



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

Summer 2004

Dear Teacher:

The Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM) is being featured at the Department of Education's 2004 Teacher-to-Teacher Workshops because it is one helpful tool for finding teaching materials. It currently offers quick access, through the web, to more than 40,000 lessons and teaching materials. We want to make it even better. I invite you to help.

During the GEM sessions at this workshop, you will have a chance to look through lessons and resources in GEM related to subjects you teach or areas of your expertise. You will be asked to select one lesson or resource that you feel may be particularly useful to other teachers. You will be invited to share your thoughts about that resource: Why is it important and useful? What are its strengths and weaknesses? Your comments will be used to improve GEM, and may also be featured on the GEM web site.

In the fall of 2004, we will invite teachers across the country to use GEM to select a resource and describe the importance, usefulness, strengths, and weaknesses of that resource. By participating now, during this workshop, you are helping lay the groundwork for taking GEM to the next level and making it more useful.

On behalf of America's teachers, as well as parents and students, I thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Rod Paige