
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH GOVERNORS PATTON & WISE AT SGA: TRI-STATE VIRTUAL LEARNING PROPOSAL FUNDED BY ARC DOLLARS
DATE 9/7/01
CC: BOYD

MDE and Mabel Murphree are proposing this initiative between Mississippi, Kentucky and West Virginia utilizing Governor Patton's discretionary ARC Co-chairman's funds.

Vision: Students and educators will have access to an online learning community that will provide educational opportunities to expand the boundaries of the traditional classroom through web-based delivered courses and instructional support.

Goal: To develop and implement quality online courses and modules for the Kentucky Virtual High School, West Virginia Virtual School, and Mississippi Online Learning Institute which provides students and educators with quality web-based curricula.

Key Elements: The primary purpose is to assure equitable access to a variety of learning opportunities for students in these 3 states with emphasis on curricular areas needed to ensure that all students can meet the learning standards in their state.

Course Development should include but not be limited to:

- modules to remediate those who fail or are in danger of failing the state subject area tests
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Foreign Languages
- Basic Literacy Coursework in Math and Reading

A variety of students from the highly gifted to the disadvantaged can benefit from online courses. The Tri-State Virtual Learning will enable public schools to support:

- Students that are unsuccessful in the traditional classroom setting
- Students that are unable to attend school for medical or other reasons
- Student that are enrolled in a vocational certification program
- Student that need intervention or accommodations or are in alternative schools

A Tri-State Cooperative would provide:

- reduction in both time and cost for the course development
- networking among the three states to provide support for this virtual environment
- opportunities to leverage resources, which could increase bargaining power with vendors