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Subject: "Transformation" Paper
Attachments: Transformation FL_SC Final.pdf

Christian and Josh,

I hope this finds you both well.

Pearson suggested that y'all would be the best policy folks to touch base with about an education policy paper that we are very excited to be putting out, thanks to tremendous assistance from the Foundation for Excellence in Education team, who I've copied here. In fact, this paper grew out of the Empower summit that Governor Haley was kind enough to help host last April when Gov. Bush came to SC.

While I'd ask that you please keep this embargoed w/in the Haley team until we send our formal release, it was important to us that you all had an advance copy before we release it to others. We are working with our printer and if all goes well, we hope to have it in the hands of legislators tomorrow, followed up by a formal press release tomorrow afternoon or first thing Wednesday, all just depending on how the print schedule shakes out.

This paper does not delve into any SC-specific policy recommendations, but simply lays out the compare/contrast in student outcomes between SC and FL pre and post-FL reforms...which of course then begs the question, "Why not here?"

Governor Haley sounded many of these themes in her State of the State and I know she understands that transforming education in SC is foundational to our future economic development...especially in the rural areas that are close to her heart. In fact, as I've thought about this, I think the time might be especially ripe to think about working on a 3rd grade reading initiative here.

Oran and I would welcome a chance to sit down you and anyone else on the Governor's team to talk about how we could support the effort to try to get something done on these important issues. And while I can't speak for the Bush team, they have already been so helpful, I'm sure that they'll continue to be a great resource for ongoing policy expertise!

I hope you and your team find this report helpful and I look forward to being touch...call or email any time.

All the Best,

Ellen

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