



The University of Mississippi

Oxford • Jackson • Tupelo • Southaven

School of Education
Office of the Dean
Post Office Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848
(662) 915-7063
Fax: (662) 915-7249

RECEIVED
SEP 08 2008
SUPERINTENDENT
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

McGee
Meadows
Ezell
Coaker
Clayton
Harbin
Scott
Butter
Topp

September 4, 2008

Dear Superintendent:

You recently received an invitation to attend a National Educational Policy Forum hosted by the School of Education at The University of Mississippi on September 25, 2008 from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. The policy forum will convene nationally recognized educational researchers and policy experts to discuss issues pertinent to our nation's schools and colleges and universities.

As superintendent of one of the school districts in our North Mississippi Educational Consortium, we are asking that you invite a team of educational stakeholders from your district to attend the forum with you. The team of educational stakeholders would consist of eight to ten persons who serve as principals, curricula coordinators, teachers, parents, students, and/or in related capacities. Having the presence of school district teams would vividly demonstrate the quality of academic engagement within the surrounding communities and the commitment of local educators to the educational success of our children.

The role of the school district teams in the National Educational Policy Forum is one that is notable and important. Therefore, the participating school district teams will be recognized collectively during the policy forum. The participating school districts will also be issued a sign or flag to identify their respective district as well as a certificate of participation. To RSVP the persons who will comprise your school district teams, please refer to the forum's website (www.olemiss.edu/conf/edpolicy). The deadline for registering your school district team is Monday, September 15, 2008. Notwithstanding, within the coming days, someone will contact your office to confirm whether or not your school district will participate in this manner.

It is our hope for you to join with us in this timely educational effort prior to the incoming administration of the 44th President of the United States. The future of our educational system depends upon the use of sound educational policies and practices for which the convening educational experts will address. If you have any further questions, please contact 662-915-7636 and again, thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Tom Burnham
Dean
School of Education

RoSusan D. Bartee, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Leadership and Counselor Education
Director, National Educational Policy Forum