

- The first order of business is to put our **schools first**, because we know that communities with **good public schools attract good jobs**.
- My first priority is **protecting education** and Mississippi's future.
- My budget invests 62 percent of the general fund in education. This **enhances our future; anything less shortchanges it**. I'm **fighting** to increase funding for education and the people of Mississippi need you to **join the fight with me**. The beaten path is not always the best. The status quo is simply not good enough.
- **Let's prove** to the people of Mississippi we care about our schools. **Let's prove** to them that when it comes to education, we mean business – and business means jobs.
- Rural areas of this state have been hit hard by NAFTA. In fact they've been hit the hardest. We **smart and aggressive** in creating jobs.