

Mississippi Adequate Education Program 2001-2002

The basic funding for Mississippi schools has long been provided through the Minimum Education Program (MEP) enacted in the 1950's. In addition to the MEP, the Uniform Millage Assistance Grants Program (1989), the Education Enhancement Fund (1992 sales tax increase legislation), and the Ad Valorem Reduction Grants were established to address long-overlooked needs in school districts in the areas of building, buses, textbooks, instructional supplies and other special needs. Because disparity still exists in the funds available for educating every child at an adequate level, the Mississippi Adequate Education Program addresses these disparities and ensures that every school district will have sufficient funds available to provide a Level III accreditation or adequate education for every child. As of January 15, 1999, the MAEP funds have resulted in State Aid Capital Improvement Bonds issued by 111 school districts in the amount of \$507,272,543.00.

Proposed School Facility Construction Based on Approved MAEP Applications * *(480 Applications from 123 School Districts as of 8/16/02)*

Projects	New Construction	Repairs/Renovations	TOTALS
Classrooms	2,495	6,567	9,062
Subject Area Labs	124	106	230
Tech Prep Labs	142	300	442
Library/Media Centers	62	73	135
Cafeterias/Kitchen/Dining	68	94	162
Fine Arts Facilities (Band/Choral Music/Drama/Art)	73	43	116
Auditoriums	7	24	31
Multi-Purpose Buildings	19	4	23
Health/Physical Education/Gym Facilities	18	61	79

* This report does not reflect all school construction in the state, as school districts that chose "Option 2 – Interim Pledge" were not required by State Board Policy to submit an Application for the Expenditure of MAEP Funds for a Capital Improvement Project.

Additional support for capital improvement of schools has been provided on the local level through local bond elections. The following shows the results of local bond elections during 2001 – 2002:

**Record of School Bond Elections
2001 - 2002**

School District	Amount	Passed/Failed	Percentage of Voters For/Against
Baldwyn	\$ 2,295,000.00	Passed	86% / 14%
Booneville	\$ 3,500,000.00	Passed	88% / 12%
Durant	\$ 1,380,000.00	Passed	60% / 40%
Hattiesburg	\$ 15,000,000.00	Passed	64% / 36%
Hinds County	\$ 16,500,000.00	Failed	56% / 44%
Lee County	\$ 19,650,000.00	Passed	80% / 20%
Rankin County	\$ 69,350,000.00	Passed	81% / 19%

**State Public School Building Fund
2001 - 2002**

The State Public School Building Fund was created to provide state funds for the capital improvement of schools in the state. Such capital improvements include the cost of erecting, repairing, equipping, remodeling and enlarging school buildings and related facilities.

The financial structure of the State Public School Building Fund is made up of three interlocking, yet distinct features: (1) annual grants to school districts; (2) legislative funding of the program; and (3) state school bonds. The Mississippi Board of Education approved building projects as follows during 2001 - 2002:

	Number Approved	Total Cost	Public School Building Funds
Long Range Plans	19	\$ 108,140,429.52	N/A
Applications	73	\$ 52,390,744.27	\$ 16,871,212.41
Supplementary Applications	18	N/A	\$ 3,532,944.87
Contracts	64	\$ 44,488,456.99	\$ 17,320,745.84
Change Orders	79	\$ 267,607.93	\$ 140,409.24
Final Project Approvals	57	\$ 16,607,083.39	\$ 9,301,937.33
Project Cancellations	2	\$ 103,400.00	\$ 99,640.00