

***Holmes County**

(Continued from page 1.) has been rated as failing every year since 2016. School districts may be eligible for state takeover after two consecutive years of an 'F' rating, but Holmes County has so far escaped that fate.

Shella Head, president of the newly formed community engagement council for the school district, said at a board meeting she had concerns about how the board went about selecting the superintendent.

"There's nothing in her background to show she has supervised a school district, as in understanding the day-to-day operations, state and federal funding, test scores — all of the different variations you have to deal with to move a school district forward," Head said. "Holmes County is in a critical situation. We don't need on-the-job training ... We need somebody who knows what they're doing and has been proven to know what they're doing."

It's hard to say whether Powell improved students' academic performance at the two schools where she was principal in Missouri. The state underwent a change in testing in 2017, the year she left Vashon High School and started at Paseo, so results from 2017 are not comparable to the years prior and after.

According to 2019 school performance results for Paseo Academy of Fine and Performing Arts, the school did see improvements in certain academic areas such as English and science, and is on track to make improvements in math.

It received less positive scores for improvement in the area of college and career-readiness, which the state measures by percentage of graduates defined as college or career-ready; percentage of graduates that earned Advanced Placement or vocational credits; and percentage of graduates employed or furthering their education six months after graduation.

Before working as principal at Paseo, she served as principal from 2015 to 2017 at Vashon High School in St. Louis. In 2016, the school achieved a score of 50.5 points out of 140 possible points on its annual performance report. The data for 2017 for the school was incomplete.

Powell introduced herself at the school board's May meeting. "We (the superintendent

and board) are just six people. We will not move this district from 'F' status on up if you, the people, don't lock arms with us to join us in what we're going to be doing," said Powell. "I'm excited and I know that we can do it."

Winters is optimistic about the district's future with Powell.

"I do know when you're surrounded by positive people, you can get where you're trying to get," she said.



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Job Announcement:
Full time Maintenance Position Available at the Holmes County Department of Human Services located @ 22419 Depot Street, Lexington, MS 39095. All applications should be turned in by June 4, 2021 to be considered. Please check with the County Administrator's office for Job Description.

TIMBER SALE
 Holmes County Board of Supervisors is advertising for the sale of Timber In the Industrial Park off Hwy 12, in Durant, MS 39063. A description of the property and additional specifications can be obtained At the County Administration Office, 408 Ct Square, Lexington, MS 39095. For more information, please call – 662.834.0911. Sealed bids will be opened on June 14, 2021 @ 9am. Deadline to turn in bids is June 11, 2021.

Madison County Nursing Home
 The following positions are open at Madison County Nursing Home in Canton:
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 CNAs
 RN Supervisor
 Day Shift M-F
Also, starting new CNA class soon.
We offer competitive starting pay and a great benefit package including State Retirement.
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DEPUTY APPRAISER POSITION OPENING
 The Holmes County Tax Office is looking to hire a Deputy Appraiser. To qualify for this position you must be certified by the state. If interested, please submit a resume to:
Holmes County Tax Assessor/Collector Office
Linda Rollins
Court Square
Lexington, MS
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday thru Friday

IN A STEW

By Fred Piscop

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