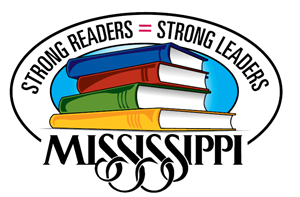
**MDE Parent Meeting about Improving Reading for K-3 Students Set for Thursday, March 5 in Oxford**



***School District Officials Encourage Parents and Families to Attend***

Mississippi Department of Education officials will host a March 5th regional parent meeting in Oxford to help north Mississippi parents learn ways to strengthen their children’s early literacy skills. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at the Oxford Conference Center located at 102 Ed Perry Boulevard in Oxford and is designed for parents of Kindergarten through third-grade students.

Union County School District officials encourage parents to attend because state education officials will provide an overview of the Mississippi Literacy-Based Promotion Act. The Literacy-Based Act focuses on prevention and intervention to help children develop the reading skills required for fourth grade. The legislation also requires that third-grade students who do not meet reading standards by the end of this school year will not be promoted to fourth grade.

Parents will learn strategies during the regional meeting that they can use at home to help their children improve their reading. No registration is required to attend.

For more information about the regional literacy parent meetings, contact Windy Faulkner or Sara Johnson at (662) 534-1960.