



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

May 16, 2008

Dear Reorganization Planning Committee Chair:

As Reorganization Planning Committees continue their work on their reorganization plans, the Department is planning a series of regional focus groups with various educational stakeholder groups from across the state. A group of our facilitators, led by Mary Jane McCalmon will be holding four focus group meetings with **parents and school board members**. We are requesting that you send **two parent members** and **two school board members** from your Reorganization Planning Committee to participate in one of these focus groups. The purpose of the meetings is to gather information from those directly involved regarding:

- Anticipated instructional planning needs as units merge;
- Program development and learning opportunities to improve upon current programming;
- Educational needs to be addressed in planning;
- Tools and processes that might be helpful in doing this work; and
- Resources that might be useful in doing this planning.


The meetings are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- June 9, 2008; Caribou Middle School, 21 Glenn Street, Caribou, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- June 12, 2008; Cony High School, 60 Pierce Drive, Augusta, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- June 16, 2008; Ellsworth High School, 299 State Street, Ellsworth, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- June 17, 2008; Lewiston High School, 156 Eastern Avenue, Lewiston, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Please contact Melissa Padgett regarding registration for these regional focus group sessions by email at [melissa.padgett@maine.gov](mailto:melissa.padgett@maine.gov). If you have questions prior to the meeting, please contact Melissa Padgett at 624-6839.

And a reminder: You may sign up on our website for reorganization updates by email. These contain important updates on the process, explanations of aspects of the law, and notice of new materials and resources posted to the website, including articles written by people from the field. Go to <http://www.maine.gov/education> and click on the School Administrative Reorganization logo at the top of the page, then e-News Updates.

Sincerely,

  
Susan A. Gendron  
Commissioner of Education