

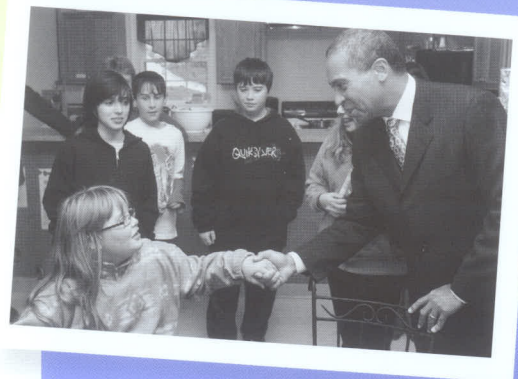
Q. What has Deval Patrick been doing?

A. Ensuring

a high quality and equitable education

for the people of Massachusetts!

Like so many families and businesses throughout the Commonwealth, our state has been facing immense financial challenges during the economic crisis, forcing the Patrick-Murray administration to make painful budget choices. However, the Governor has reaffirmed his commitment to our students by **protecting education funding.**



“I understand how education can transform a life, because it is what transformed my own.”

Governor Deval Patrick

Change is Happening. We have had two of the most productive legislative terms in Massachusetts history. Here are a number of education reform initiatives of which we are most proud:

Passing Comprehensive education reform legislation: On January 18th, 2010, Governor Patrick signed comprehensive education reform legislation that will tackle the state’s long-standing achievement gap. The single biggest education action since 1993, the bill increases the state’s ability to intervene in under-performing schools and districts, promotes widespread innovation in education, and increases the number of high-performing charter schools serving students in the lowest performing districts. The bill also greatly strengthens the state’s application for hundreds of millions of dollars in the highly competitive federal Race to the Top grant program.

Establishing Innovation Schools: One of the key strategic programs to come out of the Readiness Project, these schools will begin operating in 2010 as innovative, in-district, charter-like schools with significant autonomy, and will provide families with more educational choices.

Establishing Readiness Centers: Professional development and resource centers for teachers opened their doors in six regions across the state to elevate the profession and provide better connections from early childhood to elementary and secondary to higher education.

Expanding service for early childhood: Studies have shown that a child’s formative years can severely impact the rest of their educational careers. The Patrick-Murray

administration has expanded Universal Pre-Kindergarten to now serve over 6,700 children, and launched a “Birth to 3” task force to focus state policy on children in the earliest stages of learning.

Continuing accomplishments in K – 12 education: Building on the state’s success through the Education Reform Act of 1993 and the high standards, rigorous assessment and effective accountability enacted by that law, students in Massachusetts continue to improve and perform academically on the state’s MCAS exams. In both 2005 and 2007, Massachusetts 4th and 8th graders either ranked first or tied for first on the National Assessment of Education Progress Reading and Math exams. On the 2009 SAT exams, Massachusetts public high school students ranked first in Math, second in Critical Reading and second in Writing. On the 2009 ACT test, Massachusetts students in the class of 2009 ranked first nationally and on all four subject area exams on the ACT exam: English, Math, Reading, and Science. Finally, Massachusetts 4th graders ranked third in the world in Math and second in the world in Science, while 8th graders ranked sixth in the world in Math and tied for first in the world in Science.

Driving leadership in higher education: The Patrick-Murray administration is dedicated to supporting a unified public higher education system focused on preparing public college students for the jobs of today and tomorrow, and producing

the best educated citizenry in the country. The Administration has dedicated a \$2 billion bond bill to make improvements in the state’s 29 public higher education campuses, worked to institute a transfer policy to allow for seamless transition among the campuses for students and is working to launch a web portal to help middle and high school students prepare, apply and pay for higher education.

Driving a collaboration between the private and public sectors: The Patrick-Murray administration has challenged the leadership across all sectors to connect employer expectations and demands with the curricula in place in schools.

Creating world-class, 21st century schools and students: The Readiness Project: Created by an Executive Order in June of 2007, the Readiness Project is a statewide initiative involving over 200 educators, business leaders, and community leaders, who together developed a 10-year plan for the future of education in the Commonwealth.

GOVERNOR
Deval Patrick
LT. GOVERNOR **Tim Murray**
www.devalpatrick.com

A more detailed list of accomplishments of the Patrick-Murray Administration and some great results can be found at www.devalpatrick.com/accomplishments.

Paid for by the Deval Patrick Committee

