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Education

Area students attend statewide conference

Area students from the Pennridge and Quakertown School Districts recently attended the 2001 Statewide Communities That Care Conference in Hershey from Feb. 28 to March 2. Over 500 people from throughout the Commonwealth attended the conference, sponsored by the Governor's Community Partnership for Safe Children. The Partnership is chaired by first lady Michele Ridge and is overseeing the statewide implementation of the Communities That Care process.

On Wednesday evening, Gov.

Ridge and the first lady hosted a reception for all 500 guests in the governor's mansion. Area students got a chance to meet the governor and converse with him for a few minutes.

"I was really surprised he talked with us as long as he did," commented Jenn Shukdinas. "He asked us questions about our school and our plans for the future. It was really a neat experience."

The area Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth Initiative, a participant in the countywide CTC process, will apply for a three year grant to begin this fall to help support research-based programming ideas for area schools, churches and businesses to implement to assist our youth in positive healthy development. For more information, call 215-538-4796.



Students who attended the 2001 Statewide Communities That Care Conference in Hershey: [from left] Brad Gery, Pennridge South Middle School; Shannon Jones, Quakertown High School; and Jenn Shukdinas [right], Quakertown High School; are pictured with Gov. Tom Ridge.