
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Space limited

No charge to attend this conference

Please register by Monday, October 30

Online at www.pioneerinstitute.org

or by phone: 617-723-2277

DIRECTIONS to Omni Parker House

The Omni Parker House is located on the corner of School and Tremont Streets in downtown Boston.

Via the T: Take the Red Line or Green Line to the Park Street station. Walk up Tremont toward Faneuil Hall area.

Via commuter rail: For trains terminating at South Station, take the Red Line inbound to Park Street; for North Station trains, take the Green Line inbound to Park Street.

By car: www.parkerhouseboston.com/city.asp

Pioneer Institute was founded in 1988, as an independent non-profit public policy research institute based in Boston. Pioneer is in the business of generating and promoting new and practical public policy ideas and peer-reviewed scholarship that ensure the maintenance of core values of an open society—economic opportunity, social mobility, private and market rather than government-driven solutions, and governmental accountability to the people.

The mission of **Pioneer's Center for School Reform** is to significantly improve the academic performance of elementary and secondary schools in Massachusetts through broad public dialogue, legislative outreach, and scholarly research. The Center promotes the free exchange of ideas related to academic excellence, competition, and accountability, so the Commonwealth can compete globally.



85 Devonshire Street, 8th Floor • Boston, MA 02109
Address service requested



presents

Has Education Reform Stalled in Massachusetts?

featuring

Thomas Birmingham

Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge
Former Massachusetts Senate President



*Followed by a roundtable discussion
of new Pioneer research on the use of
student assessment data and state
curriculum frameworks.*

Thursday, November 2, 2006
7:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Omni Parker House

Has Education Reform Stalled in Massachusetts?

- 7:45 - 8:15 Registration/Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 - 8:20 Welcome
James Stergios, Executive Director, Pioneer Institute
- 8:20 - 8:30 Introduction
Christopher Anderson, President, Massachusetts High Technology Council;
Massachusetts Board of Education
- 8:30 - 8:55 Keynote Presentation
Thomas Birmingham, Senior Counsel, Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge
- 8:55 - 9:10 Follow-Up Question and Answer Session
- 9:10 - 9:30 Presentation of Papers:
Making District Accountability a Reality
"Aligning District Curricula with State Frameworks" and
"Using Student Data to Improve District Performance"
Jamie Gass, Director of Education Research and Programs, Pioneer Institute
- 9:30 - 10:15 Roundtable Panel Discussion
Moderator: **Sandra Stotsky**, Director, *We the People*
Panelists:
Thomas Birmingham
Michael Goldstein, Founder MATCH Charter School
Thomas McDonald, former Superintendent, Barnstable Public Schools
- 10:15 - 10:45 Audience Question and Answer Session
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Please join us for a breakfast discussion on the progress of Massachusetts' education reform efforts. Pioneer is addressing several of the key components of education reform still unaccomplished: the broad use of student performance data, state curriculum frameworks at the local level, district and school leadership, and greater innovation across the public system. Pioneer's research indicates a sizable gap between state policies and local practices in school districts. The analyses are the first to draw broad lessons from the individual district accountability studies done by the state from 2002 to 2005. They identify ongoing work needed to realize the vision of the Education Reform Act of 1993.

Thomas F. Birmingham is Senior Counsel with Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge. Birmingham was elected state senator in 1991. In his first term, he was the Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Education. In that capacity he was the architect of the Education Reform Act, legislation designed to improve the equitability and caliber of public education in the Commonwealth for all school children. Mr. Birmingham served in legislative leadership for 12 years, successfully fighting every year for the law's full funding. He was appointed Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and was later elected Senate President. Mr. Birmingham is a Rhodes Scholar.