

Governor Proclaims October Parent Involvement Month for Maine.

On September 19th Governor Baldacci was joined by the Maine State P.I.R.C. (Parent Information & Resource Center) to officially acknowledge October as Parent Involvement Month throughout the state. PIRC is just one of the projects of the Maine Parent Federation, a private non-profit organization whose mission is to provide statewide family support of all people through information, education and advocacy.

The proclamation, first signed into affect by Governor Angus King in 2000, acknowledges parents as their child's first and most influential teacher, with all parents having hopes and goals for their children. It emphasizes a parents' role in supporting and encouraging their child's love of learning and a commitment to assure their children arrive at school rested, healthy and ready to learn.

The proclamation (in recognition of the importance parents have in their children's life, education & school community) urges schools, parents and communities to work together towards a common betterment of children & educational success. Schools are encouraged to recognize the outstanding contributions parents make in fostering their children's love of learning and for the commitment parents make to be involved by becoming an intricate part of their child's school community.

The Maine State PIRC, funded under a discretionary grant under the No Child Left Behind Act, has a primary focus of increasing and supporting parental involvement in the education of each and every child. The parent involvement coordinators of PIRC provide statewide workshops, resource center and technical support for all school & parents, helping to grow the partnership of school, community and family.

For additional information about the Maine State PIRC Project or the conference, or to inquire about a scholarship the conference please call 1-800-870-7746 or visit www.mpf.org.

Release information written by: Jennifer Day, PIRC Parent Involvement Coordinator, PO Box 2067, Augusta, Maine 04330, 207-592-8175. Attached please find photos taken by Mary Martinelli. Pictured from left to right Jennifer Day, Angela Burgess, Judy Simonson, Julie Pomerleau and Jessica Libby (center) Gov. Baldacci.