

SREB Meeting
Tuesday, June 20
Greenbriar
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

The agenda is calls for Dick Riley to comment on the SREB's 2000 Benchmark report (20-25 minutes) you will follow Riley (no more than 10 minutes). A delegate that served with Riley will make a few comments after you, and then they will have a roundtable discussion. Looking at the 12 educational goals that were set during the 1988 meeting, teacher's salaries was one of the goals. Note that technology was not a goal, but that was because people did not know that technology would advance so quickly as to be a factor in 2000. They have asked that you touch on the goals and focus a good bit on teacher pay. I think it is important to talk about MS advancements in technology because it was not in their goals and they have now developed an Educational Technology Cooperative.

Opening

1. Good Morning
2. What a pleasure it is...
3. Recognize and thank Dick Riley
4. First Grade Story

Main Points

1. Goals set by the Southern Regional Educational Board
 - a. Governor Winter (spoke in 1985)
 - i. Original purpose of SREB legitimate for that time
 - ii. Took a report given by Buddy McKay, a former member of the Florida State Senate and the U.S. Congress, and used the report as somewhat of a Bible to

focus Mississippi's attention on the areas of our state's need.

b. For the SREB goals to have been written in 1988, they are both

- i. Comprehensive
- ii. Forward thinking

One goal of the SREB is – Salaries for teachers and faculty will be competitive in the marketplace, will reach important benchmarks and will be linked to performance measures and standards.

This year, Mississippi ranked 3rd in among all 50 states for the number of teachers achieving their National Board Certification, and we are rewarding our teachers for their efforts and successes.

When I was in the MS Senate, Lt. Governor, campaigning for Governor, and now as Governor I have pushed for raising teacher pay in our state.

2. The most critical issue facing the people of the State of Mississippi was Raising Teacher Pay to the Southeastern average.

- a. We have just this past legislative session passed an historic bill
 - i. Teacher Pay Raise Bill
 - ii. Tacked on to an Accountability Bill
- b. Needed to recruit more students into the field of teaching
- c. Needed to keep teachers in Mississippi vs. leaving for jobs in surrounding states
- d. We will raise our teachers' salaries to the Southeastern Average in a 6-year pay plan.
- e. Committed to making education a priority for Mississippi

3. Technology has moved so quickly. (The number of web-sites now vs. 1993)

- a. Classroom Technology
 - i. Task force – Internet-accessible computer – 2002
 - ii. Task force members from public and private sector
 - 1. Pittman – AOL
 - 2. John Lovorn – The PACE Group
- b. Magnolia
 - i. Mississippi had the first statewide library system to be inner-connected.

- ii. Opens up access from university and college libraries to every public library in the state.

c. Gates Foundation Grant

- i. Supports the development of a technology academy for school leaders
- ii. Only 1 of 7 states to receive this grant
- iii. Teachers learning cutting edge information so they can share their technological skills with their students

d. Mississippi History On-line

- i. Adopts the textbook into the computer
- ii. Teachers can use it in their teaching of MS History
- iii. Because it is on the computer
 - 1. Keeps it fresh and interesting
 - 2. Students are more adept at learning through the computer than adults

e. Partnership of MS Historical Society and Department of Ed.

f. Implemented 1999-2000 school year

g. Potential model for teaching other courses or for distance learning

4. Good Education = Good Jobs

- a. The workforce of tomorrow will be filled by the students of today
- b. Giving them the tools they will need to provide a good quality of life for themselves and for their families.
- c. Direct positive tie-in between economic development in the state.

Closing

1. SREB goals are extensive, and the states that are members have made much progress with moving their states forward with education.
2. We are developing new partnerships with education, government, business and industry in an effort to make improvements to our educational system.
3. With those partnerships, we are having successes because together we have set unprecedented goals, and together we will make unparalleled progress.
4. We are finding solutions that work for the people of Mississippi