DATE: July 15, 2004

SUBJECT: Minority Teacher Education Supplemental Grants

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Receive Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Minority Teacher Education Grant program is a matching grant program that supports pilot projects designed to expand the recruitment pool for minority teachers throughout the state. All Tennessee higher education institutions with approved teacher certification programs are eligible to apply. Successful proposals included the following components:

- Recruitment strategies targeting non-traditional groups (e.g., teacher aides, substitute teachers, in-school suspension teachers, and ex-military personnel presently not certified);
- Intervention strategies for successful test completion; and
- Partnerships with local K-12 education agencies.

This program, created and funded by the Tennessee Legislature, has been administered by the Commission since 1989. The 2004-2005 appropriation totals $232,000. The Advisory Committee for the program is included on the following page as Attachment A.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION INCLUDED: At its April 15, 2004 meeting, the Commission approved nine grants totaling $200,284. This amount was based on an expected 5 percent reduction in the state budget. Because higher education did not receive the reduction, the full amount of $232,000 was available for MTE awards. The supplemental awards were based on grants that were previously funded and possessed a proven record of success.

OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE:
The amended amounts are as follows:

- Austin Peay State University $22,500
- East Tennessee State University $22,800
- Middle Tennessee State University $17,100
- University of Memphis $35,700
- University of Tennessee $36,100

Unamended Awards are as follows:

- Freed-Hardeman University $27,400
- Milligan College $24,500
- Tennessee State University $23,500
- University of Tennessee at Martin $22,400
- $232,000
Mr. William Arnold, Director of Interagency Programs and Research, Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Ms. Betty Dandridge Johnson, Director of Policy, Planning and Research, Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Dr. S. Kay Clark, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Tennessee Board of Regents

Mr. Michael C. Roberts, Executive Director, Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation

Dr. MaryJo Howland, Deputy Executive Director, Policy and Research, State Board of Education

Mr. Morgan Branch, Director of Minority Teacher Recruitment/Retention, State Department of Education

Ms. Hazel Thomas, Consultant, State Department of Education

Dr. Vanita L. Lytle-Sherrill, Professor of Human Services and Sociology, Volunteer State Community College

Ms. Mary Ann Blankenship, Associate Executive Director, Tennessee Education Association

Dr. Claude O. Pressnell, Jr. President, Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association

Mr. Eugene Howard Wade, Assistant Human Resources Director, Williamson County Schools

Mr. James Claybourne, Human Resource Manager, Bedford County Department of Education

Dr. May Alice Ridley, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education

Dr. Robert Levy, Associate Vice Chancellor and Vice Provost, The University of Tennessee