17%)	Required in all grade levels (32%)
Mental and Emotional Health Curriculum	Required in all grade levels	Not addressed (51%) ◊	Required in some grade levels (11%)	Required in all grade levels (38%)
Personal Health and Wellness Curriculum	Required in all grade levels	Not addressed (35%)	Required in some grade levels (27%)	Required in all grade levels (38%) □
Violence Prevention (within HE)	Not addressed	Not addressed (89%) □	Required in some grade levels (6%)	Required in all grade levels (5%)
Bullying Prevention (within HE)	Not addressed	Not addressed (95%) □	Required in some grade levels (0%)	Required in all grade levels (5%)

Physical Education and Physical Activity

	State Law	District Policies		
National PE Standards (SHAPE America)	Referenced	Not addressed (62%) ◊	Referenced (38%)	
Time for PE ES	Recommended or less than national standards	Not addressed (56%) ◊	Recommended or less than national standards (6%)	Required; Meets national standards (38%)
Time for PE MS	Recommended or less than national standards	Not addressed (56%) ◊	Recommended or less than national standards (44%)	Required; Meets national standards (0%)
Time for PE HS	Recommended or less than national standards	Not addressed (62%) ◊	Recommended or less than national standards (38%)	Required; Meets national standards (0%)

	State Law	District Policies	
PE Exemptions for Academics	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Allowed (0%)
PE Exemptions for Illness	Allowed	Not addressed (88%) ◊	Allowed (12%)
PE Exemptions for Disabilities	Allowed	Not addressed (88%) ◊	Allowed (12%)
Adaptive PE Requirements	Addresses inclusivity of PE activity	Not addressed (88%) ◊	Addresses inclusivity of PE activity (12%)

Physical Education and Physical Activity (cont.)

	State Law	District Policies		
PE Substitutions	Allows substitution of other activities for PE	Not addressed (87%) ◊	Allows substitution of other activities for PE (13%)	
PE Professional Development	Not addressed	Not addressed (95%) □	Addressed (5%)	
Physical Activity Throughout Day	Encouraged	Not addressed (75%) ◊	Encouraged (0%)	Required (25%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Recess	Addressed or requires less than daily recess	Not addressed (69%) ◊	Addressed or requires less than daily recess (19%)	Requires daily recess (12%)
Sports Participation Fees	Requires sports participation fees	Requires sports participation fees (1%)	Not addressed (55%) ◊	Sports participation fees prohibited or waivers provided (44%)

Nutrition Environment and Services

	State Law	District Policies		
Strategies to Increase Breakfast	Not addressed	Not addressed (68%) □	Recommended or restricted to certain schools/students (12%)	Required to ensure all students eat breakfast (20%)
Access to Potable Water Throughout Day	Not addressed	Not addressed (94%) □	Recommended (0%)	Required (6%)
Competitive Food (Outside of School Meals)	Meets federal Smart Snacks standards in all grades	Not addressed (34%)	Addressed OR does not meet federal standards in all grades (5%)	Meets federal Smart Snacks standards in all grades (61%) □

	State Law	District Policies		
Unhealthy Marketing Restrictions	Not addressed	Not addressed (71%) □	Recommends restricting to foods that meet Smart Snack standards (11%)	Restricted to foods that meet Smart Snack standards (19%)
Class Parties ES	Not addressed	Not addressed (82%) □	Addressed (12%)	Required (6%)
Unpaid Meal Charge Policy	Not addressed	Restricts access to meals (19%)	Not addressed (80%) □	Supports access to meals (1%)

	State Law	District Policies		
School-based Health Services	Addresses on-campus health centers or clinics	Not addressed (14%)	Addressed, but no formal program (73%) ◊	Addresses on-campus health centers or clinics (13%)
Preventive Vision Screenings ES	Addressed	Not addressed (68%) ◊	Addressed (32%)	
Preventive Vision Screenings MS	Addressed	Not addressed (82%) ◊	Addressed (18%)	
Preventive Vision Screenings HS	Addressed	Not addressed (82%) ◊	Addressed (18%)	
Preventive Hearing Screenings ES	Addressed	Not addressed (68%) ◊	Addressed (32%)	
Preventive Hearing Screenings MS	Addressed	Not addressed (82%) ◊	Addressed (18%)	
Preventive Hearing Screenings HS	Addressed	Not addressed (82%) ◊	Addressed (18%)	
Preventive Dental Screenings ES	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Addressed (0%)	
Preventive Dental Screenings MS	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Addressed (0%)	

	State Law	District Policies		
Preventive Dental Screenings HS	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Addressed (0%)	
Asthma Plans	Addressed	Not addressed (0%)	Addressed (100%) □	
Diabetes Plans	Not addressed	Not addressed (75%) □	Addressed (25%)	
Allergy Plans	Addressed	Not addressed (6%)	Addressed (94%) □	
Vaccination Waivers	Not addressed	Not addressed (94%) □	Allowed for religious or moral reasons (6%)	
School Nurse Professional Development	Addressed	Not addressed (100%) ◊	Addressed (0%)	
School Nurse Availability	Addressed, but nurse availability limited	Not addressed (16%)	Addressed, but nurse availability limited (77%) □	Requires full time nurse in every school (7%)
Referrals to Community Health Providers	Addressed	Not addressed (94%) ◊	Addressed (6%)	

Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services

	State Law	District Policies		
School Counseling K-8	Encouraged	Not addressed (0%)	Encouraged (11%)	Required (89%) ◊
School Counseling 9-12	Required	Not addressed (5%)	Encouraged (11%)	Required (84%) □
School-based or School-linked Mental Health Services	Not addressed	Not addressed (66%) □	Encouraged (9%)	Required (25%)
Professional Development for Mental Health	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Encouraged (0%)	Required (0%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Early Identification and Referral	Not addressed	Not addressed (15%)	Screening authorized (6%)	Encouraged or Required (79%) ◊
Professional Development for Trauma	Not addressed	Not addressed (89%) □	Encouraged (11%)	Required (0%)
Professional Development for Suicide Prevention	Required	Not addressed (14%)	Encouraged (6%)	Required (80%) □
Suicide Prevention Policy	Required	Not addressed (18%)	Encouraged (5%)	Required (77%) □

Social and Emotional Climate

	State Law	District Policies		
Multi-tiered, Positive Behavior Supports	Required	Not addressed (0%)	Encouraged (11%)	Required (89%) □
Social-Emotional Learning or Character Development	Encouraged	Not addressed (11%)	Encouraged (83%) □	Required (6%)
Professional Development for Cultural Competency	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Encouraged (0%)	Required (0%)
Chronic Absenteeism Early Warning Systems	Not addressed or limited to transfer to law enforcement	Not addressed or limited to transfer to law enforcement (62%) □	Encourages or requires early warning, parent conferencing, and parental sanctions (33%)	Encourages or requires comprehensive student supports (5%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Limits on Exclusionary Discipline	Requires limits on use of suspension and expulsion	Not addressed (6%)	Discourages use (91%) ◊	Requires limits on use of suspension and expulsion (3%)
Alternatives to Exclusionary Discipline	Encouraged	Not addressed (12%)	Encouraged (82%) □	Required (6%)
Bullying Protections for Vulnerable Populations	Requires protections for selected groups	Not addressed (99%) ◊	Requires protections for selected groups (0%)	Requires protections for all groups including LGBTQ populations (1%)
Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Policy	Includes some components of U.S. Department of Education recommendations	Not addressed (0%)	Includes some components of U.S. Department of Education recommendations (100%) □	Includes all components of U.S. Department of Education recommendations (0%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Professional Development for Bullying Prevention	Not addressed	Not addressed (95%) □	Encouraged (0%)	Required (5%)
Hazing Policy	Encouraged	Not addressed (12%)	Encouraged (88%) □	Required (0%)
Dating Violence Policy	Not addressed	Not addressed (89%) □	Encouraged (0%)	Required (11%)

	State Law	District Policies		
School Resource Officer Training	Required	Not addressed (12%)	Encouraged (0%)	Required (88%) □
Limits on Referrals to Law Enforcement	Requires referral for any offense in violation of criminal code	Requires referral for any offense in violation of criminal code (6%)	Not addressed or authorizes schools to refer to law enforcement (94%) ◊	Requires districts to establish formal procedures for referrals to law enforcement (0%)
Equitable Discipline Practices	Monitoring required	Not addressed (100%) ◊	Monitoring required (0%)	Monitoring and remediation required (0%)

Physical Environment

	State Law	District Policies		
Corporal Punishment	Permitted	Permitted (99%) □	Neither permitted nor prohibited (1%)	Prohibited (0%)
Restraint and Seclusion	Limits use with some protections	Not addressed (6%)	Limits use with some protections (6%)	Limits use and includes comprehensive protections (88%) ◊
Emergency Operations Plans	Required, with regular reviews and updates	Not addressed (0%)	Required, but no plans for reviews or updates (11%)	Required, with regular reviews and updates (89%) □
Multi-hazard Practice Drills	Required without interagency coordination	Not addressed (0%)	Required without interagency coordination (24%)	Required, with required or encouraged interagency coordination (76%) ◊
Firearms on School Campus	Meets GFSA with protections	Not addressed (24%)	Meets GFSA (71%) ◊	Meets GFSA with protections (5%)
Internet Safety	Encouraged	Not addressed (10%)	Encouraged (0%)	Required (90%) ◊

	State Law	District Policies		
Tobacco-free Environments	Prohibits any use, may include limited policies	Not addressed or prohibits student use (0%)	Prohibits any use, may include limited policies (94%) □	Requires comprehensive policies (6%)
Alcohol and Drug Use Intervention Programs	Not addressed	Not addressed (83%) □	Encouraged (11%)	Required (6%)
Authorizes MOUs with Law Enforcement	Authorized with protections	Not addressed (100%) ◊	Authorized (0%)	Authorized with protections (0%)
Chemical Hazard Protections	Required	Not addressed (84%) ◊	Encouraged (7%)	Required (9%)
Water Quality Protections	Not addressed	Not addressed (100%) □	Encouraged (0%)	Required (0%)
Air Quality Protections	Required	Not addressed (40%) ⊖	Encouraged (20%)	Required (40%) ⊖

Employee Wellness

	State Law	District Policies		
Staff Wellness Programs	Encouraged	Not addressed (54%) ◊	Encouraged (15%)	Required (32%)
Staff Stress Management Program	Addressed	Not addressed (84%) ◊	Addressed (16%)	
Staff Health Assessments	Addressed	Not addressed (84%) ◊	Addressed (16%)	

	State Law	District Policies	
Staff Physical Activity	Addressed	Not addressed (84%) ◊	Addressed (16%)
Staff Healthy Food Policies	Addressed	Not addressed (84%) ◊	Addressed (16%)

Family Engagement

	State Law	District Policies		
Family Engagement Plans	Addressed	Not addressed (0%)	Addressed (11%)	Required (89%) ◊
Family Engagement in Local Governance	Required	Not addressed (6%)	Encouraged (71%) ◊	Required (23%)

	State Law	District Policies		
Professional Development on Family Engagement	Encouraged	Not addressed (21%)	Encouraged (74%) □	Required (5%)
Family Engagement in Policy making on School Discipline	Required	Not addressed (88%) ◊	Encouraged (6%)	Required (6%)

Community Involvement

	State Law	District Policies		
Community Involvement in Local Governance	Required	Not addressed (0%)	Encouraged (79%) ◊	Required (21%)
School-Community and Interagency Partnerships	Not addressed	Not addressed (3%)	Encouraged (11%)	Required (86%) ◊

	State Law	District Policies		
Community Use of Public School Facilities	Not addressed	Not addressed (0%)	Authorized (21%)	Authorized and encouraged (79%) ◊