



**Parents for Public Schools
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Parents for Public Schools Begins Second Delta Parent Leadership Institute

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Parents for Public Schools (PPS), a national nonprofit based in Jackson, Mississippi, is working with 30 local parents to strengthen public schools in the Delta through an intensive three-month program called the Parent Leadership Institute.

“We are very excited to be working with these committed parents and building a community to support and improve our public schools,” said Anne Foster, National Executive Director of PPS. “Each one of these parents is going to be leading a volunteer effort in a local school that will increase student achievement and involve other parents for at least two years. Parents are key to making real progress in our schools and we’re supporting each of them in their effort.”

The Parent Leadership Institute (PLI) begins with six days of rigorous training over three months to build the capacity of parents to identify and take action on a specific data-driven academic project. The training sessions help parents use data to design projects that identify school needs and then implement a sustainable plan that involves other parents. Parents for Public Schools provides speakers from around the state on such topics as standardized tests, state accountability measures, and school board governance.

The first Delta Parent Leadership Institute was conducted in Clarksdale earlier this year. Another Institute is currently being held in Tupelo for Northeast Mississippi parents. The course builds off the success of the Jackson PPS chapter which implemented the first Parent Leadership Institute in Mississippi in 2004.

Classes began in Greenville on August 28 and continue this Friday and Saturday (September 25-26). PPS staff supporting the Institute in Greenville are Linda Coleman of Mound Bayou and Joann Mickens of Jackson. Training sessions are being held through October.

PPS is a national non-profit organization of community-based chapters working with public school parents and other supporters to improve and strengthen local public schools. Founded in Jackson in 1989, there are 17 PPS chapters in 11 states.

The non-profit has recently begun a statewide effort to strengthen Mississippi public schools and increase parental involvement. The program, *Schoolhouse to Statehouse*, has four parent coaches working in different regions of the state. Coaches organize parents, provide leadership training, and work with local school administrators, business and civic leaders to support and improve public schools.

Delta parents participating in the Institute being held in Greenville:

Parent	Hometown	School
LaShonda Campbell	Greenville	Boyd Elementary School
Lawrence Earl Carmicle	Mound Bayou	John F. Kennedy High School
Lillie J. Clark	Cleveland	H.M. Nailor Elementary School
Patsy Clerk	Cleveland	H.M. Nailor Elementary School
Samantha Clifton	Mound Bayou	I.T. Montgomery Elementary
Earlene J. Davis	Shaw	McEvans School
Lizzie Ducking	Rolling Fork	South Delta Elementary School
Lora R. Evans	Greenwood	Davis Elementary School
Carl Anthony Fleming	Yazoo City	Yazoo City High School
Mae Frances Games	Panther Burn	South Delta High School
Jacqueline Hampton	Anguilla	South Delta High School
Mary Hardy	Greenville	Solomon Middle School
Martha Harris	Anguilla	South Delta High School
Sabrina Howard	Hollandale	T.R. Sanders Elementary
Hazel Perryman-Johnson	Hollandale	T.R. Sanders Elementary
Dorothy Jones	Cleveland	H.M. Nailor Elementary School
Sherron Kirk	Greenville	Greenville High School
Bertha Lindsey	Rolling Fork	South Delta High School
Ramona Love	Arcola	T.R. Sanders Elementary
Gloria J. Moreland	Rolling Fork	South Delta High School
Joel A. Norvell	Mound Bayou	John F. Kennedy High School
Frank Richards	Isola	Humphrey Jr. High School
Diana Bell Sanders	Mound Bayou	John F. Kennedy High School
Deborah Sherman	Anguilla	South Delta Elementary
Annyesteen Thigpen	Rolling Fork	South Delta Schools
Jeyon L. Thompson	Greenville	Greenville Weston-High School
Earnestine Tucker	Mound Bayou	I.T. Montgomery Elementary
Jessie Tyler	Ruleville	Ruleville Central High
Keith Norris Williams	Greenville	Coleman Middle School
Patricia Ann Wright	Yazoo City	Yazoo City High School

For more information on Parents for Public Schools, contact the national office based in Jackson at 601-969-6936 or visit www.parents4publicschools.org.

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