
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: DONNA'S COMMENTS ON EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES' FUNDS FOR
TEACHER QUALITY WORKSHOP
DATE: 6/12/2000
CC: BOYD
FILE

As directed by you, I have discussed ECS's letter regarding funds available for addressing the issue of teacher quality via 25 policy workshops with Donna and she has reviewed their documentation. She inquired as to the estimated cost to the state, whether we could use private funds for such costs, and the Department of Education's opinion on a workshop. Donna said that other than these questions, she thought ECS's offer was a good opportunity to highlight accountability.

The State would incur costs related to a site, meals, invitations/postage and duplication of workshop materials if we chose to co-host this workshop. However, Dr. Michael Allen, ECS Project Director, said that we could certainly use private funds to pay for these costs. On the recent Teacher Quality Enhancement grant application, we budgeted \$10,000 (\$6,000 cash and \$4,000 in-kind services) for a two-day summit. IHL personnel anticipated that the Hardin Foundation would be very supportive of providing funds for such a summit.

As to the Department of Education's position on this offer, Steve Williams stated that they would certainly support such a workshop. He said that teacher quality is one of the most critical issues associated with the new accountability plan.

I have attached my original memo to you on this matter for your reference. **Should you wish to co-host a workshop, your signature is required on the attached letter.**

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES (ECS): FUNDS FOR TEACHER QUALITY WORKSHOP
DATE: 6/12/2000
CC: BOYD
FILE

As directed by you, I have reviewed ECS's letter regarding funds available for addressing the issue of teacher quality via 25 policy workshops. The workshops are designed to bring key state policymakers, education leaders, and other important stakeholders together to gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved and to build a consensus on the steps Mississippi needs to take to move further. A few points related to the workshops:

- ECS will work with us to develop the workshop curriculum, but suggests that at least part of the workshop focus on the issue of securing teachers for our critical needs districts.
- ECS will provide staff assistance in organizing and facilitating the workshop and will cover the cost of bringing up to 2 outside experts to participate. ECS will also assist us to design a media strategy for the workshop. As a follow-up to the workshop, ECS will provide no-cost technical assistance upon request.
- You would be responsible for: 1) sending a letter to ECS indicating a desire to co-host a workshop with ECS and designating an official contact person for the event (see attached); 2) attending the workshop and convening the workshop planning team; 3) determining the list of participants, and 4) insuring that the state assumes modest financial and logistical obligations, including finding an appropriate venue, arranging meals, reimbursing expenses for state participants, sending out invitations, and paying for duplication of workshop materials.

The Teacher Quality Enhancement grant proposal that we submitted this morning, contingent upon funding, provides for you to host a summit on this exact topic. These ECS funds would cover the cost of outside speakers and would provide technical assistance for such a summit/workshop.

Your signature is required on the attached letter to ECS indicating your desire to co-host a workshop. I have designated myself as the official contact person for the event.
