

October 11, 2002

Dr. Henry Johnson  
State Superintendent of Education  
Mississippi Department of Education  
P.O. Box 771  
Jackson, MS 39205-0771

Dear Dr. Johnson:

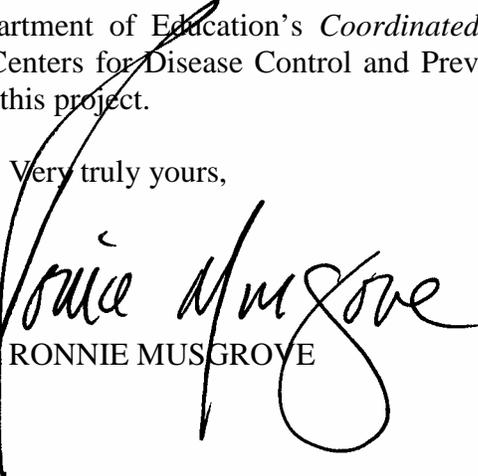
I am pleased to offer my support to the Mississippi Department of Education's *Coordinated School Health* grant application.

Mississippi has laid a strong foundation for education and desires to continue to take sound and innovative measures to strengthen the schools within our state. However, Mississippi also continues to lead the nation in many areas of preventable chronic illness, physical injury and years of potential life lost. We must address these issues. Your department's *Coordinated School Health* grant application exemplifies the collaborative effort of public and private entities demonstrating a shared commitment to improve the health of Mississippians via a statewide coordinated school health program.

My administration is committed to improving the overall health of the people of Mississippi. Health care is an essential element to productivity in the classroom, workplace and at home. We can and we will make the changes necessary to improve the overall health of the people of this state.

I believe that the Mississippi Department of Education's *Coordinated School Health* grant application is worthy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's resources. I am pleased to offer support for this project.

Very truly yours,



RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr