
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYO
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: EDUCATION WEEK'S *E-DEFINING EDUCATION*: MISSISSIPPI PROFILE
DATE 5/8/02
CC: BOYD
KINNEY

I just received an embargoed Education Week special edition entitled *E-Defining Education*. The copy is embargoed until midnight tonight. The special edition focuses on how virtual schools and online instruction are transforming learning and teaching.

I've attached a copy of Mississippi's profile given in the magazine. It could be more favorable of the Computers in the Classroom Initiative. The special edition is based upon a survey of State Technology Coordinators (Helen Soule just left the Department of Education).

Education Week cited Mississippi as:

- 1 of 32 states that has an e-learning initiative (online assessment, virtual schools, or training for online educators) underway in 2002
- 1 of 13 states that regulates non-state-sponsored e-learning initiatives (regulation includes requiring that programs meet state standards or that online teachers are certified)
- 1 of 8 states that provides incentives for both teachers and administrators to use technology.

If we get any press inquiries about this, I think we should focus on the Computers in the Classroom Initiative and that, despite tougher fiscal conditions, we are helping students get access to computers in schools. The national student-to-instructional computer ratio is now about 4-to-1, with Mississippi's ratio being about 6-to-1.

Let me know if you need anything else.