

Milken Educator Awards Luncheon  
Thursday, January 18, 2001  
11:30 a.m.  
Old Capitol Inn

(Message: Brief greetings to congratulate Milken winners and to “plug” the press conference agenda)

### **Talking Points**

- Good Morning
- This past October, I had the honor of announcing the 3 Milken Award winners at each of their schools
  - Carol Burton-Hernando Elementary
  - Sonja Boone-Kreole Elem. in Moss Point
  - Vivian Smith-MS School for the Deaf
- It was exciting for me to present this prestigious award to each of them.
  - The Milken Family Foundation’s National Educator Award is the nation’s largest teacher recognition program.
- We are here today to recognize and congratulate these 3 teachers, but also all teachers for their commitment to our children.

- They are working to improve the quality of learning for our students.
- Our teachers deserve our commitment also.
- This afternoon I will have a press conference to congratulate all 389 Mississippi teachers who have achieved National Board Certification.
- At that time, I will also urge Legislators to remove the 5% revenue growth condition on teacher pay raises.
- I want to show our teachers that we believe in them.
- It is in the best interest of everyone, but especially for our students, our children.
- Thank you for your commitment and dedication to education.