

- Story of Jordan / 15-point buck / priorities
- Priorities for MS / jobs, security, health care, and education.
- Determined to make a difference in the educational system of this state
  - Teacher pay from 49<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> / many of you here going into education
    - Making commitment today for your career tomorrow
  - Computers in the Classroom / NGA says first in nation / difference between being wired and being connected
  - MS one of six states for “Following the Leaders” / No Child Left Behind
  - Leadership Summit / six priorities from early childhood to adult learning
- Keeping education a priority with a budget that puts Schools First / 62 percent
- Budget fully funds the teacher pay raise, restores the MAEP to FY04 funding level, and replaces one time money put into adequate education.
- Brain trust focuses on stopping flow of best and brightest out of MS
  - 10 year commitment of \$200M matched by universities and colleges
  - Build MS’s intellectual capacity / research capabilities
  - Grants for graduate assistants to stay in MS / cultivate teachers
  - More momentum for economic development
- *We’ve invested hundreds of millions of dollars in buildings*
  - *Time to invest in people.*
- Creating jobs is trademark of administration
  - Building a future through quality education is personal passion
- Commitment is focused, but aim is broad
- *Bottom line: We shortchange education, we shortchange our future*