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[Sally Tracy <STracy@hewlett.org>](mailto:STracy@hewlett.org)
Date: Thu, 10/6/2011 9:57:30 PM
Subject: RE: Fonda -- introduction to RI's Ed Chief, Deborah Gist

Thanks Deborah (and Fonda). Will look forward to reading the proposal and perhaps touching base with Andrea and David at the summit. My colleague Chris Shearer (responsible for our policy work) will also be at the summit and you might look for him as well.

Best,
Barbara

-----Original Message-----

From: Gist, Deborah [mailto:Deborah.Gist@ride.ri.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2011 5:39 PM
To: 'Fonda Anderson (fonda@excelined.org)'; Barbara Chow
Cc: Abbott, David; Castaneda, Andrea; 'Fonda Anderson (fonda@excelined.org)'
Subject: RE: Fonda -- introduction to RI's Ed Chief, Deborah Gist

Thank you, Fonda, for the introduction.

Barbara, I appreciate your willingness to take a look at the model we've created to have a school completely designed by students--the first of its kind in the country--maybe the world! I am very disappointed that I actually am unable to join the group in San Francisco. I am in graduate school and have class in Philadelphia that begins on Friday. I am so sorry I am going to miss meeting you. Fortunately, two of my most wonderful colleagues, David Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, and Andrea Castaneda, Chief of Accelerating School Performance, will be there. They will both make a point to introduce themselves to you.

I'd love to talk with you about this project sometime and also generally about our work in Rhode Island and yours around the world and across the country. I am confident that this student-led project furthers the Foundation's goals to "increase economic opportunity and civic engagement by educating students to succeed in a changing world through deeper learning." It is an innovative model that could serve as a proof point for a school that will provide our students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to be successful in today's global economy and in ways that engage them deeply in their own learning.

I have attached another copy of the draft of our proposal for you. Your feedback and support would be very much appreciated!

Best,

Deborah

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-----Original Message-----

From: Fonda Anderson (fonda@excelined.org) [mailto:fonda@excelined.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2011 11:03 AM
To: BChow@hewlett.org; Gist, Deborah
Subject: Fonda -- introduction to RI's Ed Chief, Deborah Gist

Barbara, we are delighted that you are coming to the National Summit on Education Reform next week in San Francisco. I look forward to meeting you there.

By way of this email, allow me to introduce you to Deborah Gist, Rhode Island's chief of education. She is the creator of that innovative student-designed school I emailed you about. Deborah would like to reach out to you about a possible summit meeting. Please let me know how I can assist.

Fonda

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