

PURPOSE: To reduce the use of Reach.

INTRODUCED BY: Alexis Freeman and Sonora Foster

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

SECTION ONE (REASONINGS):

The use of Reach has already become a problem for many students. Students have been complaining about the use of Reach in several conversations around campus.

SECTION TWO (PROPOSED ACTION):

We are not opposed to the use of Reach, but we believe it should be limited to the use of blue cards only.

SECTION THREE (APPENDIX):

Response 1 (Dr. Easterling; Academic Director):

Q: What are your opinions on the use of reach?

A: "I think reach is an excellent platform for MSMS that we ought to make use of consistently.

Q: What do you think about completely getting rid of all the cards?

A: "I think that is one of the reasons we have begun using reach."

Q: What about for students who have parents that are working during the day when they are trying to leave?

A: "Might require some advanced planning, but I don't see that as an insurmountable obstacle."

Response 2 (Mrs. Zarandona; Math Faculty):

I think that using technology such as Reach is a good idea to implement into the residence halls, but I think a better platform should be used to accomplish this.

Response 3 (Micheal Cancallare; MSMS Parent):

"Not only is my name misspelled, I receive both emails, and if it was time critical I would miss the message because I only have time to check my email periodically."

Student Body Responses:

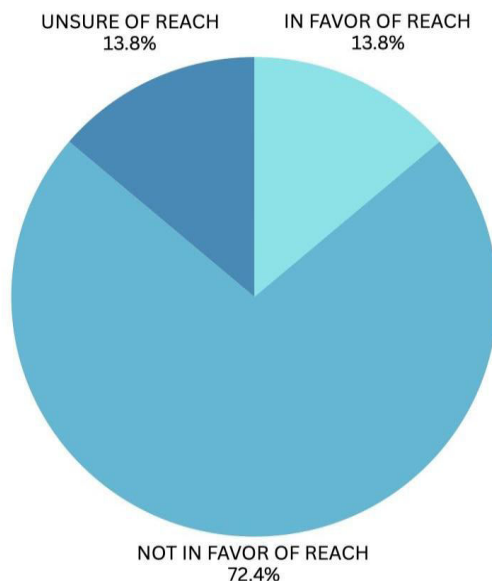
Participating Students Listed Below:

Juniors:

Ashton Wood, Avanthi Remata, Jeffrey Kong, Anthony Chen, Parker Worrell, Elissa Wang, Caden Purvis, Freddy Bridges, Daniel Hu, Kerrington Land, Jack Holliman, Cecelia Buhler, Angelina Tan, Zoe Williams, Rutwa Patel, Christian Trest, James Woodard.

Seniors:

Jazmyn Clark, Acyn Harrell, Trinity Martin, Anabelle Banda, Shaw Prewitt, Raymond Yang, Eduardo Gonzalez, Vanessa Espino, Grant Zhang, Colin Chung, Mirae Nishikawa, Sasha Harvey, Ainsley Dew.



Individual Responses:

Anthony Chen:

“Reach, the specific platform, sucks. Reach asks for a lot more information compared to the blue cards. It requires a parent to approve of a leave (or so I believe), which I dislike as my parents check their emails once in a blue moon. It asks for a specific returning time days before you return. It asks for the return mode of transport (this shouldn't even matter). I'm assuming the school will attempt to expand Reach and retire the orange and yellow cards. The request process is the exact same. This matters especially for orange card, where most things happen

spontaneously. It even requires you to give the name of who you're walking with, even if you're walking alone. The Reach app on iOS also sucks. The UI has buttons clipped by the curved corners of newer phones and system messages covered up by the same buttons. There are a few reviews on both the App and Play Store making similar complaints. If the school wants to continue without returning to physical cards, they need to adopt a new platform. Reach's competitor Orah isn't much better either if the idea of switching to them is thrown around (I checked).

Let me know when Reach gets discontinued.”

Raymond Yang:

“Having a simple, convenient technology for all sign-outs only makes sense.

This is where the problem lies. Many students are initially confused about how to use Reach, which is certainly not helped by its lackluster UI and awkward controls. Submitting a leave request can be so tedious, with redundant sections like the departure "Notes" field, that it takes significantly longer for both students and faculty to process requests. Hopefully both students and faculty can become more adjusted to using Reach so that it becomes a more efficient process.”

Mervyn Thankachan:

“I do not mind using reach as I believe it is more convenient to use your phone to sign out.

However, I would prefer not having to be required to get parent approval. By using the cards students can sign out as they please. When I submitted my leave request, my parents were having trouble locating the e-mail reach would send to allow them to approve of my leave. I had to make a new leave request, for them to finally receive the e-mail. Another thing I also don't like, is that reach basically requires you to make a sign out request 10 - 30 minutes in advance. If yellow cards were to be converted to reach, this would be a big problem. If I decided I wanted to eat at Zaxby's, I would have to wait longer than I would prefer just to have my leave approved. This would also be a problem if a student was to forget to make their leave request for a drive home, forcing them to have to stay on campus longer. Feel free to use my response in your bill, and good luck with it.”

Trinity Martin:

I think reach is a good form of checking out, to a certain extent. I don't understand why our parents have to approve every single request, especially if we have a list of people who we're approved to ride with. Also, what about the parents who work and don't have access to their phones. I think with a few tweaks, it could work out.

Vanessa Espino:

I understand how the use of reach could provide students and faculty with more safety. However, there was some difficulty in getting my mom to approve the email since she's constantly busy at work.

Christian Trest:

I support the use of reach. During the last extended weekend break, I found the use of reach easy, as I put in my request Wednesday and had it approved Thursday. Friday, I simply walked up to a Frazier hall director and checked out only using reach. No blue card.