
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE MISSISSIPPI MATH AND SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP
DATE 4/30/02
CC: FILE

Dr. Charles Alexander of the Delta Rural Systemic Initiative at Ole Miss has requested the attached letter of support for the Initiative's Mississippi Math and Science Partnership. He is especially requesting this letter due to your role as Chairman-elect of the Southern Growth Policies Board, as the Board's Southern Technology Council is going to partner with the Mississippi Math and Science Partnership to convene a technology forum for the Delta.

The MSP will serve the most challenged school districts in the Delta, as identified by the Critical Needs Shortage areas and by the Delta Rural Systemic Initiative. The Initiative has partnered with several entities, including the Delta Regional Authority, the MS Department of Education, NASA, the Foundation for the Mid-South, SERVE (Southeast Regional Vision for Education), the MS Technology Alliance, Delta State, Ole Miss and Valley State.

The Partnership has 5 overall goals:

1. Enhance the capacity of partner schools to provide a challenging curriculum and to encourage students to participate in math and science courses
2. Increase and sustain the number, quality and diversity of K-12 math and science teachers in the partner school districts
3. Contribute to the national capacity to engage in large-scale reform through participation in a network of researchers and practitioners
4. Engage the learning community in the knowledge base being developed in current and future National Science Foundation Centers for Learning and Teaching, as well as Science of Learning Centers
5. Enhance the capacity of the MSP partners to bring about immediate and long-term gains in science and math achievement of all pre-K through 12 students.

The MSP fits nicely with the goal of the Higher Ed Summit to increase the number of college graduates in critical career fields such as science, math and engineering.

Please either sign the letter or mark any changes that you would like made.