

NEWS RELEASE

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Task Force to study underperforming schools continued

Jackson, Miss – The Legislative Task Force to study underperforming schools and the enhancement of accountability and sanctions imposed on those schools and districts will meet Tuesday, August 11, 2009 starting at 10:00 a.m. in room 216 in the New State Capitol.

Under Senate Bill 2288, the Task Force has been continued for a second year to study the factors that allow “Star Schools” to excel and hold “Failing” schools back.

Factors include:

- Identifying resources currently available to Failing and Star Schools
- Identifying additional resources needed
- Current accountability measures imposed on Failing schools
- Benchmarks (academic and financial) a school must meet in order to be released from conservatorship
- A comparison of accountability measures and benchmarks in other states

The Task Force, originally created by Senate Bill 2405 in the 2008 Regular Legislative Session, must also study consolidation, school board governance and alternative school programs. The Task Force is co-chaired by Senate Education Chairman Videt Carmichael and House Education Chairman Cecil Brown.

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