



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING

January 26, 2004



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution Regarding Parenting Awareness Month

Attached is a resolution regarding Parenting Awareness Month, which is a year-round Michigan campaign to celebrate people raising children and promote resources to help with this important task.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 26, 2004 regarding Parenting Awareness Month.

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DRAFT

**RESOLUTION
PARENTING AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the children of Michigan are the state's most valuable resource, and all young people deserve the support of a society that demonstrates a commitment to helping children become happy, healthy, and drug-free; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education believes that the education of students is augmented by parental and family involvement in their children's education, and studies demonstrate that when parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of students are positively enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education's Family Involvement Policy adopted in May 1997 states that schools must welcome the public's involvement, and recognize and tap the strength and resources of all those who wish to participate with the schools in practical and tangible ways, and states that teacher training institutions also have a responsibility to provide training in family involvement; and

WHEREAS, effective parenting involves showing children love, concern, and respect at all times; giving children a safe place to live and play; helping children express their feelings appropriately, and listening to what children say; giving children appropriate choices whenever possible; having reasonable rules that are understood by all; being responsible and teaching children to be responsible; spending time with children; setting an example by what we say and do; working with schools and communities to make them better for children; and asking for help when we need it; and

WHEREAS, informed parenting can help reduce social problems such as substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, unemployment, poverty, and crime; and

WHEREAS, Parenting Awareness Month is a statewide campaign to promote awareness, education, and resources - through state outreach and local efforts - emphasizing the importance of effective parenting in nurturing children to become healthy, caring, and contributing citizens; and

WHEREAS, Parenting Awareness Month is a year-round Michigan campaign to celebrate people raising children and promote resources to help with this important task; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education proclaims March 2004 as Parenting Awareness Month; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education supports all efforts and resources, particularly local, that draw public attention to the critical importance of parenting and encourages the further development of parent networks throughout Michigan.