

# NCLB Making a Difference in Vermont



- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Vermont to more than \$359 million – 42% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$30.5 million – \$12 million over 2001 levels – to help Vermont's neediest children.
- Vermont has received \$6.9 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 \$2.7 million for Vermont. In total, over six years, Vermont is set to receive approximately \$14.4 million in Reading First funds.
- "Almost all of Vermont's licensed teachers have met a federal education standard that requires them to demonstrate sufficient knowledge in the subjects they teach to be considered 'highly qualified' under the national *No Child Left Behind Act*. The number of teachers who met the 'highly qualified' requirement is 9,780, or 94 percent, the Department of Education said Monday. 'We expected Vermont's numbers to be high,' said Anne Bordonaro, coordinator of professional standards for the Education Department. 'Our educator workforce is exceptional on the national level, and one we can be very proud of.'" (*Associated Press*, 6/16/04)
- "The Vermont Department of Education recognized a number of schools as having the most effective reading programs in the state. The Bellows Falls middle and high schools, and the Cherry Hill and Central elementary schools all received mention in the Proven and Promising Reading Programs in Vermont Schools report. The department focused on reading for its first report, 'given its obvious importance and the emphasis on scientifically based reading programs in *No Child Left Behind*, Reading First, and others.'" (*Brattleboro Reformer*, 7/2/04)
- "The Rivendell School District has announced approval of more than \$350,000 in two federal grants. One will give a major boost to a fledgling after-school program in the district. The other will help teachers and students learn to do historical research using primary resources. The after-school grant, \$237,555 over three years, will fund a program named 'Visions' that's intended to help children improve academic skills and learn about careers at the same time. The money comes from the federal 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Program, part of the *No Child Left Behind Act*. Thousands of inner-city and rural public school districts are already operating learning centers. Rivendell's history studies grant, \$120,000, allows it to join the 'Flow of History network' begun two years ago in northern Vermont. The money comes from a federal effort to improve teaching of American history. In addition to school districts, an interpretive center, the University of Vermont and a chamber of commerce are in the network. The money will pay for summer institutes and study groups for teachers, online discussions hosted by the Alliance for Lifelong Learning (associated with Yale), and for consultants – professional historians who will guide teachers." (*Valley News*, 7/20/04)