

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Joins Students, Teachers in Raising “Following the Leaders” Flag in Water Valley

(Water Valley, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today joined with students, teachers and educators at Water Valley High School to raise the “Following the Leaders” flag at the school. Water Valley is the first school in the nation to raise this flag, signaling its commitment to educational excellence and the state’s leadership in education.

“We’re here today because of these young people, because of their promise and potential, and because of our commitment to helping them make the most of their talents,” Musgrove said.

Last month, Mississippi was selected as one of six states to participate in the first phase of the “Following the Leaders” project, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Water Valley High School is one of only 15 schools in the state to participate. The project focuses on helping states implement the mandates of the recent “No Child Left Behind” legislation recently passed by Congress.

Musgrove was joined by Water Valley Mayor Larry Hart; Dr. Anne Hancock, Regional Representative of the U.S. Department of Education; Dr. Ron Love, Mississippi Department of Education; Dr. Sammy Higdon, Jr., District Superintendent; Cliff Craven, Principal of Water Valley High School; and Dr. Billie Orr, President of the Education Leaders Council.

“Mississippi is making a difference. We’re leading, not following. We’re carving a new path, not following an old trail. In our children, we’re sending a strong message to a time that we may not see – a message of hope, of promise, of skill, of ability,” said Musgrove. “It’s a message the rest of the nation is looking to Mississippi to send, and we’re going to do just that.”

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