

Kelly,

I have drafted a letter that needs the Gov.'s signature. I was told that we could submit the letter on Friday and get the Gov.s signature later. In round 1, 15 states received funding. We are seeking funding through Round 2.

The letter follows this email.

I am also including some info on the project. Thanks

Bill McHenry

INFORMATION. For the past three years, The Wallace Foundation has sponsored state initiatives in support of the overall goal of improving student achievement through improved leadership at all levels. Beginning in 2001, 15 states have received grants to create a State Action for Education Leadership Project (SAELP) team, develop and implement efforts that have included convening task forces, study commissions, and consortia. Early results have included white papers, legislative changes, and beginning collaborations on leadership policies and practices with districts in their states.

#### LETTER

Date:

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> To: The Wallace Foundation

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> On behalf of the state of Mississippi, I am writing to express  
> interest in applying for a SAELP II grant. Our team has  
> reviewed the requirements in the Request for Proposals. Our  
> state has the experience and interest to address the issues  
> described, and our preliminary judgment is that we will  
> to submit a proposal.

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> We have engaged in initial discussions with various partners,  
> and have secured their interest as well. In fact, some  
> members of the group participated in a leadership  
> development forum in Atlanta, December 4 - 5. In addition,  
> there will be a meeting of the partners on Monday, December  
> 15 to discuss leadership challenges faced by Mississippi  
> schools.

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> Among those we anticipate participating with this project are  
> the following:

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> Representaive Cecil Brown, Education Chair  
> Senator Alice Harden, Education Chair  
> David Potter, Commissioner, Mississippi Institutions of  
> Higher Learning,  
> Wayne Stonecypher, Executive director for the State Board  
> for community and Junior Colleges

> Henry Johnson, Superintendent, Mississippi Department of  
> Education (MDE)  
> Representative Cecil Brown, House Education Chair,  
> Mississippi Legislature  
> Senator Alice Hardin, Senate Education Chair, Mississippi  
> Legislature  
> William E. McHenry, Assistant Commissioner for Academic  
> and Student Affairs  
> Kelly Riley, the Governor™s Office  
> Pamela Felder, Director of Leadership Development, MDE  
> Susan Rucker Associate Superintendent, Office of Innovation  
> and School Improvement, MDE  
> The leaders of our public university education leadership  
> departments,  
> School district superintendents  
> Others

>  
> We agree to take the next two steps as outlined in the RFP.  
> We will have representatives at The Wallace Foundation  
> SAELP/LEAD Conference from January 28-31 in Tampa,  
> Florida and will submit an initial concept paper by January 16  
> to SAELP11@wallacefoundation.org.

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> I am designating William E. McHenry as our state™s contact  
> person. I understand that he will receive all  
> communications as the proposal process proceeds, including  
> information about the January conference. He can be  
> reached at the following telephone number and e-mail  
> address: Dr. William E. McHenry / 3825 Ridgewood Road /  
> Jackson, MS 39211 (telephone number: 601-432-6501).

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>  
> Sincerely,

>  
> Governor

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> >  
> > The Wallace Foundation: Supporting ideas. Sharing solutions.  
> Expanding  
> > opportunities.

> > William E. McHenry

Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning