



NCLB Making a Difference in Mississippi

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Mississippi to more than \$1.2 billion – 44% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$168.5 million – \$40.4 million over 2001 levels – to help Mississippi's neediest children.
- Mississippi has received \$42.7 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 \$17 million for Mississippi. In total, over six years, Mississippi is set to receive approximately \$72.6 million in Reading First funds.
- "Students in Hattiesburg's six elementary schools and N.R. Burger Middle School will see new computer labs at each of their schools when they return to school in August. The labs – which will feature 30 new computers at each site – will cost the district approximately \$400,000 and will be paid with federal funds, said Hattiesburg Superintendent James Davis. The money to pay for the computers will be appropriated through Title I funds, Davis said. Each year, the district gets about \$2 million in federal Title I funds." (*Hattiesburg American*, 6/17/04)
- "The latest set of numbers suggests overall student performance in the state continues to progress,' state Superintendent of Education Henry Johnson told a Board of Education meeting. The state-level results came from tests students took in spring 2004. The results are what the state will use in September to judge schools on the state accountability systems and the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*. Almost every category of the test showed at least a modest increase or remained flat. The percentages of eighth-graders who are proficient in math jumped from 48 percent in spring 2003 to 60 percent in 2004 while 54 percent of seventh-graders were proficient in math in spring 2004 compared to 53 percent in spring 2003." (*Associated Press*, 7/16/04)
- "Mississippi is climbing the ladder of educational success. The state has shown unusually strong progress, especially in mathematics, Kati Haycock (director of The Education Trust of Washington, DC) told a group of about 100 educators. In Mississippi, the accountability system shows improvement in most areas. It's because students are challenged more, said Dr. Henry Johnson, superintendent of the Mississippi Department of Education." (*Mississippi Press*, 7/22/04)
- "Most Mississippi students in grades 2-8 are performing at or above proficiency levels in reading, language and mathematics, according to results released by the state Department of Education. Students across the state showed improvement in nearly every category in the Mississippi Curriculum Test and Subject Area Testing Program results for 2003-2004. The statewide accountability system provides the foundation for federal accountability under *No Child Left Behind*." (*Mississippi Press*, 8/19/04)