# PATRICK MURRAY

# INAUGURAL

#### COMMITTEE

December 6, 2010

Dear Massachusetts Superintendent,

For the last four years, Tim Murray and I have worked hard to govern the whole Commonwealth of Massachusetts, not just the blocks around Beacon Hill. We have spent as much time as possible in communities across the Commonwealth, and meeting with students and teachers in your classrooms. We will continue this effort over the next four years, and we want to use our inauguration to bring people together from every community of Massachusetts.

On Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, we want to bring together 8<sup>th</sup> graders from each of the 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts to participate in a day of community service in Boston. I am asking you to identify one 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from each of the cities and towns in your school district to participate in the day's festivities.

These students should be young people who have exhibited an ethic of service in their local communities and who reflect the diversity of Massachusetts. Once they arrive in Boston, the students will participate in a town meeting with special guests. They will then break up into groups and participate in service projects across the city, led by local service organizations. At the end of the day, they will gather again to reflect and share ideas about how they can help in their local communities. I will be speaking at the town hall meeting and the wrap-up session, and I will be volunteering alongside our students during the day.

Please identify and confirm your students over the next week and submit their names to our Inaugural Committee by Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Please send this information by email to project351@devalpatrick.com or by fax to 617-628-1658. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Patrick-Murray Inaugural Committee at 617-367-2010.

Thank you again for your service to our students. Massachusetts students remain number one in the nation because of leaders like you. I look forward to working with you to plan this special event, and to serving with you over the next four years.

Sincerely,

Governor Deval L. Patrick

#### **PROJECT 351**

The Inauguration of Governor Deval Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray Saturday, January 8, 2011

Each and every day – in every city, town and hamlet of the Commonwealth -- young people are making a difference through service and volunteerism. At schools and community centers, on playing fields and community gardens, and with citizens of every age in need of their care and compassion, the next generation extends hand and heart to address critical needs. Age is no barrier to impact, as we bear witness to the compassion, creativity, resourcefulness, and courage of students leading positive change.

Governor Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray believe deeply in the power of service – and in the potential of the Commonwealth's next generation of learners and leaders. To mark this commitment, they will conclude the Inaugural events with a celebration of young people in service.

# PROJECT 351: Speak, Act, Lead

On Saturday January 8, 2011, a "congress" of youth will assemble in Boston for dialogue, action, and celebration as a centerpiece of the Governor's Inauguration. Each city and town will be represented by a young person with a strong service ethic or by a daughter/son of active military. Together, the students will represent the Commonwealth's vast mosaic of culture, heritage, race and ethnicity and will reflect a strong statement of unity. Project 351 celebrates the potential of each individual to make a difference -- and the transformation achieved when community unites in common purpose.

The day will feature three program elements:

- Town Meeting with the Governor and Special Guests -- A call to service. An issues-based discussion to enrich, inspire, and set context for the day of service.
- Service Day -- High-impact transformational service and service learning in partnership with
  community. Service will address critical areas of need, build the student's awareness of issues and
  opportunities for leadership, and strengthen bonds of friendship between youth across the
  Commonwealth.
- Community Celebration -- An opportunity to share reflections and lessons learned. A platform for unity and connection. A celebration of the day's impact.

# **EVENT DAY SCHEDULE (precise times to be confirmed):**

9:00 am	Students arrive in host site in Boston via coordinated regional transportation
9:15 am	Registration and breakfast at host site
10:00 am	TOWN MEETING with Governor Deval Patrick and special guests
11:00 am	Mobilization for community service and service learning
11:30 am	Transportation to service sites with boxed lunches
12:00 pm	Service orientation and SERVICE/SERVICE LEARNING
3:45 pm	Service concludes, participants transported back to host site
4:30 pm	Closing reflections and call to action with Governor Patrick and special guests
5:00 pm	SERVICE CELEBRATION – food, music, community building among students
6:00 pm	Students depart Boston for home via coordinated transportation

#### CRITERIA FOR SELECTION/REQUESTED ROLE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Three hundred and fifty-one diverse young people united by a common commitment to strengthening their communities through service will reflect the best of our Commonwealth. We would value your leadership in the selection of the young man or young woman who will serve as your community's Project 351 student. This experience will enrich, inspire and connect your student to a community of peers across the state. This unique leadership opportunity should be given to an individual who will embody the best of your community – and the best of the service ethic. Please use the following criteria to guide your selection:

- Member of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Demonstrated leadership in service and volunteerism service embraces a wide range of activities including non-profit service organizations, schools clubs, activities such as Eagle Scouts, faith-based service, and in extraordinary circumstance individuals who have demonstrated profound selflessness in support of their family's difficulty (e.g. health, economic, etc.).
- Strong academic standing but please do not limit this opportunity to leading academic performers. The service ethic is the primary consideration.
- Mature, responsible, sensitive, and able to engage with a diverse populations of students and leaders from the non-profit, public, private, community, and professional sports sectors.
- High personal standards and aspirations for future success.
- Family support of participation in this event.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

We honor our men and women in active military service and always seek to demonstrate our support of them and their families. Please give additional consideration to sons and daughters of active military or to children of fallen heroes.

# **KEY DATES**

Wednesday, December 15, 2010	Student selected and confirmed with parental approval.
Week of December 19, 2010	Student receives note of congratulations with event day details from Governor Patrick. Student receives Project 351 information packet and survey for immediate completion.
Thursday, December 23, 2010	Student information sheets, waivers and surveys due.
Monday, January 3, 2010	Final transportation and logistical information sent to student and family
Thursday, January 6, 2010	Inaugural of Governor Patrick and Lt. Governor Murray
Saturday, January 8, 2010	PROJECT 351!
Week of January 9, 2010	Student receives thank you note from Governor Patrick and follow-up survey from Project 351 team

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# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Transportation and adult supervision via chaperones will be provided in compliance with the Department of Education. The Superintendent is warmly invited to join Project 351 as regional chaperone.
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, and an event t-shirt will be provided to all event participants.
- The Inaugural Committee will advise local elected officials and media of local participation.
- We encourage the support of the student so that he/she may enjoy maximum educational and civic enrichment of Project 351 and, upon completion, can share with his/her student community.
- The name and contact information for selected and confirmed students should be submitted names by Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Please email student information to project351@devalpatrick.com or by fax to 617-628-1658. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Inaugural Committee at 617-367-2010.