



LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS FOR FY 2020

Total: \$700,000

PRIORITY 1: ENHANCE THE ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAM \$100,000

We have been able to provide strong programs in almost all areas since the school has been in existence because of a strong faculty. In fact, for the past two years, we have been recognized as having the #1 faculty in the **nation** according to Niche. The one program we have been limited in growing is our Engineering and Computer Science program because of inadequate funding. We have worked with Mississippi State University to expand our course offerings in Engineering and Computer Science, with four courses offered as dual credit through Mississippi State University. However, we need funding to provide faculty for the current courses and to enhance our program even more. The money will also be used for equipment and supplies.

PRIORITY 2: INCREASE STUDENT ENROLLMENT \$500,000

Current funding is only adequate for 225 students. With a slight increase in the state allocation, MSMS would have the resources to increase enrollment to the 300-seat capacity. The funds would provide 4 additional faculty members, two additional staff positions, and additional commodities and services.

It is important to note that the MSMS state allocation is **\$400,000** less than 11 years ago: [FY 2008: \$4.9 million / FY 2018: \$4.5 million]

PRIORITY 3: EXPAND OUTREACH AND DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM: \$100,000

During the 2017-2018 school year, MSMS directly impacted ~6,500 students through various outreach activities and events such as Science Carnival, Traveling STEM Carnival, Math Superstars, Math Tournament, Middle School Science Bowl, and summer enrichment camps. We also received a USDA RUS Technology grant in 2015 and began providing distance learning courses in mathematics. To expand these efforts to impact additional students, more resources are needed.

PRIORITY 4: SECURE FUNDS FOR PREPLANNING OF NEW ADMINISTRATION/ACADEMIC BUILDINGBONDS TO IMPROVE OUTDATED FACILITIES

We currently are pre-planning for renovation of the residence halls. We also need funding for pre-planning of a new building for additional classrooms and faculty and administrative offices.