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OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FROM DR. JEANNE MIDDLETON-HAIRSTON FOR YOUR "OK" TO APPROACH AUBREY PATTERSON FOR CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF PRINCIPALS' INSTITUTE  
**DATE** 11/27/02  
**CC:** FILE

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Dr. Jeanne Middleton-Hairston, one of your appointees to SREB, has forwarded me information regarding the Millsaps College Principals' Institute. The Institute was founded in 1992 after 5 principals who had attended similar programs at the Harvard Principals' Center approached Millsaps with the idea to start an institute here to improve schools in the region. BellSouth, Mississippi Power and the Hardin Foundation provided charter grants and the Advisory Board, comprised almost entirely of principals, met in December 1992.

The first Summer Institute was held in July 1993 and almost 300 principals/assistant principals have attended since then. The week-long Institute provides personal and professional growth opportunities for principals and assistant principals of public, private and parochial schools. The Institute is a partnership between Millsaps and the K-16 education community to strengthen education in Mississippi. Through collaboration with MDE, participants receive professional development credits.

The Institute is holding a statewide forum in September 2003 to focus on principalship. The day will create an opportunity for state policy-makers, principals, the higher education community, and business leaders to collaborate on ways to better prepare and retain excellent school leaders. This initiative is aligned with Goal 3 of the Higher Ed Summit report: *Mississippi will substantially boost the quality of teaching and learning in all elementary and secondary schools to better prepare more graduates who are ready to compete in the new economy.*

Jeanne has asked me to share the above information with you because she would like your "ok" to approach Aubrey Patterson for corporate sponsorship of the September 2003 statewide symposium. She wants to approach him due to his co-chairing the Summit with you.

I think it is a worthy endeavor and I know that MDE, both the Teacher Center and the Office of Leadership, think highly of the Millsaps Institute. Jeanne will be at the SREB Executive Committee meeting in Atlanta this Sunday and Monday. We can discuss this further on the plane if you need additional info. Thanks.