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To: Robert M. Shireman/OPD/EOP, Carol_Rasco @ ed.gov @ inet, Deborah_Fine @ ed.gov @ inet
cc: William R. Kincaid/OPD/EOP
Subject: Yesterday's America Reads meeting

Here is what I think we basically agreed to yesterday. Bob, there is still time for you to weigh in before these are set in concrete:

1 million tutors: In light of the confusion about the meaning of the initial pledge of 1 million tutors, we've decided:

- We are talking about scaling up to having 1 million reading tutors in the field by school year 2002 (as opposed to having a cumulative total of 1 million by then)
- Carol, Debbie and the number crunchers are going to check this against the budget figures and the logic behind them, to make sure this is still a reasonable interpretation in light of the assumptions we've made.
- Assuming this works, they will also begin to produce new, more clear documents so that we and the rest of the world will know what we mean.
- They will also generate year-by-year figures, based on the 1 million figure for the final year and the budget numbers for each of the five years. And, to the extent feasible, they will work to secure and depict commitments for tutors from work study and other sources in the same fashion -- year by year in a way that allows us to track progress against the targets we have set.
- New America Reads documents will downplay the figure of 3 million kids, since that figure has been less prominent than the 1 million tutors, and since we are less confident that the underlying model of how volunteers will actually work will enable us to be confident about the numbers of students we will reach (NOTE: I think this is basically what we said, but this morning it doesn't seem right to me; we ought to be able to make some statement at some point about how many kids are likely to benefit from this effort, and we ought to have some idea of how many kids a tutor is likely to reach, say, in a year. Or at least some range for these figures, given the different ways in which tutors might work. Anybody have any further thoughts on this?)

We also discussed plans for folding the Read*Write*Now partnership into a broader America Reads effort, keeping in mind the need to retain the support and interest of these partners while reorganizing that neither the composition nor structure of that partnership is the ideal basis for organizing community based America Reads efforts. Carol will continue to think through how best to build on and incorporate this partnership -- probably with an emphasis on building towards a major summer reading effort next summer -- and on how it might best be launched with Presidential involvement.

This plan will replace previous notions of a kick-off for the reading partnership that have been suggested in ED event-possibility documents.

If I got any of this wrong, be sure to correct it.