
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: RENICK
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FALL 2002 EDUCATION MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES
DATE: 8/22/2002
CC: FILE

I've received information/invitations to attend several education conferences this fall. Below are the conferences and my recommendation as to each:

“Following the Leader” Summit, September 20 and 21, Washington, D.C.: Mississippi was one of six states awarded this grant by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE). Our office is the lead on this grant. We are to send a team of 5-7 reps to D.C. for this summit to discuss and plan for the project. USDE pays all expenses, so I recommend that I attend.

USDE’s No Child Left Behind conference, October 2-4, Orlando, FL: MDE has invited me to serve on the team that they are sending to this conference. MDE is picking up the expenses, but I don’t recommend that I attend as I think the ARC conference at the end of October would be more beneficial to our upcoming education work.

Southern Regional Education Board’s “Education Issues Facing 2003 Legislatures”, October 10 and 11, Atlanta: SREB will pay for my meals and lodging, but we would have to pay for my airfare to Atlanta. This meeting will include presentations by SREB staff, as well as round table discussions, on those areas identified as being of most concern to SREB states. We have not attended this meeting in the past, but I didn’t know if we wanted to, as the Governor is SREB chairman.

Southeastern Regional Vision for Education (SERVE) Policy Network Meeting, October 28-29, Atlanta: SERVE pays all travel costs, hotel accommodations and meals. The agenda will be determined through members’ responses to a needs assessment survey. I recommend that I don’t attend this meeting due to its overlapping with the ARC meeting below.

ARC Education and the Community: Fostering Mutual Support conference, October 29-30, Maryville, TN: According to information provided by Mabel earlier, ARC is to provide us with funds to cover my travel. The conference will focus on the role of education in economic development and the role of business in developing strong education systems. Given the Governor’s plans for education funding and our emphasis on economic development, I think this conference will prove beneficial.

So, I think my attendance at two meetings (FTL and ARC) would be beneficial and my expenses are to be covered. I need your input as to the SREB meeting (we’d have to cover airfare). Is it okay if I decline MDE’s invitation to the NCLB conference and the invitation from SERVE for its conference?