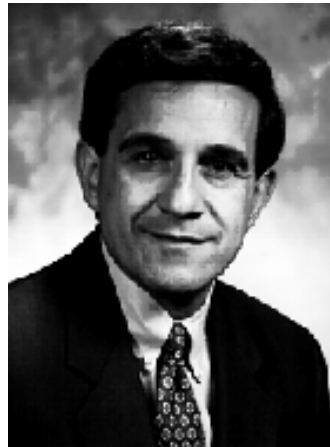




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Commissioner's Update

August 16, 1995

Dear Superintendents,

Enclosed in this mailing are several documents for your review as you prepare for the fast-approaching start to the school year. The most important one concerns professional development:

- The new **State Plan for Professional Development**, with our recommendations for spending the new \$25 per pupil aid for professional development (also sent to school committee chairs and other leaders statewide).

Also enclosed are these documents:

1. Update on Chapter 74 vocational programs re: the issue of non-resident students
[No longer available]
2. Information on "National School Bus Safety Week" (also sent to elementary principals)
[No longer available]
3. The 1996 "United States Senate Youth Scholarship Program" announcement (packet with full application also sent to high school principals)
[No longer available]
4. Guidelines regarding educator preparation internships
[No longer available]
5. WIC and Food Stamps eligibility updates (English and Spanish)
[No longer available]
6. A two-year calendar of state legal holidays.
[No longer available]

I also want to make sure you know that while the development of a new statewide assessment is well underway, the Massachusetts Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) will be administered once again during the spring of 1996, in accordance with legislation enacted in the state budget this year. Early in the school year I will be mailing to you and principals a copy of the latest MEAP report, which includes open-ended questions and sample student responses. This information can serve as an

important resource for classroom teachers in planning for the spring 1996 MEAP.

All told, it was a busy summer, with Education Reform Institutes all over the state, and leadership meetings from Falmouth to Williamstown. As we move ahead into the 3rd year of Education Reform, please accept my best wishes and hopes for an energetic, exciting and fresh start to the new school year.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Antonucci
Commissioner of Education

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