



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE SECRETARY

OCT 17 1983

*Indianapolis, Indiana*

The Honorable Victor G. Atiyeh  
Governor of Oregon  
Salem, Oregon 97310

*Ret. P. ✓*

Dear Governor Atiyeh:

Through this letter, I want to extend to you an invitation to participate in a National conference to discuss action steps and to coordinate local, State and Federal responsibilities in attaining excellence in all the Nation's schools. Since Governors play such a vital role in the advancement in education, we need to learn from you about your plans for education reform and improvement in order for us to do a better job of filling our role on the Federal level. In addition, I believe that you, the legislative leaders, and the education leaders in your State will benefit from an opportunity to learn about what other States are doing.

In an effort to disseminate the report and recommendations of the National Commission on Excellence in Education, we are now concluding the last of 12 regional forums where we have responded to questions and heard views of Governors, State and local education leaders, and other citizens. These forums have been useful in discussing issues and formulating possible solutions to problems. Many States have already started substantive actions for reform.

As a culmination to these regional forums, I am convinced that the National Forum on Excellence in Education--bringing together Governors, State legislators, State and local school board members, educators in public and private schools, the concerned public, and Federal legislative and executive officials--will provide a useful area for exchange of ideas. It will be helpful in preparing State legislation, programs, and policies and in initiating programs for excellence at our schools and colleges.

Your participation in such a conference is vital to its success. We would appreciate very much your attendance and participation, and we also invite your principal education staff person to attend the conference scheduled for December 6, 7, and 8 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

I am keenly aware of the difficulties in scheduling blocks of time for attending conferences. However, I believe that this activity will be a significant event for American education, and we urge your participation, if at all possible.

I look forward to meeting with you in Indianapolis.

Sincerely,

T. H. Bell

*P.S. We hope you can make it to Indianapolis. Many thanks for all you do for education. Ted*

## Acceptance Information for Governors

Acceptances may be made by contacting the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Mrs. Nancy L. Harris, in the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary at (202) 472-5812.

Mrs. Harris will then send you a formal confirmation, hotel reservation information and additional materials regarding workshops and agenda.

Your early acceptance will enable us to return all information to you promptly and ensure a smooth registration.