

MASSACHUSETTS
HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL

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President's Bulletin

October 30, 2014



Today, the High Tech Council joins Massachusetts citizens in mourning the passing of former Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the longest-serving mayor in Boston history. Mayor Menino served the city of Boston and its residents from 1993 to 2014. His decision not to run for reelection last fall marked the end of an era for the city, a turning point that *The Boston Globe* likened to Ted Williams' retirement after his two-decade run at Fenway Park.

We applaud and recognize Mayor Menino's lifelong commitment to improving the lives of Bostonians by expanding and improving educational and economic opportunities for all. His commitment to Boston's school children, embrace of the city's business community and relentless focus on constant improvement in city operations are reflected in the transformational changes in Boston's economy and culture during his tenure as Mayor.

In February 2010, the Mayor delivered the keynote address at the Council's Annual Meeting. Fresh off what would be his final re-election in the fall of 2009, he noted how much he shared the Council's purpose and urgency around priorities, "My team and I have only 1,420 days remaining in this term. We are dedicated to making the most of each one."



During his 2010 inaugural address, Mayor Menino spoke of an era of "shared innovation" and then defined it as follows: "It means 'We've never done it this way' is not an excuse, it's a reason to try. It means that go-it-alone is neither a way to get there, nor a destination."

The Council is indeed grateful to have worked with the Mayor on driving educational excellence and innovation through the Race to the Top legislation. As the legislative push for new education law entered its final weeks, the Mayor echoed what leaders in the technology community have been saying for years: "[F]ixing around the margins won't be enough. We must have the capacity to reinvent ourselves. The right bill for our children increases the charter cap, but also provides turnaround capacity for districts."

"Passing that law was one of my proudest moments" he told us. "I want to publicly thank the Mass. High Tech Council for putting kids' needs before adult interests." But it was really the Mayor's leadership on this issue for which employers, students and their parents should be most thankful.

The Council is proud to call him a friend and partner and we extend our sincere condolences to Angela Menino and the Menino family.

Sincerely,

Christopher R. Anderson
President