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by governor.state.ms.us; Wed, 16 Jan 2002 12:12:18 -0600
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mercury.its.state.ms.us (Netscape Messaging Server 4.15) with
SMTP id GQ1MGT00.R7P for <governor@governor.state.ms.us>; Wed,
16 Jan 2002 12:10:05 -0600
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Received: by Aquarius2.ecs.org (Lotus SMTP MTA v4.6.1 (569.2 2-6-1998)) id 87256B43.
0054464A ; Wed, 16 Jan 2002 08:20:30 -0700
X-Lotus-FromDomain: ECS
From: "ECS e-Connection" <e-connection@ecs.org>
To: "Hon. Ronnie Musgrove" <governor@governor.state.ms.us>
Message-ID: <87256B43.005387C5.00@Aquarius2.ecs.org>
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* Welcome to the "e-Connection" from the *
* EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES, *
* a weekly publication with links *
* to key education information. *
* *
* <http://www.ecs.org/ecs/e-connection> *
* *

WHAT STATES ARE DOING

The start of the new year means it is time for most
governors to deliver their STATE-OF-THE-STATE addresses.
Summaries of the governors' education priorities will
appear on our Web site, starting with ALABAMA, CALIFORNIA,
COLORADO, IDAHO, KENTUCKY, MINNESOTA, NEW YORK, VERMONT and
WEST VIRGINIA. Check back often for summaries on additional
states.
<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#ws>

Five states and four national education groups have
launched a two-year, \$2.4 million initiative, the
American Diploma Project, focused on the quality of
HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMS and their effects on students.
The states are INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MASSACHUSETTS, NEVADA
and TEXAS. Details of the project are available through
Achieve, one of the four sponsoring organizations.
<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#ws>

GOOD READS

A six-and-one-half year study by the Urban Institute
has found that the Pathways to Teaching Careers TEACHER
PREPARATION PROGRAM produces candidates likelier to
teach effectively and remain in the profession longer than
typically trained beginning teachers. The model,
developed with support from the Wallace-Reader's Digest
Funds, is an effective, affordable way to increase both

the size and diversity of the teaching force, the report said.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#gr>

At a time when high schools must be pathways to college for all students, they are pathways to nowhere for many. TRANSFORMING THE AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL identifies systemic policy issues and change strategies necessary to respond to this emerging crisis on a large scale and in the fastest possible timeframe.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#gr>

The recently reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires states to administer annual ASSESSMENTS in reading and math for grades 3-8 as one method of improving student performance. A report from the Consortium for Policy Research in Education, however, suggests that rising scores on annual state assessments in Texas have had at best a small effect on important education outcomes such as high school completion and the likelihood of attending college.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#gr>

The ERIC Clearinghouse on Educational Management has added up-to-date analysis of SOCIAL TRENDS, including racial/ethnic diversity, linguistic diversity, family patterns, poverty, homelessness, teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol usage, and other topics.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#gr>

ECS NEWS

ECS is developing a series of activities and products to help state policymakers understand and move forward on the new federal ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA). We'll provide an update on where states stand in regard to ESEA requirements, analyze the key issues, and provide conferences and technical assistance.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#en>

Two new ECS COMMISSIONERS have been appointed from Missouri. They are: CHRISTINE L. GUINHER, teacher and curriculum and instruction facilitator in the Francis Howell School District in St. Charles; and JOHN A. MARTIN, superintendent of Consolidated School District No. 4 in Grandview.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#en>

NEW ECS PUBLICATIONS

A new ECS StateNote describes the various approaches to funding ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE programs in seven randomly selected states. The states include: California, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Texas.

<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#ep>

NAMES IN THE NEWS

The U.S. Department of Education announced that MARY JANE T. PEARSON will serve as the secretary's regional representative for Region IX. Region IX includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa,

Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#nn>

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

The NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES' School Finance Seminar, "Funding Education in a Changing Economy" will take place February 15-17 in Palm Springs, California. The meeting features sessions for both veterans and newcomers to school finance issues.
<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#um>

OTHER USEFUL WEB SITES

The National Center for Education Statistics' Education FINANCE STATISTICS CENTER allows users to compare the financial and demographic characteristics of a single school district with a set of its peers. This site has been updated with 1997-98 information, the latest available.
<http://www.ecs.org/html/newsMedia/e-Connection.asp#ow>

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