

For Immediate Release
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Governor Makes Appointments To State Board of Education

Jackson, Miss. – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today appointed Claude Hartley and Sondra Parker Caillavett to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education consists of nine members. The Governor makes five appointments. One member is to be appointed from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Supreme Court Districts, one administrator (at-large) and a teacher (at-large). The board members representing the Supreme Court Districts cannot be actively engaged in the educational profession. The Lt. Governor makes two appointments to the board, and the Speaker of the House makes two appointments to the board.

Claude Hartley is representing the 3rd Supreme Court District, filling the unexpired term of Cheryl Tidwell, ending July 1, 2003. Hartley is a former member and President of the Tupelo School Board. During that time, he served as Vice Chairman of the State Council on Vocational Education and was elected President of the State School Boards Association. Hartley is a businessman and is the Director of the Mississippi Furniture Market facility in Tupelo, and is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi.

Sondra Parker Caillavet is filling the teacher (at-large) position on the Board, which expires July 1, 2009. Caillavet is a native of Biloxi and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a mathematics teacher at Michel Jr. High and has been teaching in the Biloxi Public School System for 27 years. Caillavet is the 1998 Biloxi Teacher of the Year; recipient of the Beverly Briscoe Award, given by the Biloxi Rotary and the Mississippi Air Force Association's Teacher of the Year for 2000.

Caillavet served on the Mississippi State Mathematics Curriculum Revision Team; serves as a seven-year team leader on the Knight Foundation Collaboration between the University of Southern Mississippi and Biloxi Schools; has made numerous local, state and national level presentations for the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics and is listed in the Who's Who of America's Teachers.

“Claude Hartley and Sondra Parker Caillavet both have a passion for education, and both share my vision to move Mississippi's educational standards and expectations to new heights,” said Governor Musgrove.

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