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PPS Civic Academy at Cleveland Church

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The important role of public education in securing and maintaining a strong Mississippi economy and the importance of full funding of the Mississippi Adequate Education Plan (MAEP) is the focus of Civic Academies (CAs) being hosted throughout the state by the National Office of Parents for Public Schools (PPS). The first of these meetings to inform and energize citizens in support of the public schools was held in Jasper County on May 2, with PPS Community Coordinator Becky Glover conducting the session.

The next session is on Monday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Crosstown Fellowship Church, 222 North Street, in Cleveland. PPS Community Coordinator Chiquikta Fountain will conduct the approximately hour and 15-minute meeting. Those attending will have an opportunity for group discussion and individual questions.

“These meetings are extremely important, as we talk about the future of Mississippi’s children, since approximately 90 percent of them attend the public schools,” said Joann Mickens, national executive director of PPS. “In reality, we’re also talking about Mississippi’s future, since these children will be the future leaders of our state. How well they are prepared rests on what we do now to give them the best education possible. This cannot be done without full funding of our public schools. It is important that we elect leaders who understand and support this.”

Mickens continued, “PPS was started in part because of the urgent need to raise this state’s commitment to its overall citizenry by supporting its public schools; a half-hearted commitment to the public schools results in a less secure future for all of us.”

Other civic academies will be scheduled throughout the state this summer.

For more information about Monday’s meeting, contact Chiquikta Fountain at 662-721-0613.

Parents for Public Schools is a national organization of community-based chapters working with public school parents and other supporters to improve and strengthen local public schools. Founded in 1989, there are 12 PPS chapters in nine states.

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