



NCLB Making a Difference in Ohio

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Ohio to more than \$4.4 billion – 49% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$420.8 million – \$108.7 million over 2001 levels – to help Ohio's neediest children.
- Ohio has received \$89.4 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 \$32.5 million for Ohio. In total, over six years, Ohio is set to receive approximately \$175.8 million in Reading First funds.
- "Cincinnati fourth- and sixth-graders registered big gains in their math proficiency scores this spring, mirroring a trend seen throughout Ohio. School officials were ecstatic with the results, saying they are the fruit of revamped math programs, more teacher training and special classes for lagging students. Cincinnati Public Schools, the third largest district in the state, saw sixth-grade math scores improve almost 17 percentage points over last year, while fourth-graders increased their pass rate by 10 points." (*Cincinnati Enquirer*, 6/17/04)
- "Ohio school children continued to make gains on statewide academic tests this past school year, boosting ratings of schools across the state. Overall, 94 percent of Ohio districts and 90 percent of schools earned rankings in the top three categories of performance on the state's school report card, based on state results. About 87 percent of the school districts in the state, including Cincinnati Public Schools, and 80 percent of schools made gains over the previous school year. 'We see more students reaching higher levels of achievement on state tests,' said Susan Tave Zelman, Ohio superintendent of public instruction. 'We see more districts and schools moving out of academic emergency and academic watch into continuous improvement, [effective] and excellent designations. And we see more districts and schools meeting adequate yearly progress goals under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*.' Across the state, 64 percent of districts met their yearly progress goals to comply with federal requirements for improvement." (*Cincinnati Post*, 8/24/04)
- "The 2003-04 school report cards for public schools reveal improvement statewide in 18 categories, based on proficiency test scores and graduation and attendance rates. That held true in Northeast Ohio where 29 out of 97 districts moved up in the rankings. The majority of local districts are rated either excellent or effective, the top two ratings." (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, 8/25/04)
- "Thirteen local school districts improved their academic performance enough to leap to a higher category on the state's 2003-04 Local Report Cards, released by the Ohio Department of Education. Of those 13 districts, three joined the 'excellent' category, the highest designation . . . bringing the total of excellent schools to 16 in the four-county Southwest Ohio area." (*Cincinnati Enquirer*, 8/25/04)