



NCLB Making a Difference in Rhode Island

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Rhode Island to more than \$581.7 million – 45% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$49.1 million – \$21.3 million over 2001 levels – to help Rhode Island's neediest children.
- Rhode Island has received \$8.7 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 \$3.4 million for Rhode Island. In total, over six years, Rhode Island is set to receive approximately \$18.2 million in Reading First funds.
- "School officials in South County, Rhode Island recently received news from the state that not one area school district was classified as 'in need of improvement,' and five local schools have been commended by the Board of Regents for improving in both math and language arts for two years or more. In addition, three schools that just two years ago were called 'low performing schools' showed so much improvement since then, they are on the commended list this year: Chariho Regional High School, Narragansett High School and Westerly High School. Schools analyzed their scores last year identified their weak points and worked with The University of Rhode Island's National Center on Public Education and Social Policy, focusing on literacy and math skills. 'We got across the importance of doing well on the test, and teachers have torn apart the curriculum and built on each grade level to address weak areas,' Assistant Superintendent. Sylvia Blanda said." (*Providence Journal*, 11/6/03)
- "Providence elementary schools won a total of \$1.5 million, or 8 of 11 grants, awarded by the state under the federal Reading First Program which aims to get disadvantaged children reading at grade level by third grade. Each school will receive \$150,000 to \$200,000 to hire reading coaches, conduct teacher training, and purchase materials for scientifically proven methods of teaching reading." (*Providence Journal*, 1/30/04)
- "Hope High School and two elementary schools are getting federal money to pay for educational and cultural enrichment opportunities for students and their families. The money is coming from the 21st Century Learning Program which was established to create after-school activities for students." (*Providence Journal*, 3/12/04)
- "The Providence school district has won a three-year grant of \$871,632 from the U.S. Department of Education to train 40 high school teachers to make American history come alive for their students. The grant requires that teachers work with organizations that have expertise in American history both in their own learning and in implementing new teaching strategies." (*Providence Journal*, 7/7/04)