

NCLB Making a Difference in Oklahoma



- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Oklahoma to more than \$1.4 billion – 49% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$148.3 million – \$44.3 million over 2001 levels – to help Oklahoma's neediest children.
- Oklahoma has received \$39.1 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 \$14.9 million for Oklahoma. In total, over six years, Oklahoma is set to receive approximately \$82 million in Reading First funds.
- Oklahoma City Public Schools recorded an eight percentage point gain in the number of fifth-grade students scoring satisfactory or advanced in math, a four point gain in science, and a three point gain in reading. Eighth-graders recorded even larger gains. Of significance, Eisenhower Elementary, Westwood Elementary, Western Village Charter School, and Jackson Middle – all on the state's school improvement list for the fourth year and under restructuring as mandated by *No Child Left Behind* – showed gains among the percentage of students scoring satisfactory and above. (Oklahoma City Public Schools, 6/10/04)
- "Tulsa Public Schools showed improvement in ten of 14 categories. Notable improvements at individual schools include Madison, where the percentage of students receiving a score of 700 or more was up 31 points in reading and math – from a mere 24 percent last year to 55 percent this year in math and 40 percent to 71 percent in reading." (Tulsa Public Schools, 6/10/04)
- "Oklahoma is among five states that have partially or fully met dozens of requirements in one of the most ambitious education initiatives in decades, a report shows. 'We're just overjoyed in the fact that we have been on the standard-based reform track for over 10 years now, and that's where *No Child Left Behind* is going,' state schools Superintendent Sandy Garrett said. The report shows Oklahoma is on track to meet 34 of the 40 requirements and is partially on track to meet the remaining six." (*The Oklahoman*, 7/15/04)
- "The federal government will spend almost \$2.5 million in Oklahoma over the next three years training teachers and principals for American Indian schools. The Cross Cultural Education Center will use its grant to provide financial support and training for Indian students majoring in education at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, said Agnes McGee, a project director. The University of Oklahoma will use its grant to provide fellowships to 30 Indian students to complete a 12-month master's degree program in school administration." (*The Oklahoman*, 7/24/04)
- "Oklahoma students showed gains in all core subject areas on state-mandated tests taken this spring, according to a report released by the state Education Department. State schools superintendent Sandy Garrett called the announcement 'very good news' in an effort to close the gap between minority groups and white students. 'I think our schools are really looking at some of their minorities and closing the gap,' said Jennifer Morris, an assistant state schools superintendent." (*The Oklahoman*, 8/21/04)