

MEMO

To: Michael Boyd
From: Kelly Riley
Date: February 7, 2000
Subject: Requirements for Superintendents and Principals; "Mississippi Leads the Nation" Areas

Per your request Friday, here is the information on requirements for principals and superintendents:

- * MISS. CODE ANN. Section 37-9-13 (1972) requires any superintendent to hold a valid administrator's license issued by the State Department of Education and to also have a minimum of four years of classroom or administrative experience. This section applies to both appointed and elected superintendents.
- * According to Mike Hobby, SDE's Director of Certification, in order to obtain an administrator's license, an applicant must have a Master's in Education Administration and must pass the School Leader Licensure Assessment. Principals must also meet these same accreditation standards.

I found the following info during an internet search as to areas that Mississippi leads the nation in:

- Dunn and Bradstreet reported that in 1998, Mississippi lead the nation in new business start-ups. 1,347 new firms opened for business, a 15% increase, which compared favorably to the national picture, which showed a 7% decline in the number of new businesses. (Expansion Management magazine, May 1999)
- Mississippi leads the nation with about 60% of the total U.S. catfish acreage. Humphreys and Sunflower counties each contain more acres of catfish ponds than any single state in the nation. Mississippi produces about 72% of the catfish produced nationally and processes roughly 75% of the fish. Mississippi does this with about 18% of the nation's catfish farming operations (MSU Extension Service – "Farm Raised Catfish, 11/4/97)
- Mississippi leads the nation in the recycling of pesticide containers. Mississippi farmers are taking the lead in protecting natural resources through Extension-based waste management programs. In 1998, more than 816,000 pounds of waste agricultural pesticides were collected from 900 farmers, saving more than \$1.1 million in pesticide disposal costs (MSU Extension Service – "Agriculture and Natural Resources 1998 Program Highlights)
- Mississippi manufactures 70% of the upholstered furniture produced in the United States. The total value of the new furniture and related products manufactured in the state is estimated at \$3 billion (Tennessee Valley Authority – "The Valley Economy")

- Mississippi leads the nation in certified tree farms. (MAFES – “Biotechnology Study Group Report (no date); confirmed by Kent Grizzard at Forestry Commission)

This is all I have at this point, but I’m still searching. I’ll pass on any additional info to you.