

**PURPOSE:** To return the Mother's Day extended weekend.

**INTRODUCED BY:** Minh Nguyen

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

**SECTION ONE (REASONING):**

It is within the best interest of the MSMS community that the moveout at the end of the year is orderly and clean, especially to provide for neat rooms for the future students and the least stressful moving process as possible for exiting students. It has been the concern of many students, including prospective students, that there should be more time for students to move their belongings out. The implementation of an extended weekend on the Friday preceding the second Sunday of May (otherwise known as Mother's Day), would be the most appropriate solution because it would allow for cleaner rooms after the moveout, especially for students with many things in their rooms; it would make the final moveout day less stressful; and it would provide students with a needed break before final exams.

These benefits are true because of the following reasonable assumptions: many students moveout wholly in a single day; many students clean their room on the same day they moveout; most new students expect their rooms to be clean and clear of items/trash from the previous students; and final exams are exceptionally stressful, which strongly recommends time to decompress before then.

By allowing students to move out their excess belongings before the final moveout day, the room on the final day will end up being emptier. A clearer room gives a student an easier time cleaning their room, being able to see under the spaces where large boxes were, and around the once filled-out desk spaces. Additionally, there is a lower likelihood of belongings being left behind as there are less belongings to keep track of in the first place. Altogether, this allows for a cleaner room, which would be greatly appreciated by incoming students.

With exams over on the moveout day, if students had to worry about bringing less belongings home, their leave would go a lot more smoothly. Moving down large items and numerous belongings can be a lengthy, strenuous process that is helped by no one other than yourself and your parents. A preliminary moveout day would address this concern, limiting the number of items to bring out to the car.

Most importantly, the break itself would be very beneficial to the function of students before the week they have to review for, and subsequently take, their final exams. It goes unsaid that giving students more time for themselves will improve student happiness. However, this positioning of an extended weekend would give students to pursue their time at their freedom, whether with their family, for themselves, or to put in some extra studying right before some of the most stressful moment of their high school career.

To address potential concerns, this subsection will be dedicated to addressing some:

Why don't students clean the rooms on other days of the week?

Students are already expected to clean their rooms every week, but having a less filled-out room will allow students to clean their spaces much more effectively for the next group of students.

Why don't students move their stuff out over the prior weekends?

Some students have large items to carry with them and require the help of parents or others to assist them, so a specific preliminary moveout day would give them a reason to come down and remove unessential large items like mini-fridges. Moreover, it would be beneficial to have a day where it is encouraged for students to move some of their belongings out to give themselves and their roommates an easier time cleaning. Leaving students to their own enforcement is more likely to lead to a lengthy moveout day.

It would take time from class, violating Mississippi Code 37-13-63.

A solution is provided in Section Two. It describes adding an additional day at the end of the year, which would move the Friday exams to Monday and subsequent exams a day forward.

This year doesn't have time for the schedule to be changed.

These changes are to be implemented the next academic year as calendars now are set.

I moved out just fine last year even though I had a bunch of stuff with me.

Other students have experienced trouble on their moveout days independent of others. Additionally, making the final moveout much quicker would be beneficial to everyone, making moveouts even easier for those who don't have trouble and relieving the load for those who have it hard.

Wouldn't this encourage people to take the free time they do have and only clean as much as they did before this change?

Students shouldn't need any longer to clean their room than they originally would and would devote about the same amount of time or more as they do without the change. The concern is in the quality of their cleaning, and it is clear that students with a less filled-out room will be able to clean with higher quality.

## **SECTION TWO (PROPOSED ACTION):**

To establish an extended weekend for Mother's Day via allotting one Friday before the second Sunday of May as a Holiday/Extended Weekend on the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science Yearly School Calendar.

To accommodate the change of schedule and meet the legally required number of instructional days, it is recommended to add an extra day at the end of the year which would move the Friday exams to Monday and the following exams forward by one day.

These changes are to be applied for the next academic year.

### **SECTION THREE (APPENDIX):**

Response One (Mrs. LaToya Bledsoe, Residential Life Staff): [I believe she would like to make a statement on this resolution but has not had time to yet.]

Response Two (Anonymous, Student): “That seems like one of the most important weekends to spend at home; its Mother’s Day.”

Response Three (Anonymous, Student): “My parents like to take us all out for Mother’s Day, and it would be great to have more time for that.”

Response Four (Samuel Smith, Student): “...when I moved out last time, I struggled with getting all the stuff in my car... on the final day, especially cleaning... [the Mother’s Day extended weekend] it cuts out a lot of the hassle and makes everything a little smoother. Plus... a weekend before finals a lot of students are stressed...”