OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE

FROM: MICHAEL BOYD, POLICY & PLANNING DIR.

SUBJECT: CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE

DATE: MAY 22, 2000

CC: FILE

The Request for Proposals is due to be released tomorrow (5/23). All items requested by the task force have been included in the RFP (e.g., minimum specifications, leasing option, and add-on options). However, I need some guidance from you on the following questions:

QUESTIONS

- 1. How do you want to handle the contract? Do you want to sign the contract agreement with David Litchliter? [The RFP was written with the Governor's Office and ITS as the contracting entity. This can be changed in the final contract.]
- 2. How do you want to handle the \$2 million at DECD? I would suggest granting this money to the MEC Foundation of the Public Education Forum with the later development of a separate 501(c)3 foundation dedicated to the continual improvement of classroom technology.
- 3. Do you want Mike Larsen involved and to what extent, if any? Mike Larsen has requested to be involved with the Task Force as DECD has the state's portion of funding. I am cautious of his involvement. He attempted to interfere with the publication of the Tourism Guide in January, and I fear that he will be a stumbling block in this process. I have spoken with both John Gilbert and Donna Simmons about Larsen's involvement—they also expressed concerns about his involvement.
- 4. How do you want to handle the AOL/ITS conflict? ITS is concerned about losing erate funding for the backbone infrastructure. Basically, ITS secures 50% (\$2 million) of the backbone's funding from e-rate. If AOL becomes the provider for schools, ITS will no longer have access to e-rate funding; thereby losing \$2 million for the ITS backbone.

Please respond to these questions ASAP (practical). 359-2971 or 888-857-5785 (pager).