SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE RECESSED MEETING OF THE
DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BE IT REMEMBERED that the DeSoto County Board of Education met in recessed session on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the office of the Superintendent of Education in Hernando, MS, with the following present, to-wit: Board Member and President Jerald Wheeler; Board Member and Secretary Charles Barton; and Board Members Michele Henley, Shelia Riley, and Josh Sullivan. Also present were the Superintendent of Education Cory Uselton; Chief Operations Officer Rob Chase; Assistant Superintendents Van Alexander, Ryan Kuykendall, Amanda Samples and Keith Williams; Board Attorney Jim Keith (joined by phone); and Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board Belinda Eldred and Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Lauren Margeson.

Approve Agenda

Approval of the October 15, 2026 Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent recognized student groups.

Attorney's Report

None.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the October 1, 2026 board meeting.

Consent Agenda

The Board voted for:

A. Approval of the requests to submit and receive grants

B. Approval of a job shadow/clinical experience agreement with Mark Gilbert Family Dental.

C. Approval of a contract with AIM Institute for Learning & Research.

D. Approval of a contract with Certiport, a business of NCS Pearson, Inc.

E. Approval of a contract with Corey Latta.

F. Approval of a contract with DECA.

G. Approval of a contract with Diarmuid Inc.

H. Approval of a contract with IXL Learning, Inc.

I. Approval of a contract with Jennifer Rushton.

J. Approval of contract with Mitchell 1.

K. Approval of a contract with Newsela.

L. Approval of a contract with PESI, Inc.

M. Approval of a contract with Student Group Tours, Inc.

N. Approval of a contract with Synergy 1 Group, Inc.

O. Approval of a contract with Themes & Variations, Inc.

P. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Arkansas State University.

Q. Approval of a rental agreement with Pitney Bowes, Inc.

R. Approval to accept a school affiliation agreement with University of Phoenix.

S. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Center Hill High School (ERate reimbursable).

T. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for DeSoto Central High School (ERate reimbursable).

U. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for DeSoto Central Middle School (ERate reimbursable).

V. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Hernando High School (ERate reimbursable).

W. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Horn Lake High School (ERate reimbursable).

X. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Horn Lake Middle School (ERate reimbursable).

Y. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Hernando Middle School (ERate reimbursable).

Z. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Lewisburg High School (ERate reimbursable).

AA. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Southaven High School (ERate reimbursable).

BB. Approval to advertise for bids for fiber pulls to include switches, access points and installation for Southaven Middle School (ERate reimbursable).

CC. Approval to advertise for bids for firewalls for Hernando Intermediate School, DeSoto County Alternative Center and Career Tech West (ERate reimbursable).

DD. Approval to advertise for bids for Fortinet FortiAnalyzer (ERate reimbursable).

EE. Approval to advertise for bids for kitchen equipment for Olive Branch Intermediate School for the Child Nutrition Department.

FF. Approval to advertise for bids for kitchen equipment for Southaven Elementary School for the Child Nutrition Department.

GG. Approval to advertise for bids for prep tables for the Child Nutrition Department.

HH. Approval to advertise for bids for rewire (ERate reimbursable) for Horn Lake Intermediate School.

II. Approval to advertise for bids for rewire (ERate reimbursable) for Olive Branch Middle School.

JJ. Approval to advertise for bids for serving lines for Hope Sullivan Elementary School.

KK. Approval to advertise for bids for serving lines for Olive Branch Elementary School.

LL. Approval to advertise for bids for software licensing for school firewalls (ERate reimbursable).

MM. Approval of the 2026-2027 DCS Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Plan.

NN. Approval of Board Meeting Date Adjustment Authorization.

OO. Approval of a contract with Sports Floors, Inc.

New Business

A. Approval of the August 2026 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures.

B. Approval of the August 2026 Combined Balance Sheet.

C. Approval of the August 2026 Statement of Cash Flow.

D. Approval of the August 2026 Certification of Bank Reconciliations.

E. Approval of revised Board Policy ABCB – Board Member Qualifications.

F. Approval of revised Board Policy BA – Board Operations Goals and Objectives Mission Statement.

G. Approval of revised Board Policy CNB – Managing and Retaining Administrative Records.

H. Approval of revised Board Policy IHF – Graduation Requirements.

I. Approval of revised Board Policy IHFAD – Graduation Assessment Options.

J. Approval of revised Board Policy IJ-R – Internet/Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

K. Approval of revised Board Policy JBA – Compulsory School Attendance/School Age.

L. Approval of revised Board Policy JBD – Attendance.

M. Approval of revised Board Policy JDE - Expulsion.

N. Approval of Personnel recommendations.

Superintendent's Report

At Mr. Uselton's request, Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Accreditation Ryan Kuykendall made a presentation to the board of the 2025-2026 Accountability Results highlighting elementary, middle and high school accountability, proficiency and growth definitions for all grade levels, district data and the overall state ranking for each school. Mr. Kuykendall informed the board that DeSoto County School District continues to be an "A" district and thanked the board members, school and district personnel for the daily efforts to make DeSoto County Schools successful. An opportunity was given for questions or comments.

There being no further business to come before the board, the board adjourned the meeting until Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.