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To: Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov
Date: 10/18/2013 5:00:10 PM
Subject: Thank You

Thank you for attending this year's National Summit on Education Reform. Just by participating in the event, you showed your commitment to transforming education across the country. Being a part of the 850 leaders that came together to put students first was truly empowering.

It is my sincere hope that your participation does not end here and that you will be reinvigorated to advocate for sweeping education reform when you return home.

This week we learned that education unlocks the door to opportunity. It is our moral obligation to ensure that every American has the ability to succeed. But it takes all of us to implement meaningful change.

It will take leaders like you to ensure that opportunity is alive and well for generations to come.

The knowledge and information shared at the Summit is important now, more than ever. Our children cannot wait for incremental change—we need to prepare them today by investing in new ideas and new approaches. As Governor Bush often says, "If we don't completely transform education, we are defaulting on the American Dream."

We have been seeing [dramatic changes](#) in states across the country, but the work is not done. It's time to focus on students. It's time to stop accepting excuses for our failing education system.

Today's students are counting on you to adopt and implement policies that reorganize education around them.

This week, we launched the [Policy Library](#) section of our website that will help you get started. The searchable database includes reports, research, white papers, model legislation, reformer profiles and more. Using our [Reformer Toolbox](#), you can compile practical tools and data to help advance and adopt education reform in your state. To build your Reformer Toolbox, begin by creating a new account. Once logged into your account, you can select a state or specific reform policy using the search function.

Thanks again for your participation this week, and I look forward to continuing to work together to give each and every children access to a high-quality education.

Sincerely,

Patricia Levesque
Executive Director

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