

MISSISSIPPI  
FIRST

2022–2023  
OUR STRATEGIC  
PRIORITIES

A MISSISSIPPI

FIRST



# OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Driven to change the fact that Mississippi has historically been last, Mississippi First set a bold vision: a Mississippi first in education nationally. In FY23, our work will focus on public charter schools, access to quality early education with a focus on pre-K, and increasing effective teachers and leaders in Mississippi public schools.

**OUR APPROACH** Mississippi First is dedicated to advancing the best education ideas through the policy continuum.



## RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

We examine national and state data and reports as well as conduct original research.



## PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

We inform and educate stakeholders and the public about our policy recommendations.



## ADVOCACY

We advocate at both the legislative and administrative levels. Our activities range from organizing stakeholders to passing legislation.



## IMPLEMENTATION

We provide technical assistance to partners to ensure the effective implementation of policies we support.



## EVALUATION

We evaluate whether our supported policies worked as intended and gather evidence for new recommendations.

# OUR ISSUE AREAS

In FY23, our work will focus on public charter schools, access to quality early education with a focus on pre-K, and increasing effective teachers and leaders in Mississippi public schools.

## PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Our FY23 charter school work will focus on creating the conditions for high-quality seat growth, including supporting new school incubation, access to facilities, new talent pipelines, quality initiatives, and advocacy.

## EARLY EDUCATION

During FY23, we will shift our focus to ensuring quality in the collaborative program as it scales, protecting the gains we have made since 2013, and deepening our work in the 0-5 space through childcare research and advocacy.

## TEACHERS AND LEADERS

In FY23, we will release a series of briefs on our findings from our November 2021 teacher survey. We will also continue to support legislation that will increase access to quality teachers.

## FUTURE OF SCHOOLS

In April 2022, State Superintendent Carey Wright announced she will retire as of June 30, 2022. Mississippi First will publish a brief that identifies key characteristics that the next state chief needs to continue to make Mississippi first in education.