



NCLB Making a Difference in Utah

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Utah to more than \$762.2 million – 49% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$53.1 million – \$14.7 million over 2001 levels – to help Utah's neediest children.
- Utah has received \$15.1 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 \$5.9 million for Utah. In total, over six years, Utah is set to receive approximately \$30 million in Reading First funds.
- “The Granite District bought the Yearly Progress Pro program and networking equipment using federal Title I money targeted for disadvantaged students. Teachers say the \$300,000 Yearly Progress Pro program is a powerful tool that will illuminate students' learning, enable tailored instruction and boost student achievement at Stansbury and 16 other elementary schools in the Granite School District. All 14 of Granite District's Title I schools began using the program in their existing computer labs this year, and district leaders are expanding to all the elementary schools as funding allows. Here's how it works: By consistently testing students on the entire year's curriculum, teachers can track each child's progress from the first day of school to the last. 'I'd rather spend that 15 minutes having my students do this to find out what their needs are now than to find out later what they needed and I didn't provide,' Nicole Nickles, a fourth-grade teacher, said. Throughout the year, the program tests students on the entire year's worth of grade-level math concepts and generates reports detailing each student's progress.” (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 10/31/03)
- Despite keeping education spending low, Utah students maintain an above-average performance on tests, scoring better than the national average in reading, math, and science. “Considering the resources spent, it's a remarkable bargain the taxpayers are getting,” said Mark Peterson, spokesman for the State Office of Education. (*Deseret Morning News*, 6/9/04)
- “Utah's 28 charter schools with split \$2.8 million in federal funding this year as part of a five-year, \$9 million grant awarded under the *No Child Left Behind* law. The funding will be a major cushion for charters, which, unlike other Utah public schools, don't have authority to bond or otherwise raise money for their building needs.” (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 9/13/04)