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AUGUSTA, MAINE



12 FY 08/09 April 28, 2008 DATE_

AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE PRE-K THROUGH ADULT ADVISORY COUNCIL TO PLAN FOR AND COORDINATE A SEAMLESS PUBLIC **EDUCATION SYSTEM IN MAINE**

WHEREAS, affordable, quality education is key to economic prosperity for Maine people and our state: and

WHEREAS, planning for public education investment and opportunity in Maine will enhance the effective and efficient use of public and individual resources in furtherance of higher education attainment: and

WHEREAS, the Community College System and the University of Maine System established a Coordinating Advisory Council in 2003 to increase collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the Governor established The Task Force to create a Seamless Pre-Kindergarten through Sixteenth Grade Educational System in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force submitted its report in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force report called for developing a 10-year strategy for investment in higher education infrastructure and collaboration among all Maine Pre-K through 16 institutions to leverage resources and provide for efficient use of technology; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force report urged the Governor to create an Advisory Council to establish a collaborative culture and include representatives from Maine state government, the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System, and K-12 schools:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John E. Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Pre-K through Adult Advisory Council as follows:

OFFICE OF

1. <u>Duties</u>

The Advisory Council is charged with recommending to the Governor a plan that

- a. Furthers the goal of increasing the percentage of Maine's adults with four-year college degrees to 30% of adults;
- b. Furthers the goal of raising Maine's high school-to-college rate from 55% to 70%;
- c. Leverages Pre-K through Adult resources and technologies; and
- d. Finds further efficiencies in education administration at all levels.

The Advisory Council shall promote consensus, collaboration, and efficiency in the use of public and private resources on behalf of pre-kindergarten through adult students.

2. Members

The Advisory Council shall be led by the Commissioner of Education and be composed of 14 other members as follows:

- the Chancellor of the University of Maine System
- the Chair of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees (or designee)
- the President of the Maine Community College System
- the Chair of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees (or designee)
- the President of the Maine Maritime Academy
- the Chair of the Maine Maritime Academy Board of Trustees (or designee)
- two members of the State Board of Education
- a representative of the Maine Adult Education Association appointed by the Governor from recommendations provided by the Association
- four members of the business community
- a representative from the Legislative Youth Advisory Council

The Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Labor, and the Director of the State Planning Office shall serve as ex officio members of the Advisory Council.

3. Procedure

The Advisory Council shall meet at times and places called by the Commissioner with assistance from state agencies as necessary to carry out its activities within existing resources. The members of the Advisory Council shall serve without compensation.

The Advisory Council shall consult with legislators, other representatives of higher education and Pre-K through 12 institutions in Maine, adult educators, State agencies involved with economic development, the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), and civic groups involved in supporting education. The Advisory Council may form subcommittees to work with these representatives.

3. Report

The Advisory Council shall submit a report to the Governor by January 1, 2009. The report shall include recommendations concerning the duties set forth in this executive order, a schedule for future reports, and any legislation necessary to implement recommendations.

Effective Date

The effective date of this order is April 28, 2008.

John E. Baldacci, Governor