
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON NATIONAL EDUCATION PANELS
DATE 1/8/01
CC: SIMMONS

Donna recently received e-mail from Lynn Mitchell in Governor Glendening's office in Maryland inquiring as to your interest in serving on the Achieve panel. Achieve, Inc., is an independent, bipartisan, not-for-profit organization formed in 1996 by governors and corporate CEOs who shared a powerful belief that:

**...high academic standards, demanding tests to measure those standards,
and accountability for performance can push our schools and students to
much higher achievement.**

I've provided a summary of current Achieve initiatives on page 2 of this memo. The Achieve Panel is currently comprised of six governors:

Thompson
Hunt
Davis
Engler
Leavitt
Locke

Governors Thompson, Hunt and Leavitt are leaving, which leaves 2 Republican slots and 1 Democrat slot open. Achieve's Bylaws require that no more than 3 governors be from the same political party. The Bylaws also require that NGA's leadership recommend replacements for vacancies.

Lynn also said that the National Education Goals Panel might be an option for you. It is an independent executive branch agency of the federal government charged with monitoring national and state progress towards the National Goals. The Panel received 40% of its funding for FY 01 with the requirement to reevaluate its goals. 8 governors (3 Democrats, 5 Republicans) currently serve on the Panel.

Based on this information, I would advise that Achieve presents itself as offering more opportunities for you to serve and to make a difference.

Please advise as to if you would be interested in serving on either of these panels so that I may let Donna know and we may start looking closer at these options. Thank you.

Achieve Initiatives

- **Benchmarking Initiative**
Achieve assists states in benchmarking their academic standards, assessments, and accountability policies against the best in the nation and the world.
- **Mathematics Achievement Partnership**
Achieve is leading an 11-state effort to improve mathematics achievement in the middle grades.
- **Standards Database**
Achieve's database serves as a national clearinghouse on state and international standards.
- **1999 National Education Summit**
At the 1999 National Education Summit, governors, business leaders and educators agreed on a set of specific commitments aimed at raising academic standards and performance in every American classroom.
- **Public Leadership**
Achieve provides sustained public leadership and advocacy for the movement to raise standards and improve student performance in a variety of ways