
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: BOYD
SUBJECT: RFP FOR CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE
DATE: MAY 11, 2000
CC: FILE

I have met with the Task Force's working group to answer questions regarding the direction and elements of the Request for Proposal. The RFP will seek a contractor or multiple contractors to provide 6,000 computers for purchase or lease during the FY 2001 (The manufacturer will be asked to provide a pricing structure for the purchase of 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000 computers). Additionally, the RFP will provide for the optional purchase of 3,000 computers by school district who wish to "piggy-back." Minimum specification for these computers will reflect the Task Force's recommendation for the Pentium III class (500 MHZ) option.

I have asked Jayne and John to assist in the review process to ensure that the RFP is written tightly. Attached you will find a copy of the proposed work plan timeline from ITS. This timeline fits within the overall timeline for the task force's year one goals (placing a computer in all wired classrooms).

Also find attached a copy of the advertisement announcing the RFP and a proposed email to notify task force members of the ad placement. ITS will also provide this RFP to the all Tier 1 and Tier 2 manufacturers (12 major manufacturers, including Howard Computers).

Robin Costa mentioned that Mike Moore is willing to assist you with Microsoft if you want his help. I reassured her that you have been talking with both Bill and Melinda Gates, and you might be amenable to Moore's assistance.

Proposed Email Notification to Task Force Members on May 15th:

Please be aware that RFP 3162 (Governor's Task Force for Classroom Technology) will be placed in the Clarion-Ledger on May 16th and 23rd as required by state law. The text of the ad reads as follows:

RFP 3162 due Thursday, June 15, 2000 @ 3:00 p.m. for the acquisition of 6,000 to 12,000 personal computers and related services to support Governor Musgrove's initiative of placing an Internet-accessible computer in every public elementary and secondary classroom in Mississippi by the end of 2002.

The State Department of Education, Information Technology Services, and the Governor's Office are working to ensure that the RFP is comprehensive and addresses the issues and concerns raised during the Task Force's last meeting, including (but not limited to):

- Leasing options;
- 3-year warranty with preferences for 5-year warranties; and,
- Tier-3 companies will have an opportunity to justify their abilities to compete for this project.

If you have any additional questions or comments regarding the RFP, please forward them to me as soon as possible.