## State board approves statewide assessment contract for New Science, U.S. History tests

The Mississippi Board of \$3.3 million statewide test-Education voted on Thurs- ing contract with Data Recday, may 17, to approve a ognition Corp (DRC) for

# **Constructing an Education**



The Holmes County Career and Technical Center's Construction Technology students designed and built a storage unit that was donated to local Holmes County farmer, Lillie Melton (pictured above left) of Hodges Farm and Livestock. This storage unit will be used to house Hodges electric fence battery. By being enclosed in this unit, the battery will be protected from weather elements and extend the life of the battery. The fencing is used to add an additional layer of protection Hodges produce and small of Education. "The goal livestock. The students implemented such skills as measuring, basic calculations, roof of these assessments is to pitch, using power and hand tools along with blueprint reading. James Smith (pictured provide useful information at right), Construction Technology Instructor, welcomes material donations throughout the school year, so that students will continue to put into practice the skills they meeting the learning targets are learning in his program. The Career and Technical Programs are open to incoming 10th and 11th graders during the 2018 School Year. (Courtesy photo)

the 2018-19 school year to administer 5th and 8th grade science assessments and the Biology I and U.S. History assessments for high school. The science tests are required by federal law.

DRC was selected from among five proposals submitted. DRC's contract may be renewed annually up to five years based on the successful completion of the preceding year's work.

The Mississippi Department of Education solicited competitive written proposals in February for 5th and 8th grade science assessments and Biology I and U.S. History assessments that are aligned to the new Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards (MC-CRS) for Science and Social Studies.

New Science standards were approved in 2017 and piloted in school districts in the 2017-18 school year. New Social Studies Standards will be piloted in the 2018-19 school year. As such, the U.S. History test for 2018-19 will be a hybrid of the current test and field test items. The fully revised U.S. History test will be used starting in 2019-20.

Academic standards are typically reviewed and updated every five to seven years.

"I appreciate the thoughtful process the evaluation team used to select the assessment vendor," said Rosemary Aultman, chair of the Mississippi State Board about how well students are that Mississippi teachers have designed."

The other vendors that sub- sured Progress, Inc., Questar mitted proposals are Mea- Assessment, Inc., and Scantsurement Incorporated, Mea- ron Corporation.

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#### **DURANT** NEWS by Rowena Hill

31, 2018

Jackson.

trip together during last now. Everyone is so busy. week.

has returned home from a We missed all that were abvisit with her daughter, mrs. sent in church Sunday. Hope BEth Momand and family in it wasn't because of illness Arkansas.

All are thankful Pat Burrell again. is recovering from a freak accident and recent time the family of Noel Wigley. spent in a Jackson hospital. Funeral services were last

Mr. and Mrs. William Henry was a good an and a good Hathcock remain in prayer; friend. all are interested in his improvement and extended Mr. and Mrs. Milton Hoover. hospital stay. All hope to get He spent time during last some good news. He and week not feeling well. We other former residents of this also missed them Sunday in town aren't well. Friends church. look forward to good news Love and best wishes to from all. May God give Mrs. Gale Sheppeard. She is healing to each. We love and to be married right away. We care about each and every miss her and hope she will one of vou.

Shirley and Sammy Hig- Gale. ginbotham of Clinton spent If you have news of Dutime Monday with me. I rant residents/former resiwent with them to drive Jay dents, please drop me a line to Central Hills for the week to 7144 Castalian Springs with his friends and others. Rd., Durant, MS 39063.

The many friends of Mr. Mrs. Ginny Land Hill and and Mrs. David Truitt are others spent time during thankful he is improving at the weekend in the home of home after recent surgery in Mrs. Bettie Land and Lamar. It was good to see them in Eddy Johnson and Ralph church again. Durant friends Moss enjoyed a nice long don't see them very often

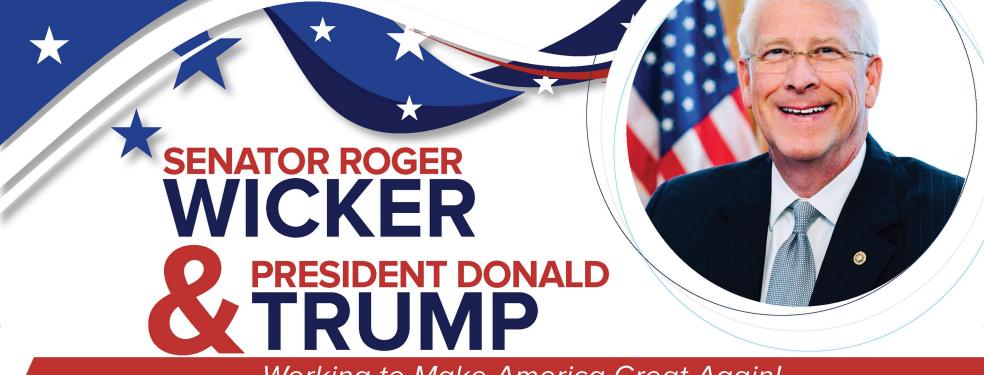
Prayers are for those in the Mrs. C.H. Blanton, Jr. community who aren't well. and we'll soon be together

Sympathy is extended to The many friends and of Thursday in Lexington. He

Love and prayers are for

be very happy. We love you

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