

MAINE COALITION FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN EDUCATION 

Press Release

Contact:

Dolly Sullivan, Program Director, 469-3231 or 631-3385

[mcee99@aol.com](mailto:mcee99@aol.com)

Yellow Light Breen, Chair, 207-478-3633

[yellow.breen@bangor.com](mailto:yellow.breen@bangor.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Peter Geiger receives Education Leadership Award; Yellow Light Breen elected Chair of the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education***

**Freeport, ME** - On Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, a leading education advocacy group, honored outgoing Board Chair, Peter Geiger with the MCEE Education Leadership Award. The award is presented to those who show “commitment, vision and courage in support of Maine students”. Previous winners include: J. Duke Albanese, Ronald M. Bancroft, Weston Bonney and David Silvernail, Marjorie M. Medd, Hannaford, Unum, Champion International and the “Committee of Four” – Rep. Peggy Rotundo, Rep. Sawin Millett, former Senator Karl Turner and Rep. Emily Cain.

In presenting the award to Mr. Geiger, Marge Medd remarked that in addition to serving three terms as Chair of the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, “Peter is generous with his time, talent and treasure in support of a quality education for all students. Twenty years ago he “adopted” the Montello School in Lewiston and each year celebrates the students’ writing with the *Night of The Stars*. Two years ago, he started a college scholarship program for students at the Montello School.”

Peter served as Chair of the State Board of Education in 1997 when the Maine Learning Results law was initially passed. He considers this as one of his most important accomplishments. “Maine

Learning Results are about providing quality education to ALL children in Maine – regardless of their zip code.”

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Succeeding Mr. Geiger as Chair of the organization is Yellow Light Breen, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer at Bangor Savings Bank. Yellow commented, “Pete is a tough act to follow. This is an exciting time for the Coalition as we get ready to embark on a major campaign for education so we will certainly make sure he stays involved.” Breen also spoke about the need to energize and sustain the public priority for education as a key to both jobs and personal success, and to have the right policies and practices for Maine to excel in preparing all students for life and work.

Completing the new leadership team for the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education is Business Vice Chair, Al Noyes, President, Walch Publishing and Education Vice Chair, Robert Kautz, retired Superintendent.

The Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, a business/education partnership, is committed to a high quality public education system that prepares all students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in college, career and responsible citizens in our global economy and society. If you want to know more about the Coalition’s work, please contact us at 207-469-3231 or [mcee99@aol.com](mailto:mcee99@aol.com). Website: [www.mainecee.org](http://www.mainecee.org)

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