
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM BOARD MEETING
DATE: 8/7/03
CC: FILE

I attended the Public Education Forum's Board of Directors' meeting this past Monday on your behalf. It was a typical meeting, but I thought I'd pass along the following:

1. *Blueprint Mississippi*: Blake Wilson briefed the Board on this MEC initiative that he described as a private sector study to advance Mississippi. Blake said that the study will build upon the research, data and recommendations of other recent studies (such as the Higher Ed Summit and Rep. McCoy's current study he has the universities working on) to provide one comprehensive road map. MEC is spending \$500,000 on *Blueprint Mississippi*. The Herrin Foundation has provided \$236,000 that must be used for the research component. MEC will solicit the remaining \$264,000 from private companies. The 18-month study will have 3 components:
 - Economic Development (Mike Garrett, chair)
 - Education (Aubrey Patterson, chair)
 - Business Climate (John McCullouch, chair)

2. Remaining Computers in Classroom Funds: MEC had a \$16,785 balance in its Computers in the Classroom fund. The Board voted to use these funds to purchase additional computers for Barksdale Reading Institute schools. The Board was very complimentary of the Computers in the Classroom Initiative, although they heaped all praise on Carolyn Shanks (which she did do a great job) and didn't recognize your leadership.