
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: BOYD
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FEDERAL RESPONSES FOR COMPUTER TASK FORCE FUNDS
DATE 5/16/00
CC: SIMMONS

I spoke to Ann Queen (202/205-8285), USDE's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services' Grants & Contracts Services Team Director this morning. I explained the Governor's classroom technology initiative and the fact that our survey of classrooms found that the School for the Blind needs 24 computers in order to have a computer in every classroom and that the school's current computers run about \$3,000 (\$72,000 for 24 computers). I inquired as to any funds (grants or other sources) the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services might have to assist us in placing these computers in the classrooms.

Queen said that the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services typically only provides funds for demonstration projects and that they do not have any funds designated for buying computers or technology in the classrooms. She said that we actually need to start at the state level because the federal government doesn't generally provide funds for computers due to their obsolescence in a few years. She suggested that I contact the state rehab agency (MDRS) as to their technologies for the blind.

I have a call into Ms. BJ Johnson of the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Labor Raymond Bramucci's office (202/693-2700) referred me to their grant coordinator, Jan Perry (202/219-7300). Ms. Perry was out of the office, so the assistant gave me Ms. Johnson's voice mail.