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GOVERNOR PATRICK CONGRATULATES INAUGURAL YOUTH COUNCIL CLASS FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

On Saturday, Governor Deval Patrick participated in the graduation of the inaugural class of the Governor's Statewide Youth Council.

BOSTON - Monday, August 16, 2010 - In celebration of their hard work and dedication over the past two years, Governor Deval Patrick honored members of the Statewide Youth Council during their graduation ceremony Saturday. The Governor, joined by Youth Council advisors, friends and family members, met with Council members at UMass Medical School in Worcester to recognize the students' achievements, and encouraged them to continue in the principals of respect, leadership, and service now that they have moved on from the group.
"The inaugural class brought terrific ideas to the table and challenged us to think about a number of issues in fresh ways," said Governor Patrick. "I appreciate the Youth Council for all of their hard work and look forward to welcoming another group of bright young people into the next class."

The Youth Council, established by Executive Order in 2008, encourages young people to become involved in their communities and to participate in tackling the state's biggest challenges, including education reform, teen violence and civic engagement, by preserving leadership and planning retts. In addition to developing essential leadership and grassroots organizing skills, members of the Youth Council had the opportunity to become active participants in state government and build connections with adult leaders throughout the state over the course of their two- year term.

The inaugural class informed and advised the Governor on several important policy issues that affect young people across the Commonwealth, including the historic anti-bullying legislation that was signed by Governor Patrick in May.

The Council also organized "Connecting for Change," a statewide Youth Summit that took place in October 2009 and participated in panels on public policy issues such as autism, the New Americans Agenda and the Shannon Grant program.

Click here to learn more about the Governor's Statewide Youth Council.

See more from this event on the Governor's Flickr page.

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