
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: NAGB MEETING
DATE 8/6/03
CC: FILE

I attended the NAGB meeting on your behalf in Washington this past Friday and Saturday. Nothing out of the unusual came up for discussion, but I did want to pass along the following:

- Upcoming 2003 Math and Reading Release: 2003 math and reading scores will be released in September. The Board voted to have a combined release of both scores, rather than separate releases. As usual, the Board got an advance briefing on the results, but the info was brief. Overall, reading scores remained flat. No state data was presented. Math scores showed significant increases overall. A map we were shown reflected that Mississippi had significant increases between 2000 and 2003.
- 5 Board members rotating off: The following 5 Board members are not eligible for another term and were honored at dinner Friday night:

Tom Fisher (serves with you on COSDAM Committee)
Ed Haertel (serves with you and chairs the COSDAM Committee)
Mark Musick (served with you on COSDAM)
Deborah Voltz (served with you on COSDAM)
Marilyn Whirry (former America's Teacher of the Year)

I think it would be nice if you dropped each of them a personal note saying what a pleasure it was to serve with them and wishing them luck. Or, I can certainly prepare written letters if you would prefer. Just let me know your preference, if you want to do this. I have mailing addresses for all of them.

Mike Ward and Dan Domenech have been nominated for another term, but Secretary Paige has not made the appointments yet. I'll let you know when I hear about them.

- Jay Leno: NCES staff briefed us on media coverage of recent NAEP releases. The briefing included video coverage from national and local outlets, including a Jay Leno clip (see attached) in which he made derogatory comments about Mississippi being last. With your permission, I'd like to work with Lee Ann to draft a letter to Leno in response. Of course, we'll run the draft past the other office before I send it

to you for your signature. I also think the letter would be stronger if it came from both you and Dr. Johnson. I haven't approached him with this possibility, as I wanted your approval first. Please indicate:

Draft letter _____

No letter _____

Joint letter _____

Letter just from me _____

- Support for your election: Several NAGB members (Marilyn Whirry, Juanita Haugen, Mike Ward, Jo Ann Pottorff) as well as staff (Mary Crovo, Peggy Carr of NCES) specifically asked me to wish you well in the campaign.

John Stevens of Texas just left me voicemail this morning asking me to tell you congratulations on the primary. He also said to tell you, "Go get 'em!!"