

# NCLB Making a Difference in Washington

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Washington to more than \$1.9 billion – 54% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$178.4 million – \$57.2 million over 2001 levels – to help Washington's neediest children.
- Washington has received \$43 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 \$16.6 million for Washington. In total, over six years, Washington is set to receive approximately \$86 million in Reading First funds.
- "All states, including Washington, are receiving record levels of funding because of this act. *No Child Left Behind* not only offers the promise of a better future for our children, it is delivering immediate results through a successful partnership of increased funding and measurable academic accountability," said U.S. Representative Jennifer Dunn. (*Seattle Times*, 1/16/04)
- "The *No Child Left Behind Act* has helped focus attention on the needs of minority students more than ever before. At Parkside (and all Highline elementary schools) students who are behind not only get a 'double dose' of 20 to 30 minutes of reading instruction, but some get a triple dose. At Parkside, this is the first year that all struggling readers are getting extra help, said Principal Sue Theckston. And it's making a difference: Seventy percent of first-graders and 80 percent of second-graders are at grade level on the Direct Reading Assessment, she said. In past years the best was closer to 50 percent." (*Seattle Times*, 5/18/04)
- "The Tacoma School District and Chief Leschi School will receive a \$1.1 million federal grant to help American Indian students graduate from high school. The three-year grant will allow the district and Chief Leschi to develop after-school programs for students who have failed or are lacking courses they need to graduate. Meanwhile, a separate grant to a consortium of five Indian tribes will set up a videoconferencing program allowing students to take high school courses from their own tribal centers. The Tacoma-Chief Leschi grant is intended to reduce the high dropout rate of Indian students and prepare them for college." (*Tacoma News Tribune*, 7/23/04)

