



MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR  
**PUBLIC POLICY**

2022 Mississippi

## **Fat Cat Report:**

*Top Public Sector Pay in the Magnolia State*



### **Key Findings**

- **The Fat Cats are getting fatter:** Top public sector officials got a bumper pay increase over the past year, with their pay rising twice as fast as ordinary public sector workers. Some officials got salary increases of over 20 percent.
- **Mississippi's 50 highest-paid Fat Cats make more than America's 50 state governors:** For example, the school board superintendent of the Tupelo Public School District (7,005 students) is paid more than the governor of Texas (population 28 million). The D-rated McComb School District superintendent makes more than the governor of Florida.
- **More Fat Cats means fewer nurses, teachers, and police:** The \$9.6 million salary costs of Mississippi's Fat Cats would pay for 194 nurses, 232 State Troopers, or 228 additional teachers.
- **Fat Cats are largely unaccountable:** Of the 50 salaried Fat Cat positions, only 4 are elected.
- **School district superintendents dominate the Fat Cat list**—and some are from some of the worst-performing school districts in the state.

## Why the Fat Cat Report?

Taxpayers have a right to know how their tax dollars are spent. The annual Mississippi Fat Cat report ranks the highest-paid public officials in our state and compares their salaries to the average pay of a teacher, nurse, or State Trooper, as well as the average Mississippian. We also consider how much these public officials made in 2022 compared to what they received the previous year.

The aim of this report is not to criticize every highly paid public official. Some public officials are paid to do demanding jobs requiring specialized skills that generate public good. In our analysis, we point out that certain roles provide value for money, especially where those required to do the job bring specialized medical or legal expertise and experience to the role.

However, this is not always the case. Some of the highest-paid public officials in our state preside over some of the worst outcomes compared to other public officials paid to do similar jobs.

This report aims to trigger a debate about what we pay public officials. Such a debate is desperately needed. In 2022, Mississippi had one of the largest revenue surpluses in our state's history. Our state coffers are full, but who is going to gain from the fiscal glut? Fat Cat officials on the public-sector payroll, or ordinary Mississippians?

During the 2022 debate about reducing Mississippi's state income tax, those opposed to any reduction claimed we could not afford to give ordinary workers a tax cut. So how come we can afford to give top public officials ever larger salaries?

By putting this information into the public domain, we hope that ordinary Mississippians will recognize that our state has an enormously bloated bureaucracy, much of which provides Mississippians with mediocre public services.

## Methodology

We used several sources to compile this list of state, school district, and local government salaries.<sup>1</sup>

For state officials, we used data provided to us in response to a public records request for the years 2021 and 2022.<sup>2</sup> We have provided a link to the spreadsheet source in the table.<sup>3</sup> For school district superintendent data for 2021 to 2022, we used information obtained via a public record request, with a link to the spreadsheet source<sup>4</sup> also included in the table in Appendix A. For local government officials, we used a variety of sources, including a Mississippi State University local government salary survey.

To place these salaries into context, we compared them to the starting salaries of teachers (\$42,435), registered nurses (\$50,000), State Troopers (\$41,687), as well as the median Mississippi income (\$46,511).

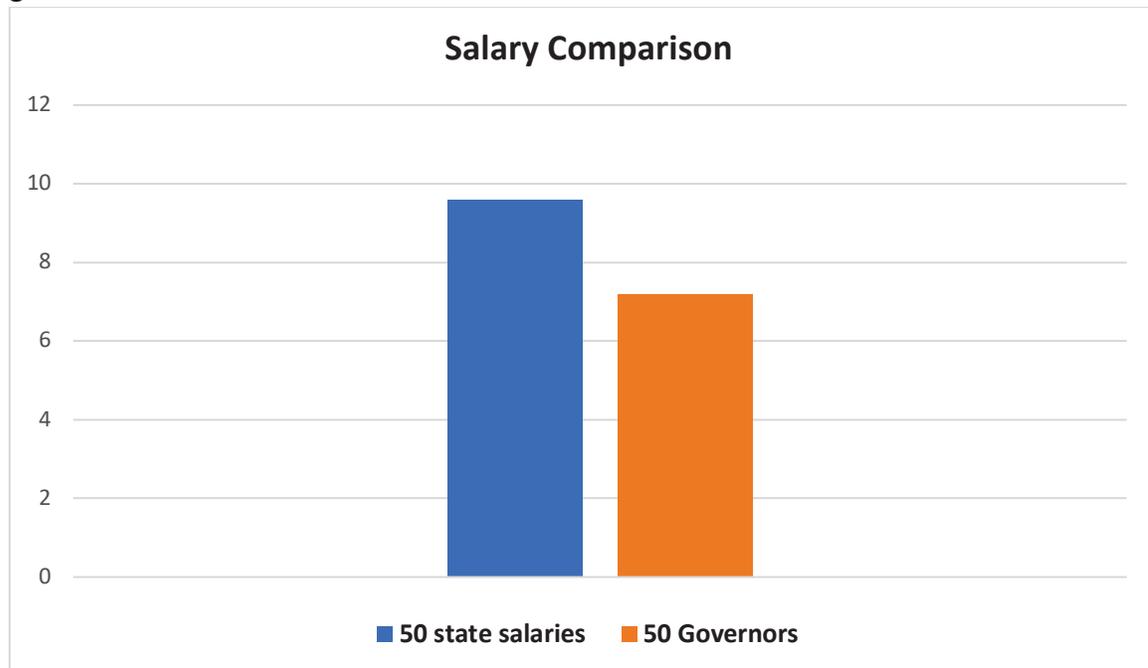
## Findings

- **The Fat Cats are getting fatter.** Top public sector employees got a bumper pay raise this past year. The 50 biggest Fat Cats in our state saw their salaries rise at almost double the rate of ordinary public sector workers in the state.

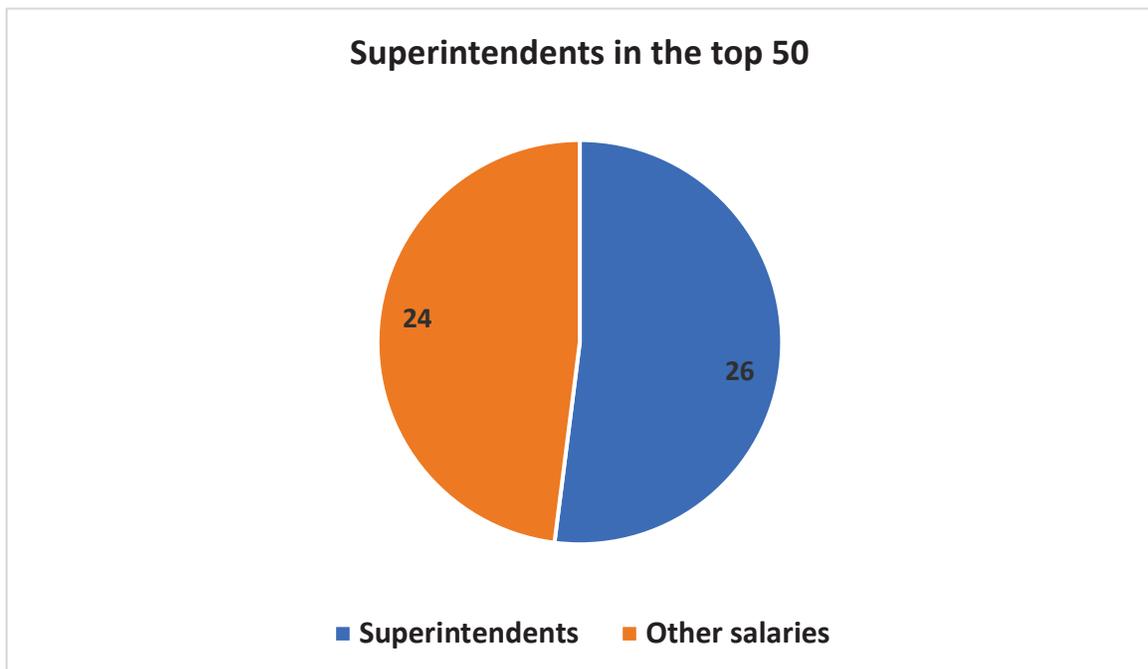
Top public sector salaries are rising faster than both average public sector and average private sector salaries. In 2022, the average salary of the top highest-paid public officials in our state shot up by 9 percent, from an average of \$179,445 to an average of \$193,678. At the same time, the average Mississippi government employee had an increase of 5.36 percent.<sup>5</sup> According to a survey conducted by Willis Towers Watson, the national average private sector company budgeted for employee raises of only 3.4 percent in 2022.<sup>6</sup>

- **Mississippi's top 50 Fat Cats are paid more than America's 50 state governors:**<sup>7</sup> The combined cost of the top 50 salaries in Mississippi in 2022 is \$9.6 million. If you add up the total pay of the 50 State Governors across America, their combined salaries cost a mere \$7.2 million.<sup>8</sup>

Put another way, the school board superintendent of Tupelo Public School District (7,005 students) is paid more than the governor of Texas (population 28 million). The D-rated McComb School District superintendent, meanwhile, makes more than the governor of Florida.



- **Mississippi's top 50 Fat Cats are paid more than our state governor:** Mississippi's own state governor currently has a salary of \$122,160. Meanwhile, the lowest-paid position on the top-50 salary list makes \$158,875.
- **Fat Cats vs. ordinary workers:** The top 50 highest-paid public officials in Mississippi have earned a combined total of approximately \$9.6 million, enough to pay the salaries of the following:
  - 194 nurses (\$50,000 per year)
  - 232 State Troopers (\$41,687 per year)
  - 228 teachers (\$42,435)
  - 222 government workers making the average state government salary<sup>9</sup> (\$43,670 per year)
  - 208 Mississippians earning the median income (\$46,511 per year)
- **School superintendents dominate the Fat Cat list:** Twenty-six of the top 50 highest-paid public officials are school district superintendents. The average annual salary of these 26 superintendents is \$189,771 per year. In our 2021 report, our list of the top-50 salaries included 24 superintendents. The average salary for this 24 was \$175,500, reflecting an 8-percent increase in 2022.



- **Fat Cats are (largely) unelected:** Of the 50 salaried positions, only 4 are elected, with the remaining 46 being appointed. The only directly democratically accountable officials on our list are judges.

- **Most school superintendents make more than the Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court:** The Mississippi Supreme Court Justice has an annual salary of \$174,000 a year. However, 22 school superintendents on the top 50 list make even more than that.
- **Some Fat Cats got record pay raises:** According to the data, the following salaries saw the highest increases from 2021 to 2022:

1) Dept. of Education PR Team Lead	\$160,425 (up 128 percent) <sup>10</sup>
2) Humphreys School District Superintendent	\$182,000 (up 102 percent)
3) Claiborne County School District	\$200,769 (up 61 percent)
4) Exec. Director of Department of Transportation	\$183,000 (up 45 percent)
5) Jackson Public School District Superintendent	\$225,000 (up 31 percent)
6) Hinds County School District Superintendent	\$205,335 (up 24 percent)

- **Some of the highest-paid officials are in school districts with some of the worst education outcomes:** Our analysis shows little correlation between school superintendent salaries and academic outcomes. For example, the F-rated Laurel School District's superintendent (2,833 students) was paid \$150,000, substantially more than the \$105,465 paid in A-rated Rankin County (18,384 students).

In many cases, some of the smallest districts with the worst academic outcomes had superintendents with high per-capita salaries. Our full methodology and findings on this aspect of government salaries can be found in Appendix B.

- **Local means better value:** Only 2 of the top 50 highest-paid public officials in our state are local city government employees.

## Policy Proposals

For many Mississippi taxpayers, the cost of living is rising faster than their incomes. This makes it all the more important that there is restraint when it comes to setting the salaries of top public officials. There are a number of ways in which top public sector salaries could be curbed. It would still be possible to pay large salaries to individuals who bring rare expertise and insights that are in great demand. However, there would be far greater accountability when setting salaries, as outlined below:

1. **Require any salary increases above the Employment Cost Index rate to be approved by the legislature:** In line with our findings that government salaries are continuing to increase faster than those in the private sector, we propose that the state legislature should be required to approve any salary increases to a position if that percentage increase is above the federal Employment Cost Index (ECI) for state and local employees.<sup>11</sup> The ECI is a standard figure that accounts for the national rate of change for government pay raises in the country.
2. **Create a state-mandated formula to calculate the maximum allowable salary for superintendents:** In our review of the highest government salaries in the state, we observed that school district superintendents consistently have among the highest-paid salaries. The state has imposed high standards and limits on how much teachers can be paid,<sup>12</sup> yet we do not observe any such policy for school superintendents.<sup>13</sup>

To save taxpayer dollars and ensure transparency, we propose a schedule of acceptable salaries based on the population within the school district. This would help shift the focus from administrators to students. Since the legislature is allocating the funds, the legislature should enact policies that will ensure the funds are being properly spent.

3. **Cap more public sector pay below that earned by the state governor:** In 2016, SB2341 aimed to do precisely this for school superintendent salaries.
4. **Education funding reforms:** The high percentage of high salaries within school administration suggests the need for reforms regarding the way that school dollars are spent. Rather than the current state of relatively unlimited authority in terms of how funding is spent, reforms should be considered that place a cap on how high a percentage of school spending may be allocated to administrative salaries.
5. **Amend the Mississippi Code:** The Mississippi Code contains provisions limiting the salaries and compensation of public officials, but it also contains a provision that provides for so many exemptions as to render the limits essentially meaningless. By simply amending Section 25-3-39 of the code to eliminate the exceptions, the salaries of

state employees would, in effect, be limited to a salary of \$122,160, with any increase requiring additional approval.

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<sup>1</sup> Although higher-education salaries are provided out of public funds, we have excluded university salaries, as we believe that they sit outside the scope of this survey, which focuses on local, municipal, district, and state government salaries.

<sup>2</sup> This data was sourced from the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

<sup>3</sup> <https://mspolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Mississippi-state-employee-salaries-June-2022.xlsx>

<sup>4</sup> [https://mspolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/MS-Center-for-Public-Policy-2021-2022-PUBLIC-PERSONNEL-REPORT-STATE\\_20220601131134.xlsx](https://mspolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/MS-Center-for-Public-Policy-2021-2022-PUBLIC-PERSONNEL-REPORT-STATE_20220601131134.xlsx)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.mspb.ms.gov/spbrez/reports/hoopyful.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/regions/southeast/mississippi.htm#tab-1>

<sup>7</sup> The regional areas in the chart were determined by the United States Census Bureau.

[https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us\\_regdiv.pdf](https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us_regdiv.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Comparison\\_of\\_gubernatorial\\_salaries](https://ballotpedia.org/Comparison_of_gubernatorial_salaries)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.mspb.ms.gov/spbrez/reports/monstat.PDF>

<sup>10</sup> This employee was classified by the Mississippi State Personnel Board as part of Project SEC2 as a Public Relations Specialist Team Lead, effective January 1, 2022, but was previously classified as an Education Deputy State Superintendent.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/data.htm>

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/salary\\_schedule\\_for\\_fy23\\_house\\_bill\\_530.pdf](https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/salary_schedule_for_fy23_house_bill_530.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2016/pdf/history/HB/HB0014.xml>

Appendix A: Top 50 Mississippi Public Sector Employees, 2022

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
1	State Superintendent of Public Education	\$300,000	0%	State	7	6	7	6	One of the highest paid State Superintendents in the country.
2	State Medical Examiner 1	\$290,000	0%	State	7	6	7	6	
3	Deputy Chief Medical Examiner—Department of Public Safety	\$289,000	9%	State	7	6	7	6	
4	State Medical Examiner 2	\$265,000	0%	State	6	5	6	6	
5	Tupelo Public School District Superintendent	\$234,000	12%	School district	6	5	6	5	
6	Executive Director of Medical Licensure Board	\$231,000	0%	State	5	5	6	5	Responsible for the medical licensure of all the doctors in the state.

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
7	State Health Officer	\$230,000	7%	State	5	5	6	5	
8	Jackson Public School District Superintendent	\$225,000	31%	School district	5	5	5	5	
9	Associate State Medical Examiner	\$225,000	0%	State	5	5	5	5	
10	Desoto County School District Superintendent	\$210,900	8%	School district	5	4	5	5	The district is A-rated and ranks 1 <sup>st</sup> in value for money per district
11	Corinth School District Superintendent	\$210,780	0%	School district	5	4	5	5	The district is B-rated and ranks 77 <sup>th</sup> in value for money per district
12	Grenada School District Superintendent	\$205,764	12%	School district	5	4	5	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
13	Hinds County School District Superintendent	\$205,335	24%	School district	5	4	5	4	
14	Claiborne County School District Superintendent	\$200,769	61%	School district	5	4	5	4	
15	Petal School District Superintendent	\$200,000	5%	School district	5	4	5	4	
16	Madison County School District Superintendent	\$200,000	8%	School district	5	4	5	4	
17	Vicksburg Warren School District Superintendent	\$195,800	24%	School district	5	4	5	4	
18	Pearl Public School District Superintendent	\$195,000	19%	School district	5	4	5	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
19	Harrison County School District Superintendent	\$190,304	19%	School district	4	4	5	4	
20	Rankin County School District Superintendent	\$187,000	7%	School district	4	4	4	4	
21	Starkville--Oktibbeha Consolidated School District Superintendent	\$185,400	3%	School district	4	4	4	4	
22	Ocean Springs School District Superintendent	\$185,000	5%	School district	4	4	4	4	
23	Executive Director--Division of Medicaid	\$183,240	0%	State	4	4	4	4	
24	Executive Director of Department of Transportation	\$183,000	45%	State	4	4	4	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
25	McComb School District Superintendent	\$182,362	12%	School district	4	4	4	4	The district is D-rated and ranks 103 <sup>rd</sup> in value for money per district
26	Humphreys County School District Superintendent	\$182,000	102%	School district	4	4	4	4	
27	Pascagoula Gautier School District Superintendent	\$180,300	6%	School district	4	4	4	4	
28	Oxford City Manager	\$179,401	0%	City	4	4	4	4	This is the highest local government salary on the list.
29	Exec Dir–Public Employees Retirement System	\$179,000	0%	State	4	4	4	4	
30	Commissioner of Public Safety	\$175,664	0%	State	4	4	4	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
31	Clinton Public School District Superintendent	\$175,000	4%	School district	4	4	4	4	
32	Hattiesburg Public School District Superintendent	\$175,000	6%	School district	4	4	4	4	
33	Columbus Municipal School District Superintendent	\$175,000	17%	School district	4	4	4	4	
34	Jones County School District Superintendent	\$175,000	17%	School district	4	4	4	4	
35	Mississippi Achievement School District Superintendent	\$175,000	0%	School district	4	4	4	4	
36	Chief Justice of Supreme Court	\$174,000	0%	State	4	3	4	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
37	Executive Director of Pharmacy Board	\$172,685	0%	State	4	3	4	4	
38	Executive Director—Department of Human Resources	\$170,400	0%	State	4	3	4	4	
39	Moss Point Separate School District—Teacher Aide	\$170,110	0%	School district	4	3	4	4	
40	Meridian Public School District Superintendent	\$170,000	21%	School district	4	3	4	4	
41	Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court	\$169,500	0%	State	4	3	4	4	
42	Scott County School District Superintendent	\$168,000	10%	School district	4	3	4	4	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
43	Executive Director-- Department of Mental Health	\$167,764	0%	State	4	3	4	4	
44	Supreme Court Justice	\$166,500	0%	State	4	3	4	4	
45	Gulfport School District Superintendent	\$165,000	10%	School district	4	3	4	4	
46	Chief Judge-- Court of Appeals	\$161,500	0%	State	4	3	4	3	
47	Public Relations Specialist Team Lead	\$160,425	128%	State	4	3	4	3	
48	Executive Director-- Division of Family/Child Services	\$160,000	0%	State	4	3	4	3	

Rank	Title	Salary	Increase since 2021	Employer	# Teachers	# Nurses	# State Troopers	# Average Mississippians	Comments
49	Executive Director- Information Technology	\$160,000	0%	State	4	3	4	3	
50	Flowood City Clerk	\$158,875	0%	City	4	3	4	3	

**Appendix B: Mississippi School District Superintendents Salary Performance, 2022**

**Methodology**

Given that a large percentage of the top 50 salaries belong to school district superintendents, we have opted to include all the school district salaries in the table below. All salary information in this table was sourced via a public records request submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). Any factual errors in this data are the responsibility of MDE.

In reviewing and ranking all of the superintendent salaries, we took three primary factors into account—the total student enrollment of the district, the MDE-provided rating of the school district, and the actual salary itself.

In addition to columns including these raw statistics, we have added an additional column that accounts for district performance, as it is connected to the superintendent salary. We have converted each district’s letter grade to a corresponding number. The better the letter grade is, the higher the numerical grade number will be, ranging from 5 (grade A) to 1 (grade F). These grade numbers are then multiplied by the student enrollment to obtain a total number of “quality points.” A district with 1,000 students would have 5,000 quality points with an A grade, but it would only have 1,000 quality points if it had an F grade.

In relation to superintendents, these quality points are then divided into the superintendent’s salary. If a superintendent had a salary of \$100,000, and the district only had 1,000 quality points, that equates to \$100 per quality point. If the district had 5,000 quality points, that equates to only \$20 per quality point. We believe that this measurement accurately assesses both academic outcomes and the responsibility that comes with increased student enrollment.

School district	Public record salary	Enrollment	Grade	District points	Cost per grade point
West Tallahatchie School District	\$105,500	606	F	606	\$174.09
North Bolivar Cons School District	\$115,000	869	F	869	\$132.34
Humphreys County School District	\$182,000	1,386	F	1,386	\$131.31

Kemper County School District	\$115,000	881	F	881	\$130.53
Amite County School District	\$102,000	833	F	833	\$122.45
West Bolivar Cons School District	\$119,167	1,015	F	1,015	\$117.41
Chickasaw County School District	\$110,000	479	D	958	\$114.82
Aberdeen School District	\$121,000	1,081	F	1,081	\$111.93
Coahoma County School District	\$123,600	1,121	F	1,121	\$110.26
East Tallahatchie Consolidated School District	\$97,000	953	F	953	\$101.78
Jefferson County School District	\$102,000	1,089	F	1,089	\$93.66
Hollandale School District	\$100,000	534	D	1,068	\$93.63
Okolona Separate School District	\$100,000	547	D	1,094	\$91.41
Wilkinson County School District	\$92,000	1,053	F	1,053	\$87.37
Claiborne County School District	\$115,000	1,326	F	1,326	\$86.73
Leland School District	\$120,000	763	D	1,526	\$78.64
Philadelphia Public School District	\$128,750	865	D	1,730	\$74.42
South Delta School District	\$99,750	684	D	1,368	\$72.92
Attala County School District	\$135,000	1,025	D	2,050	\$65.85
Richton School District	\$100,000	531	C	1,593	\$62.77
Water Valley School District	\$122,500	1,007	D	2,014	\$60.82
Carroll County School District	\$101,000	835	D	1,670	\$60.48
Clarksdale Municipal School District	\$135,000	2,237	F	2,237	\$60.35

Noxubee County School District	\$85,174	1,413	F	1,413	\$60.28
Forrest County Ag High School	\$99,000	576	C	1,728	\$57.29
Holmes County Consolidated School District	\$151,112	2,641	F	2,641	\$57.22
Laurel School District	\$150,000	2,833	F	2,833	\$52.95
Winona–Montgomery Consolidated	\$125,500	1,201	D	2,402	\$52.25
Moss Point Separate School District	\$142,398	1,513	D	3,026	\$47.06
Hazlehurst City School District	\$130,000	1,453	D	2,906	\$44.74
East Jasper Consolidated School District	\$102,300	824	C	2,472	\$41.38
McComb School District	\$182,362	2,232	D	4,464	\$40.85
South Pike School District	\$129,600	1,605	D	3,210	\$40.37
Benton County School District	\$115,000	954	C	2,862	\$40.18
Greenville Public Schools	\$150,000	3,874	F	3,874	\$38.72
Coffeeville School District	\$52,276	460	C	1,380	\$37.88
Newton Municipal School District	\$103,000	910	C	2,730	\$37.73
Baldwyn School District	\$107,000	753	B	3,012	\$35.52
Quitman County School District	\$95,000	894	C	2,682	\$35.42
Walthall County School District	\$110,000	1,677	D	3,354	\$32.80
West Jasper Consolidated Schools	\$125,000	1,357	C	4,071	\$30.70
Holly Springs School District	\$103,014	1,136	C	3,408	\$30.23
Choctaw County School District	\$143,850	1,201	B	4,804	\$29.94

Jefferson Davis County School District	\$110,000	1,270	C	3,810	\$28.87
Yazoo County School District	\$120,000	1,387	C	4,161	\$28.84
Nettleton School District	\$100,000	1,170	C	3,510	\$28.49
Union Public School District	\$125,000	940	A	4,700	\$26.60
Columbus Municipal School District	\$175,000	3,292	D	6,584	\$26.58
Franklin County School District	\$114,000	1,115	B	4,460	\$25.56
Forest Municipal School District	\$120,500	1,610	C	4,830	\$24.95
North Panola School District	\$102,000	1,364	C	4,092	\$24.93
Columbia School District	\$157,314	1,635	B	6,540	\$24.05
Hattiesburg Public School District	\$175,000	3,698	D	7,396	\$23.66
Quitman School District	\$109,584	1,645	C	4,935	\$22.21
Natchez-Adams School District	\$126,000	2,875	D	5,750	\$21.91
Western Line School District	\$145,000	1,698	B	6,792	\$21.35
Canton Public School District	\$135,000	3,207	D	6,414	\$21.05
Corinth School District	\$210,780	2,522	B	10,088	\$20.89
North Tippah School District	\$105,000	1,259	B	5,036	\$20.85
Senatobia Municipal School District	\$138,400	1,676	B	6,704	\$20.64
Enterprise School District	\$95,000	924	A	4,620	\$20.56
Tunica County School District	\$109,341	1,776	C	5,328	\$20.52
Booneville School District	\$126,000	1,297	A	6,485	\$19.43
Bay St Louis Waveland School District	\$154,000	1,676	A	8,380	\$18.38
Smith County School District	\$130,000	2,453	C	7,359	\$17.67
Forrest County School District	\$152,982	2,169	B	8,676	\$17.63

Meridian Public Schools	\$170,000	4,940	D	9,880	\$17.21
Brookhaven School District	\$135,000	2,646	C	7,938	\$17.01
Webster County School District	\$115,000	1,749	B	6,996	\$16.44
Tate County School District	\$102,000	2,097	C	6,291	\$16.21
Lawrence County School District	\$118,000	1,857	B	7,428	\$15.89
Greene County School District	\$106,710	1,685	B	6,740	\$15.83
Marshall County School District	\$130,000	2,740	C	8,220	\$15.82
West Point Consolidated School District	\$134,395	2,866	C	8,598	\$15.63
Sunflower City Cons School District	\$147,000	3,149	C	9,447	\$15.56
Calhoun County School District	\$100,287	2,256	C	6,768	\$14.82
Scott County School District	\$168,000	3,785	C	11,355	\$14.80
Kosciusko School District	\$130,500	2,227	B	8,908	\$14.65
Pass Christian Public School District	\$145,656	1,991	A	9,955	\$14.63
Poplarville Separate School District	\$125,603	1,719	A	8,595	\$14.61
Cleveland School District	\$128,700	2,968	C	8,904	\$14.45
Newton County School District	\$115,000	1,598	A	7,990	\$14.39
Monroe County School District	\$120,000	2,095	B	8,380	\$14.32
North Pike School District	\$125,600	2,205	B	8,820	\$14.24
Marion County School District	\$110,000	1,942	B	7,768	\$14.16
New Albany Public Schools	\$144,490	2,085	A	10,425	\$13.86
Simpson County School District	\$130,000	3,167	C	9,501	\$13.68
Wayne County School District	\$120,000	2,927	C	8,781	\$13.67

Vicksburg Warren School District	\$195,800	7,236	D	14,472	\$13.53
Leake County School District	\$106,000	2,618	C	7,854	\$13.50
Grenada School District	\$205,764	3,904	B	15,616	\$13.18
Covington County School District	\$104,000	2,647	C	7,941	\$13.10
Hinds County School District	\$205,335	5,364	C	16,092	\$12.76
Starkville–Oktibbeha Consolidated District	\$185,400	4,906	C	14,718	\$12.60
South Tippah School District	\$127,000	2,535	B	10,140	\$12.52
Neshoba County School District	\$145,750	2,959	B	11,836	\$12.31
Lincoln County School District	\$130,000	2,733	B	10,932	\$11.89
Amory School District	\$88,330	1,549	A	7,745	\$11.40
Pontotoc City Schools	\$126,000	2,266	A	11,330	\$11.12
Prentiss County School District	\$100,000	2,272	B	9,088	\$11.00
Louisville Municipal School District	\$115,000	2,654	B	10,616	\$10.83
Pearl River County School District	\$138,243	3,252	B	13,008	\$10.63
Lafayette County School District	\$145,000	2,763	A	13,815	\$10.50
Picayune School District	\$132,954	3,192	B	12,768	\$10.41
Petal School District	\$200,000	4,106	A	20,530	\$9.74
Pearl Public School District	\$195,000	4,035	A	20,175	\$9.67
Copiah County School District	\$65,436	2,275	C	6,825	\$9.59
Pontotoc County School District	\$130,000	3,524	B	14,096	\$9.22
Stone County School District	\$106,750	2,334	A	11,670	\$9.15
South Panola School District	\$156,000	4,282	B	17,128	\$9.11

Tupelo Public School District	\$234,000	7,005	B	28,020	\$8.35
Long Beach School District	\$120,000	2,876	A	14,380	\$8.34
Itawamba County School District	\$110,000	3,378	B	13,512	\$8.14
Tishomingo County Special Municipal School District	\$109,000	2,850	A	14,250	\$7.65
Alcorn School District	\$120,000	3,146	A	15,730	\$7.63
George County School District	\$112,000	3,843	B	15,372	\$7.29
Pascagoula–Gautier School District	\$180,300	6,508	B	26,032	\$6.93
Lauderdale County School District	\$155,000	5,680	B	22,720	\$6.82
Clinton Public School District	\$175,000	5,250	A	26,250	\$6.67
Oxford School District	\$150,000	4,528	A	22,640	\$6.63
Perry County School District	\$18,634	946	C	2,838	\$6.57
Ocean Springs School District	\$185,000	5,739	A	28,695	\$6.45
Hancock County School District	\$125,000	4,146	A	20,730	\$6.03
Jackson Public School District	\$225,000	20,401	D	40,802	\$5.51
Jones County School District	\$175,000	8,073	B	32,292	\$5.42
Gulfport School District	\$165,000	6,367	A	31,835	\$5.18
Biloxi Public School District	\$150,000	5,952	A	29,760	\$5.04
Lowndes County School District	\$127,500	5,173	A	25,865	\$4.93
Lee County School District	\$125,000	6,389	B	25,556	\$4.89
Jackson County School District	\$150,000	8,765	A	43,825	\$3.42
Lamar County School District	\$160,000	10,298	A	51,490	\$3.11
Madison County School District	\$200,000	12,988	A	64,940	\$3.08

Harrison County School District	\$190,304	13,666	A	68,330	\$2.79
DeSoto County School District	\$210,900	34,067	A	170,335	\$1.24
Rankin County School District	\$105,465	18,384	A	91,920	\$1.15
Leflore Legacy Academy	\$ -	123		-	\$ -
MS School for the Arts		100		-	\$ -
MS School for Math and Science	239		-	\$ -	
Mississippi Achievement School District		3,547		-	\$ -
MS Schools For the Deaf and the Blind		108		-	\$ -
West Union Attendance Center		2,899		-	\$ -









## About the Mississippi Center for Public Policy

The Mississippi Center for Public Policy is a 501 c 3 non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization. We advocate for low taxes, light regulation, and limited government.

Mississippi is one of the poorest states in America, largely due to bad public policy. Our mission is to change this.

We have an exceptional track record of getting our policy proposals turned into law. We recently spearheaded campaigns that delivered:

- **The largest tax cut in Mississippi's history**
- **A universal occupational licensing law**
- **A law to combat Critical Race Theory**

We have built a mass online audience. Our weekly newsletter is read by—as opposed merely sent to—almost 90,000 Mississippians each month.



We host internationally renowned thinkers and speakers, including most recently Douglas Murray (above left) and Lord Daniel Hannan (above right).