

From: Godfrey, Rob
To: Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>
Shuster, Jamie <JamieShuster@gov.sc.gov>
Baker, Josh <JoshBaker@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 2/16/2012 1:27:19 PM
Subject: Check these out -- from Seanna. Let's discuss.

What does your budget proposal for education say about your priorities?

I understand the desire to move from non-recurring to recurring. However, IF education is a priority, why not use some of the additional money to move items funded from one-time sources in the current budget into the recurring side, particularly the \$56 million for base student cost? Some argue the additional money should be put toward that rather than, say, the DOT buy-back proposal or tax cuts.

Asked a different way, you have pushed for more money to go into the classroom, which _ as Superintendent Zais says in advocating for it to be maintained _ is precisely where the so-called "base student cost" goes. So why propose something that decreases that pot?

You've mentioned putting dollars toward programs that work. Why not expand 4-year-old kindergarten?

Bottom line, when all state revenue sources are factored in, the proposal decreases money for K-12 education, by a fairly substantial amount. Response?

Rob Godfrey
Office of Gov. Nikki Haley
O: (803) 734-5074 | C: (803) 429-5086