

NCLB Making a Difference in Tennessee



- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Tennessee to more than \$2 billion – 49% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$213.9 million – \$72.9 million over 2001 levels – to help Tennessee's neediest children.
- Tennessee has received \$52.9 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 \$21.1 million for Tennessee. In total, over six years, Tennessee is set to receive approximately \$111.4 million in Reading First funds.
- "West View, a school of 180 kindergarten through fifth-graders from mostly working-class families, made huge strides over the past year. Achievement scores jumped in most areas, some by double digits, to meet all *No Child Left Behind* requirements." (*The Associated Press*, 1/8/04)
- "Federal grants totaling more than \$5 million will help Metro schools get a leg up in a lot of areas this upcoming school year: professional training sessions, reading programs, student achievement programs, college preparatory programs and supplemental services for students. One of the grants, Reading First, will be disbursed to schools to ensure that all children are reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade. The Teaching American History grant will aid 210 history teachers annually and is designed to address the needs of teachers and students. After-school programs will be funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers. Students will be able to take advantage of the Advancement Via Individual Determination program, which is through the Comprehensive School Reform grant." (*The Tennessean*, 7/26/04)
- "'It's just incredible, it really is.' That was Stratford principal Brenda Elliott's comment after receiving the results of the annual Gateway exams, which showed substantial gains for Stratford students in every subject tested. Last year, 62.3 percent of the Stratford students who took the algebra test passed it. This year, that number rose to 93 percent. Seventy-six percent passed the English II exam last year, compared to 86 percent this year. 90 percent passed the Gateway biology exam last year, and 96 percent this year. Stratford students celebrated at a schoolwide assembly. 'I have never,' Principal Elliott said later, 'been so proud to be part of something as I am today.' She credits that success to effective teaching, curriculum alignment, and 'kids who believe they can do it.'" (Nashville Public Schools, 7/30/04)
- "Roughly 23 percent of Metro students for whom English is a second language acquired the skills necessary to exit the district's English Language Learner (ELL) program last year, a number which is more than double the amount districts typically expect to achieve in a year, according to the director of Metro's ELL program, Sayra Hughes." (*Nashville City Paper*, 8/31/04)