

# PASCAGOULA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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**For Immediate Release**

## **Pascagoula School Board Embraces New Governance Standards**

PASCAGOULA – The Pascagoula School Board voted Nov. 16, 2011 to adopt new Professional Governance Standards developed by the Mississippi School Boards Association.

“We welcomed the opportunity both to enhance our effectiveness as a board and to help the community gain a clear idea of the jobs that school boards perform,” said School Board President Mike Phillips.

The Professional Governance Standards provide a set of commonly agreed upon principles and practices for effective school board governance that describe how effective boards work together and the jobs they carry out.

For example, each member of the Pascagoula School Board is elected or appointed as an individual to serve on the board.

“To be successful, we realize that we need to work together as a team with the superintendent in order to effectively govern the district,” Phillips said. “During the past years, we have worked hard to build a unity of purpose and focus on learning and achievement for all students in the district.”

Phillips said the board is committed to fulfilling its jobs, which are described in detail in the standards, and include working with staff and community to set a direction for the district, providing a structure to support the vision through policies, ensuring accountability and providing community leadership.

“Never has it been so imperative that public schools serve all children,” Phillips said. “We want to ensure that we are doing the best job we can as a governing board.”

Phillips said it is crucial that staff and parents understand the jobs that boards must carry out and the principles of effective governance.

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