



NCLB Making a Difference in Florida

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Florida to more than \$5.5 billion – 51% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$644.8 million – \$233.3 million over 2001 levels – to help Florida's neediest children.
- Florida has received \$150.4 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 \$58 million for Florida. In total, over six years, Florida is set to receive approximately \$300 million in Reading First funds.
- "Polk history teachers will get a chance to apply their knowledge in a hands-on setting this summer. As part of a three-year, \$908,000 federal grant, 29 history teachers will participate in a weeklong immersion program at Florida historical sites and landmarks from June 7 through 12. The Polk County Schools District was among six statewide designated as recipients of a 'Teaching American History' grant. This is the second year of the grant's implementation. The grant is for curriculum development, teacher training and instructional materials to promote the teaching of traditional American history. Polk schools have titled the weeklong summer seminar and immersion program, 'Teaching American History with Florida Flavor.' Polk educators will use knowledge gained from the seminar to implement elements of state history into their instruction and link that knowledge to broader events affecting the nation." (*News Chief*, 5/30/04)
- "I believe in public schools. I also believe in the potential of the federal *No Child Left Behind* legislation to finally deliver on the great civil rights promise of *Brown v. Board of Education*, which ended racial segregation in our schools 50 years ago. *No Child Left Behind* complements Florida's A+ Plan. They are two components of a single accountability system that recognizes reading as the new civil right and ensures all students achieve not only access but also success,' said Jim Warford, chancellor of Florida's K-12 public schools." (*Tallahassee Democrat*, 6/12/04)
- "Deltona Elementary had seen its student population balloon from around 825 on the first day of classes to nearly 1,000 by the state standardized testing date. Close to 30 percent of the students were enrolled in special education. Having failed to meet national standards for academic progress last year, Deltona stood to lose students through transfers to better-performing schools under the *No Child Left Behind Act*. Then Principal Janet Dunleavy got the results. Deltona earned an A in the state's A-Plus plan, up from last year's B, and it made adequate progress under federal guidelines. 'We really analyzed the data, and we really looked at exactly where the students were having problems. We tried to target them with resource teachers and more small-group instruction,' she said. 'We are very happy.'" (*St. Petersburg Times*, 6/16/04)
- "Palm Beach County schools earned a record 81 A's from the state Department of Education. Washington Elementary in Riviera Beach became the city's first traditional school to earn an A. In addition to earning an A, the school made 'adequate yearly progress' under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*." (*Palm Beach Post*, 6/16/04)