

TALKING POINTS FOR EDUCATION FUNDING BILL

- Story of Jordan / 15-point buck / priorities
- Priorities for MS / jobs and education.
- Meeting these priorities not always easy, especially in the face of a national recession that has caused budget cuts for almost every state in the nation.
- We are making a difference
 - Teacher pay from 49th to 19th
 - Computers in the Classroom / NGA says first in nation / MS “at head of wave of technological innovation”
 - MS one of six states for “Following the Leaders” / No Child Left Behind
 - Leadership Summit / six priorities from early childhood to adult learning
 - Princeton Review - #6 best testing in the nation

- In my State of the State, I ask the legislature to fund education first and they have answered my call.

- Keeping education a priority with a budget that puts Schools First / 62 percent
 - *THANK THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE FOR JOINING ME IN THE FIGHT TO PROTECT OUR SCHOOLS.*
 - *HISTORIC ACTION THAT HAS BEEN TAKEN*
 - *UNPRECEDENTED COOPERATION*
 - *FULLY FUNDING MAEP FOR THE FIRST TIME*
 - *FUNDS TEACHER PAY RAISE*
 - *FUNDS JR. AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES (WORK FORCE TRAINING)*
 - *FUNDS UNIVERSITIES AND PREVENTS TUITION INCREASES*

- Creating jobs is trademark of administration
 - Building a future through quality education is personal passion

- Good Schools lead to Good Jobs which builds Good Communities
- Commitment is focused, but aim is broad
- *Bottom line:*
 - *Today, we did not shortchange education*
 - *Today, we did not shortchange our future*
 - *Today, we proved to the world that Mississippi truly does put its SHCOOLS FIRST*
- There are a lot of ideas that people said we couldn't do here in MS:
 - Raise teacher pay
 - Put computers in every classroom
 - Land a \$1.5 billion auto plant
- We've been surprising a lot of people lately / MS setting the standard
 - Refusing to settle for the status quo

- Will Rogers: Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there
 - MS not sitting still