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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**  
**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** BOYD  
**SUBJECT:** CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE UPDATE  
**DATE:** JULY 20, 2000  
**CC:** FILE

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Per your agreement, I have scheduled a 90-minute meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> in the Large Conference Room (Sillers) for the Classroom Technology Task Force Meeting. In this meeting, I will brief the task force on the evaluation process and present the recommendations of the evaluation team (30 minutes max).

I would like to discuss the recommendation in more detail upon the conclusion of the evaluation process (July 27<sup>th</sup> following your speech at Neshoba, or August 7<sup>th</sup> following your speech at SLC). Currently, GCSI, Inc., (Seattle, WA) has the lowest and best bid with Inacom (Jackson, MS) and Bull Computing (AL) following, respectively. However, the references are incomplete, and Howard and I will begin reviewing the scoring Monday.

FYI: As \$2 million will be spent on the lowest and best bidder, the task force may have the discretion to spend the remaining \$4 million on any other vendor (see Foundation below).

#### FUNDRAISING

I have mailed notification to the task force members today of the meeting in on August 11<sup>th</sup>. I have also contacted Larry Ellison's Office to set up a 10-minute phone call for you and him to discuss a donation to the Task Force. Some biographical information is attached. Ellison has a subsidiary (The New Internet Computer: \$199) which is scaled down version of a desktop computer—it provides access to web pages and emails, but does not support word processing or other application. This computer would be a more affordable computer for classrooms and offer more opportunities for student use. His assistant will contact me regarding an appointment.

I have also attempted to speak with David Pingree, Unisys Corp., who was Governor Bob Graham's Chief of Staff (FL). Eric Schnurer, Consultant, forwarded his name onto me noting that Pingree was impressed with you.

#### FOUNDATION

Please continue to obtain commitments for the private financing of the 6,000-computer purchase. I have spoken with Blake Wilson regarding the accounting and management of the funds for the purchase. DECD will grant \$2 million as provided in its appropriations bill to the Task Force designee (MEC). Wilson has agreed to the basic tenants of the plan (1) the public funds will be maintained in a separate account from the private funds; (2) MEC will not charge an administration fee for the accounts; (3) MEC will maintain all records and provide an annual accounting report of

the funds; (4) MEC will turn the records over to the Governor's Office upon completion of the Task Force. Jayne is currently reviewing a draft commitment letter from DECD to MEC.