

# NCLB Making a Difference in Iowa



- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for Iowa to more than \$1.4 billion – 52% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$64.8 million – \$8.3 million over 2001 levels – to help Iowa's neediest children.
- Iowa has received \$16.8 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 \$6.2 million for Iowa. In total, over six years, Iowa is set to receive approximately \$37.7 million in Reading First funds.
- "As an example of the advanced technology becoming increasingly available in schools throughout the country, a western Iowa school was cited with three others during a U.S. Department of Education virtual town hall meeting. Manning High School, about 44 miles northwest of Avoca, represented Iowa during the meeting. Manning High School provides an opportunity for students to learn upper-level mathematics and foreign languages through videoconferencing via the Iowa Communications Network." (*Daily Nonpareil*, 9/26/03)
- "Student proficiency scores in math, science and reading are increasing in the Waukee school district, a trend Superintendent Veronica Stalker attributes to the teachers' drive to constantly improve their teaching skills. The district will closely examine what it can do to improve test scores for students of lower socioeconomic backgrounds and minority students – two groups it didn't have much data for before the 2002-04 biennium. The data is helpful, Eddie Eckles, director of teaching and learning for the district, said, because it allows teachers to see how assessment scores translate into instruction." (*Des Moines Register*, 7/16/04)
- "The academic achievement gap in fourth-grade reading and math narrowed between Des Moines' white and minority students, according to results from the district's end-of-the-year curriculum tests. 'Overall, the picture tells us that a lot of what we're doing is working,' said Superintendent Eric Witherspoon. 'But we really need to be building on that.' Witherspoon said he was encouraged by the progress teachers are making at narrowing the achievement gap among white, black and Latino fourth-graders." (*Des Moines Register*, 8/14/04)
- "[East Marshall High School] is one of a growing number of small Iowa high schools offering Advanced Placement (AP) classes, according to data released by the Iowa Department of Education. About 5,425 Iowa students took at least one AP class in 2003-04, up from 5,141 the previous year. The classes were offered in 208 of Iowa's 406 public and private high schools, compared with 187 schools offering AP the previous year." (*Des Moines Register*, 9/1/04)