



NCLB Making a Difference in Kansas

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Kansas to more than \$1.1 billion – 51% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$82.6 million – \$19.7 million over 2001 levels – to help Kansas' neediest children.
- Kansas has received \$20.1 million in reading grants to help schools and districts improve children's reading achievement through scientifically proven methods of instruction since 2002. President Bush's proposed budget includes an additional \$6.8 million for Kansas. In total, over six years, Kansas is set to receive approximately \$41.4 million in Reading First funds.
- "The U.S. Department of Education formally announced that the Kansas City School District was one of 11 sites across the country selected to participate in the *No Child Left Behind* Summer Reading Achievers Program. Reading Achievers is designed to encourage students in kindergarten through 8th grade to read during the summer. Participants are asked to read at least 10 books and write a short summary during the 10-week summer break. Those who do so are rewarded with a backpack or a gym bag full of free gifts." (*Kansas City Star*, 4/27/04)
- "Two years ago, Baldwin Elementary School, along with Marion Springs Elementary School, had test scores that did not meet state standards. But the schools have turned their assessment scores around. BES has now achieved a Standard of Excellence two years in a row. In fact, no student scored in the unsatisfactory category for the second straight year. 'I think state assessments allow us to really get a glimpse of what the students know and are able to do. It identifies which students aren't scoring the way we like them to,' Curriculum Director Connie Wehmeys said. 'And help teachers become better teachers by gauging what needs to be taught.'" (*Baldwin City Signal*, 5/27/04)
- "Nearly 40 percent of students who took the Kansas State Assessments this year scored at the proficient level or above, nearly twice as many as in 2001. Just over 50 percent of students who took the reading test scored at the proficient level or above, a gain of about 20 percent from three years ago." (*Kansas City Kansan*, 6/24/04)
- "Student achievement improved in Kansas schools last year, Andy Tompkins, State Superintendent of Schools, told members of the Kansas Board of Education on Tuesday. 'We made progress this year,' Tompkins said. Based on preliminary information provided to the board, six school districts and 15 Title 1 schools will be on improvement in 2004, compared to seven districts and 30 Title 1 schools last year. South Park Elementary School in Merriam was on improvement for five years but made adequate yearly progress in 2002-03 and 2003-04. 'We're celebrating,' South Park Principal Karen Metz said Wednesday. 'We were locked into a commitment between written curriculum, taught curriculum and tested curriculum. We know we have to be teaching what we're supposed to be teaching and making sure that's what we're assessing.'" (*Johnson County Sun*, 8/11/04)